

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Regular Meeting
May 17, 2021**

President Burton convened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present

Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson

Members Absent

None

District Update from the Superintendent

Superintendent Oquist shared a slideshow presentation of activities taking place across the District and in the LPS community.

Written Communication

None

Audience Communication

None

Response to Prior Audience Communication

None

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis 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 26, 2021

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

Reconfirmation of the Extended Continuity of Learning Plan

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District reconfirm the Continuity of Learning Plan that was approved on September 28, 2020. The plan recommends that students continue to receive instruction either through Livonia Virtual or in person at our schools.

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

Appointment of Auditor for 2020-2021

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District appoint the firm of Plante Moran to audit and prepare the financial statements for Livonia Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

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

Wayne RESA's 2020-2021 General Fund Operating Budget

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools adopt the resolution supporting the General Fund Operating Budget for the 2021-2022 school year for the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency ("RESA").

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

Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of 2021 School Building and Site Bonds

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve a resolution to authorize the issuance of 2021 School Building and Site Bonds, and authorize the Superintendent or her designee the authority to execute all necessary documents required to complete the approval and sale of the Bonds as described in the resolution.

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

Approval of Greenhouse at Garfield Community School

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase and installation of a greenhouse at Garfield Community School from GrowSpan Greenhouse Structures, South Windsor, Connecticut for a cost of \$133,177.61 plus a contingency of \$6,700.00 for a total project cost of \$139,877.61 and authorize the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate and execute final contracts on behalf of the Board of Education.

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

Approval to

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the

**Purchase
Playground
Equipment –
2021 Bond**

Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of elementary playground equipment from PlayPower LT Farmington, Inc., Dallas, Texas, in care of Great Lakes Recreation Co., Clinton Township, Michigan, in the amount of \$1,794,391.00, plus a three percent contingency of \$53,832.00.00 for a total amount of \$1,848,223.00 and authorize the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate and execute final contracts on behalf of the Board of Education.

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

**Teacher for
Tenure**

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and acknowledge that tenure status will be granted to the following teacher, effective on the respective date:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Effective</u>
Yuriko Ishida	May 24, 2021

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

Retirements

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

Sheryl Archibald will retire from the district on June 30, 2021, and has devoted 31 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cleveland Elementary, Churchill High School and in the Academic Services Department as a teacher and special projects manager.

Mary Jo Baringhaus will retire from the district on June 21, 2021, and has devoted 32.4 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cleveland Elementary as a teacher.

Terry Bumpus will retire from the district on June 18, 2021, and has devoted 13 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at Hoover Elementary, Kennedy Elementary, Garfield Elementary, Coolidge Elementary and Webster Elementary

Lori Charochak will retire from the district on June 21, 2021, and has devoted 33 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Taylor Elementary and Hoover Elementary as a teacher.

Laura Flis will retire from the district on June 21, 2021, and has devoted 30 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to students throughout the District as a teacher of speech and language and teacher consultant.

Donna Grabowski will retire from the district on June 18, 2021, and has devoted 26 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a

special education paraprofessional in the Franklin Transition Program and at the Western Wayne Skill Center.

Victor Holman will retire from the district on June 21, 2021, and has devoted 23 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Franklin High School as a teacher.

Beth Judd will retire from the district on July 9, 2021, and has devoted 26.4 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a secretary at Franklin High School, Stevenson High School and in the Food Service Department.

Zsuzsi McDonald will retire from the district on June 21, 2021, and has devoted 22.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Hayes Elementary and Randolph Elementary as a paraprofessional and teacher.

Therese Miller will retire from the district on June 18, 2021, and has devoted 22 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a child development assistant at Jackson Early Childhood Center and a router/dispatcher in the Transportation Department.

Thomas Miskinis retired from the district on April 23, 2021, and devoted 16.8 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cooper Elementary, Riley Elementary, Frost Middle School, Churchill High School, McKinley Center, Stevenson High School and Emerson Middle School as a paraprofessional and teacher.

Patricia Pepple will retire from the district on June 30, 2021, and has devoted 35.6 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a secretary in Community Education, at Cass Elementary and at Buchanan Elementary.

