

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Regular Meeting  
May 15, 2017**

President Burton convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia.

**Members Present**

Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

**Members Absent**

None

**Student Art Gallery – Livonia Career Technical Center**

Mrs. Jenkins, administrator of communications, introduced LCTC students who had their artwork on display in the Board Room. Students pointed out their artwork and were presented with a certificate. The following LCTC students had artwork on display: Heather Burke, Molly Cormier, Erin McAfee, Natalie Truxall, and Kaitlyn Vinitski.

**Recognition of National Merit Scholars**

Mrs. Jenkins introduced LPS National Merit Scholars, provided information about them, and presented them with a certificate. Student honorees included: Churchill High School – Natalie Cadotte, Andrew Dlugos, Joanna Garrett, Matthew Kavoor, Timothy Ohtake, Christopher O’Neil, Matthew Rodeman, and Raquel Zwick; Franklin High School – Samuel Bacon; Stevenson High School – Rachel Hantz, Abigail Melnychenko, Kaylina Savela, and Mathi Siva.

**LPS Points of Pride – High School DECA Program**

Mrs. Jenkins introduced students who participated in the DECA program at Stevenson and Franklin High Schools, and recently took part in an international competition in California. They shared their positive experiences in DECA and thanked their teachers for all their support. Students included: Franklin student Kyle Johnson and Stevenson students Connor Beck, Mayah Fellows, Brandon Fenech, Charlie Kowalske, Kaylee McCarthy, Jeremy Webb, and Erin Wiedenbec.

**District Update from the Superintendent**

Superintendent Oquist shared the following:

- Congratulations to all the students who were recognized this evening!
- The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Cass Elementary was a huge hit! Many former and present staff and students were there. Much appreciation to all who helped put this event

together.

- Emerson Middle School students recently had the opportunity to experience a Civil War reenactment at their school; a wonderful learning opportunity!
- Hoover Elementary School has an Eco-Action Team, whose goal is to implement Eco-Schools USA guidelines to become a *green flag school* through the National Wildlife Federation. Hoover hosted the City of Livonia's Arbor Day this year for the 19<sup>th</sup> annual event.
- Congratulations to five Churchill High School students who were recently recognized as Eagle scouts: Zachary Beculheimer, William Gardner, Collin Parker, Jarod Parker, and Evan Zobel.
- Riley Upper Elementary School fifth grade student, Nash Abrahams, was featured on *Little Big Shots* for his ability to juggle while riding a unicycle. Way to go, Nash!
- A new Community with Character entry has been made on the District's blog, which is focusing on Confidence this month. Thank you to Dr. Jennifer Taiariol for her continued commitment to this tremendous resource for our staff and schools. The community is invited to check it out on the LPS website, under the District News section on the home page.
- Garfield Elementary's farewell party will be held on Thursday, May 25, 6:00-8:00 p.m. The community is invited for a petting zoo, ice cream, hot dogs, student concerts, a book fair, and more!
- During Churchill High School's annual Signing Day, 28 athletes committed to playing their sport in college – the largest number of athletes to sign at Churchill in a single signing day. Congratulations to all of our student athletes!
- Thank you to Livonia AM Rotary Interact Club for hosting a very successful *Touch-A-Truck* event. Children had the opportunity to see and climb into over a dozen vehicles, including an LPS bus! Donations were collected for various organizations, including the LPS Education Foundation.
- This is the season of Honors Nights, and commencements will be upon us very soon. We look forward to these events, as they offer our students an opportunity to be recognized for their accomplishments!

**Recess**

The Board recessed at 8:05 p.m. to visit with guests and reconvened the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**Written  
Communication**

None

**Audience  
Communication**

Robb Drzewicki addressed the Board regarding St. Baldrick's, the single largest (non-government) pediatric cancer research organization, which raises money by sponsoring head shaving events. Mr. Drzewicki expressed his appreciation to the district for hiring wonderful and caring administrators like Mr. Wennstrom, who has volunteered to have his head shaved on May 21 at Plymouth ROC, 1020 Ann Arbor Road.

**Response to  
Prior Audience  
Communication**

None

**Consent  
Agenda**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Bonifield that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following consent agenda items as recommended by the superintendent:

- V.A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2017
- VII.A. Bills for Payment

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

**Approval to  
Purchase  
Computers for  
LCTC**

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of 28 HP Z240 computers, 28 twenty-two inch monitors and additional memory for Livonia Career Technical Center in the amount of \$49,308.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

**Approval of Bid  
Results for  
Buchanan  
Paving Project  
– Sinking Fund**

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation from the Owner's Representative, Plante Moran CRESA, to approve Nagle Paving Company, Novi, Michigan for paving projects at Buchanan Elementary in the amount of \$219,290 plus a contingency of \$32,894 for a total of \$252,184 and authorize the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate and execute final contracts.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

**Approval of Bid  
Results for  
Churchill  
Tennis Courts –  
Sinking Fund**

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation from the Owner's Representative, Plante Moran CRESA, to approve Nagle Paving Company, Novi, Michigan for the demolition, earth work, and asphalt in the amount of \$486,775; Michigan Fence Outlet, Harrison Township, Michigan in the amount of \$94,650 for the perimeter fencing and net post; and Goddard Coating, Pontiac, Michigan in the amount \$29,265 for surface coating; plus a contingency of \$91,600 for a total amount of \$702,290, and authorize the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate and execute final contracts.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson

Nays: None

**Approval of  
Wayne RESA's  
2017-2018  
General Fund  
Operating  
Budget**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Bonifield that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution supporting the General Fund Operating Budget of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency ("RESA") for the 2017-2018 school year.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson

Nays: None

**Leave of  
Absence**

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the request for a leave of absence for: **Beth Yuhasz, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.**

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson

Nays: None

**Resignations**

As authorized in the Board of Education motion of June 20, 2016, resignations have been accepted for the persons listed below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Effective</u>
Claire Walker	June 30, 2017
Dana R. Whinnery	May 12, 2017

**Retirements**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt resolutions of appreciation for the services rendered by:

**Frank Caruana** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 25.3 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students throughout the district as a teacher and teacher consultant with the Student Services Department.

**Todd Dickson** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 35.6 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a mechanic helper, mechanic, leader, and garage supervisor with the Transportation Department.

**Deborah Gorenc** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 19 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Riley Middle School and Frost Middle School as a teacher.

**Susan Krekeler** will retire from the district on June 19, 2017; and will have devoted 27.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cleveland Elementary School, Washington Elementary School, and Cooper Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

**Anita Lamour** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 25 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School, Nankin Mills Elementary School, Stevenson High School, Taylor Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, Cass Elementary School, Johnson Upper Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, Randolph Elementary School, Garfield Elementary School, Kennedy Elementary School, and Riley Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

**Roberta LeMieux** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 25 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Kennedy Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, McKinley Elementary School, Randolph Elementary School, and Cass Elementary School as a teacher.

**Linda Mullin** will retire from the district on June 16, 2017; and will have devoted 21 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as an instructional and special education paraprofessional at Riley Middle School, Frost Middle School, Transportation Department, and Western Wayne Skill Center.

**Deborah Polasky** will retire from the district on June 16, 2017; and will have devoted 10.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at Perrinville Center and Webster Elementary School.

**Jamie Poppenger** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 20.2 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at McKinley Elementary School, Bentley Center, Perrinville Center, and Buchanan Elementary School.

**Kristen Rose-Smith** will retire from the district on June 19, 2017; and will have devoted 29 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Webster Elementary School, Riley Middle School, and Emerson Middle School as a teacher.

**Gloria Schepis** will retire from the district on June 16, 2017; and will have devoted 19 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at Western Wayne Skill Center.

**Donna Sorge** will retire from the district on July 15, 2017; and will have devoted 29.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as an instructional aide, clerk, and secretary at Holmes Middle School, Dickinson Center, Buchanan Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, Adams Elementary School, Randolph Elementary School, Cleveland Elementary School, Curriculum Department, Academic Services, and Franklin High School.

**Dawn Spinner** retired from the district on April 18, 2017; devoting three years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Emerson Middle School and Webster Elementary School as a media specialist.

**Erlinda Sterling** will retire from the district on June 16, 2017; and will have devoted 16.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at McKinley Elementary School, Coolidge Elementary School, Buchanan Elementary School, Rosedale Elementary School, and Western Wayne Skill Center.