Tammy Sieber will retire from the district on June 16, 2021, and has devoted 17.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at Perrinville Early Childhood Center and Roosevelt Elementary.

Susan Sied will retire from the district on June 18, 2021, and has devoted 23 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at Webster Elementary.

Mary Thomson will retire from the district on June 18, 2021, and has devoted 21 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a driver in the Transportation Department.

Sharon Wallen will retire from the district on May 31, 2021, and has devoted 22.9 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a driver in the Transportation Department.

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

First Reading of Board Bylaws

The Policy Committee has reviewed the proposed revisions for the following Board Bylaws:

First Reading of Board Bylaws:

- **BBD Board-Superintendent Functions**

- **BCAC Special Meetings**
- **BCAE Public Hearings**
- **BCAF Committee of the Whole & Study Session Meetings**
- **BCB General Order of Business at Regular Meetings**
- **BCBC Preparation of Agenda**

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD**BBD****BOARD OPERATIONS****BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT FUNCTIONS RELATIONS**

The Board of Education ~~is a should be the~~ **recognizes** believes that the legislation and adoption of policies is an important function of a school board and that the execution of the policies ~~is a should be the~~ function of the administration and staff.

Delegation by the Board of its executive powers to the superintendent provides freedom for the superintendent to manage the schools within the Board's policies, and frees the Board to devote its time to **three main functions of the Board: Goal Setting – the Board's vision for the District, including the approval and adoption of the budget; Establishing policy for the District and sharing in policy development; and Designating the Chief Executive Officer (recruiting, hiring, and evaluating the superintendent) policy making and appraisal functions.**

The Board holds the administration and staff responsible for carrying out its policies within established guidelines and for keeping the Board informed, through the superintendent, about school operations.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD**BCAC****BOARD OPERATIONS****MARCH 16, 2015****SPECIAL MEETINGS**

Special meetings of the Board of Education may be called by the president of the Board, or any ~~two~~ **three** members thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the day, time, place, and purpose of such special meeting. Such notice shall be in accordance with law. The purpose of the special meeting shall be included on or with the **public** notice of special meeting.

Service of the notices shall be by **one of the following methods:**

1. Delivering the notices to the members personally at least 24 hours before such meeting is to take place; or
2. Leaving the same at the member's residence with some person of the household at least 24 hours before such meeting is to take place; or
3. Depositing the same in a government mail receptacle (enclosed in a sealed envelope plainly addressed to such member at his/her last known residence address) at least 72 hours before such meeting is to take place; **or**
4. Sending email notification to members at least 24 hours before such meeting is to take place and confirming that emails were received by members.

Service as above prescribed may be made by a member of the Board or any employee **of the District.**

A meeting at which all members of the Board are present with or without proper notice to members of the Board and for which proper notice is given to the public shall be considered a legal meeting for the transaction of business ~~when proper notice has been given to the public.~~

If the ~~aforementioned~~ foregoing procedure is followed and if a notice of the meeting has been posted or published at least 18 hours prior to the meeting, a quorum present can conduct business legally.

~~Special meetings of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with the policy established for regular meetings.~~

Emergency Meetings

The Board may meet in emergency session in the event of a severe and imminent threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the public when two-thirds of the members decide that delay would be detrimental to efforts to lessen or respond to the threat.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BOARD OPERATIONS PUBLIC HEARINGS

**BCAE
JUNE 20, 1988
Reviewed 11/2013**

All public hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the law and shall provide for proper notice, **including a meeting agenda**, and an orderly process for the public to be heard.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BOARD OPERATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE & STUDY SESSION MEETINGS

**BCAF
JUNE 20, 1988
Reviewed 11/2013**

The Board of Education may devote a part of a regular or special meeting, or schedule a **committee of the whole** or study session, for the purpose of receiving information and discussing matters pertaining to the School District. ~~through presentations, special projects, or other matters.~~

Any **committee of the whole** or study session that is not a part of a regular or special meeting must be posted in accordance with the provisions of law. No official action may be taken at a **committee of the whole** or study session; minutes will be kept and made available upon request.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BOARD OPERATIONS GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AT REGULAR MEETINGS PROCEDURES DURING MEETINGS