**Karen Yee** will retire from the district on June 30, 2017; and will have devoted 27 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Johnson Elementary School and Johnson Upper Elementary School as a teacher.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

**Second Reading of Board Policy DJE - Purchasing**

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language as shown below, which combines policies DJE, DJED, and DJEG into one policy – Board Policy DJE – Purchasing, thereby eliminating policy DJED and policy DJEG.

**BOARD POLICY FISCAL MANAGEMENT PURCHASING DJE May 15, 2017**

The Board authorizes the Superintendent and/or the Superintendent’s designee to purchase and/or supervise the purchase of all materials, equipment, supplies, and services necessary for the operation of the School District. It is the intent of the Board that the School District purchase competitively from responsible vendors, without prejudice or favoritism, and seek maximum value for all expenditures. Competitive pricing is to be pursued by following legally required processes, as well as through such methods as cooperative purchasing, formal or informal bidding, requests for quotations from multiple vendors, and negotiation. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

~~**BOARD POLICY FISCAL MANAGEMENT PURCHASING DJE JUNE 20, 1988**~~

~~The Board of Education, in recognizing its responsibility to the taxpayers of the school district, pledges itself and its employees to the following purchasing procedures:~~

- ~~1. Quality: Purchase orders and contracts for supplies, equipment, and contractual obligations shall be awarded only to responsible vendors and contractors.~~

- 2. Economy: Competitive prices shall be solicited at the time of purchasing or awarding contracts for all materials, supplies, and contractual labor agreements as required by law.
- 3. Availability: Adequate warehouse facilities and delivery schedules shall be maintained to avoid needless delay in supplying and delivering materials and equipment.
- 4. Cooperative Purchasing and Warehousing: Whenever possible, efforts will be made to increase efficiency and cost savings by working with other school districts and agencies to provide cooperative purchasing and warehousing.

**BOARD POLICY  
FISCAL MANAGEMENT  
BIDS AND QUOTATIONS**

**DJED  
JUNE 20, 1988**

The Board of Education shall follow a bid procedure as required by law. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

**BOARD POLICY  
FISCAL MANAGEMENT  
PURCHASE ORDERS AND CONTRACTS**

**DJEG  
JUNE 20, 1988**

Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder complying with specifications and with other stipulated bidding conditions, including the quality of the materials and the services of the vendor.

Specifications for all items shall provide complete descriptions of the items whenever possible, rather than brand names.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

**First Reading of  
Board Policy  
DJEA –  
Purchasing  
Cards**

Mrs. Smith, Director of Finance, presented the proposed language for a first reading:

**BOARD POLICY  
FISCAL MANAGEMENT  
PURCHASING CARDS**

**DJEA**

The Board of Education views the use of credit cards as a convenient and efficient means of transacting School District related business. The Board authorizes the issuance and use of School District credit cards within the parameters set forth in the administrative procedures recommended by administration and reviewed by the Board of Education. The Superintendent and/or the Superintendent's designee shall be responsible for the issuance, accounting, monitoring, retrieval, and general oversight of the use of district credit cards by employees.

**Approval of  
Resolution for  
Wayne RESA  
Board Election**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution to designate LPS Board member Mark Johnson as the local district's Wayne RESA election representative; Karen Bradford as the alternate; and Mary Blackmon and Danielle Funderburg as the Wayne RESA Board candidates for whom a vote should be cast.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson  
Nays: None

**Recess to  
Closed Session  
for  
Consideration  
of Tenure  
Charges**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District recess to closed session for: **consideration of tenure charges.**

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson  
Nays: None

**Consideration  
to Proceed  
Upon Tenure  
Charges**

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District acknowledge that on May 5, 2017, Director of Human Resources Dana Whinnery filed signed tenure charges against Anna Borden with the Board, and further move that the Board proceed upon those tenure charges.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson  
Nays: None

**Consideration  
to Suspend an  
Employee**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Bonifield that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve that, effective immediately, Anna Borden be suspended from active performance of duty in accordance with Article IV, Section 3(1) of the Michigan Teacher Tenure Act.

Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis,  
Johnson  
Nays: None

**Adjournment  
Off/Supt/jw**

President Burton adjourned the meeting at 10:27 p.m.