**BCB
MARCH 20, 2017**

The order of business at regular meetings shall generally be as follows:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Communications
- District Update from the Superintendent
- Audience Communications
(limited to a total of 15 minutes, with remainder following Personnel Matters)
- Consent Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
- Instructional Matters
- Business Matters
- Personnel Matters
- Remainder of Audience Communications
- Hearing from Board Members
- Adjournment

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
BOARD OPERATIONS
PREPARATION OF AGENDA**

**BCBC
SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
Reviewed 11/2013**

The superintendent and Board president shall cooperatively determine the items of business to be included in the agenda of all Board of Education meetings. Any two members of the Board may request an item to be included on the agenda by notifying the Superintendent and Board president seven days prior to a meeting.

Agendas shall be **provided** ~~forwarded or mailed~~ to the members of the Board ~~and other regular interested parties, including the media,~~ no later than the Friday preceding the meeting. **The agenda shall be available on the District website prior to the meeting.** The superintendent and staff shall compile appropriate documents and information to assist Board members in the meeting preparations. These materials shall be included with their agendas. The Board will make reasonable efforts to examine the pertinent information before deciding upon any issue.

The Board may place routine items on a consent agenda for a regular Board meeting, upon unanimous approval by Board members present at a committee meeting. Any member of the Board can remove items from the consent agenda prior to voting.

These policies will be brought to the Board at the next regular meeting, for a second reading and possible approval.

**Second
Reading of
Board Policies:**

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 Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for:

**GBC –
Selection and
Recruitment**

- GBC Selection and Recruitment
- GBF Teacher Placement
- GBG Staff Reductions and Recalls
- GBIA Teacher Evaluations

**GBF – Teacher
Placement**

**BOARD POLICY
PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL
SELECTION AND RECRUITMENT**

**GBC
MAY 17, 2021**

**GBG – Staff
Reductions and
Recalls**

The Board of Education desires candidates who have outstanding personal/professional qualities and will perform at the very highest level for our students.

**GBIA – Teacher
Evaluations**

Teachers and other professional staff must be qualified for full state approval in the area of their specialty. Only teachers who have a valid teaching certificate or authorization will be considered for positions in the Livonia Public Schools School District.

All teaching candidates and other professional staff recommended to the Board of Education for positions with the school district will have been personally interviewed. The superintendent or designee is authorized to make a commitment for the school district subject to the approval of the Board of Education after a complete review of the qualifications and other pertinent data.

**BOARD POLICY
PERSONNEL
TEACHER PLACEMENT**

**GBF
MAY 17, 2021**

The Board of Education acknowledges that having teachers assigned in their area of

certification and endorsement is highly valued. All elementary, secondary, and special education teachers must be certified or authorized to teach the grade levels and subject areas to which they are assigned. The decisions regarding teacher placement will be at the sole discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee.

BOARD POLICY**GBG****PERSONNEL****MAY 17, 2021****STAFF REDUCTIONS AND RECALLS**

All personnel decisions shall be based on retaining effective teachers in situations involving a staffing/program reduction or any other personnel decision resulting in the elimination of a position. This policy shall also apply when recalling or hiring to fill a previous staffing/program reduction or any other personnel decision that resulted in the elimination of a position.

BOARD POLICY**GBIA****PERSONNEL****MAY 17, 2021****TEACHER EVALUATIONS**

The Board of Education delegates to the Superintendent, or his/her designee, the function of adopting and implementing an evaluation tool for teachers that is consistent with the requirements of the law.

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

Nays: None

**Wayne RESA
Board Election
Designation of
Representative
to Cast a Vote
and Selection of
Candidate for
Whom the Vote
Will Be Cast**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution to designate Board Member Dan Centers as an electoral representative and Board Member Liz Jarvis as an alternate electoral representative for the June 7, 2021 Wayne RESA Board of Education election and select James Petrie as the candidate for whom the vote should be cast.

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

Nays: None

**Approval of
Board Member
to Participate in
MASB Virtual
Conference**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve Board Trustee Madeline Acosta's participation in the 2021 Communications & Marketing Virtual Conference on May 19 and 20, 2021, for a total cost of \$180.00.

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

Nays: None

Adjournment

President Burton adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw