

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, January 9, 2017  
5:30 P.M.**

**Osborn High School  
16000 E. Seven Mile Road  
Detroit, MI 48205**

## **MINUTES**

### **Call to Order**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD or District) Board of Education was called to order by President Dr. Iris Taylor at 5:35 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

Secretary to the Board, Karen Morgan called the roll:

Present: Dr. Deborah Hunter-Harvill, Member, Georgia Lemmons, Member, LaMar Lemmons, Member, Sonya Mays, Treasurer, Angelique Peterson-Mayberry, Vice President, Misha Stallworth, Secretary and Dr. Iris Taylor, President

There being a quorum present the meeting is declared to be in session.

### **Meeting Norms**

The Meeting Norms were read to the audience by President Dr. Iris Taylor.

### **Moment of Silence**

President Dr. Iris Taylor called for a Moment of Silence.

### **Student Presentation**

Osborn Color Guard presented arms. The “Star Spangled Banner” and “Lift Every Voice and Sing” was performed by a DPSCD student.

### **Welcome**

Welcome and greetings were given by Pashawn Johnson, Osborn High School’s Principal.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Treasurer Mays Motion to approve the Agenda.

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Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.

Treasurer Mays Motion to add an Action Item to be listed as Q8 for Out-of-State Travel for Educational purposes for Board members.

Secretary Stallworth second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Chair Motion for Approval of the Agenda with the addition of an Action Item to be listed as Q8 for Out-of-State Travel for Educational purposes for Board members.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

## **Approval of the Minutes**

Treasurer Mays Motion to approve the minutes to the Regular Board Meeting on December 12, 2017.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry Motion to approve the minutes to the Regular Board Meeting Closed Session on December 12, 2017.

Secretary Stallworth second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

## **President's Remarks and Board Comments**

President Dr. Taylor stated the Strategic Planning Update will be provided in the Superintendent's Report.

## **Public Comment Follow Up**

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry read the follow-up responses to Public Comments received at the December 12, 2017 Regular Board Meeting.

## **Old Business**

Chair noted "Old Business" will be discussed as alphabet "P" on the agenda listed as Policies.

## **New Business**

### **Library Commission Appointment**

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry requested consideration for an extension of the application period for the Library Commission for one week due to the holiday.

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Treasurer Mays Motion to extend the application period for the Library Commission until Friday, January 12, 2018.

Treasurer Stallworth second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

## **Standing Board Committee Reports**

### **Curriculum/Academics Sub-Committee Report**

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill serves as Chair of the Curriculum/Academics Sub Committee. Dr. Hunter-Harvill presented the committee report. She reported that:

- The "Curriculum Connection" Newsletter was launched providing information and updates highlighting academics and curriculum such as the Khan Academy and the upcoming Spelling Bee.
- The 5000 Role Model Initiative will be launched at the end of January.
- The Committee moved five (5) Contract Action Items to the Board for approval.
- The next Curriculum/Academics meeting will be held on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the Fisher Building, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

Secretary Stallworth Motion to accept the Curriculum/Academics Sub-Committee Report.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

## **Finance Sub-Committee Report**

Treasurer Mays serves as Chair of the Finance Sub Committee. Chair Mays presented the report for the Finance Sub Committee. She reported that:

- The Finance Sub Committee last met on Friday, December 15, 2017.
- The CFO delivered the November Finance Report at the committee meeting on December 15, 2017 and discussed the on-going efforts to better align the budgeting processes to the reality of how the District operates.
- The Superintendent and Leadership team have been making progress insourcing athletic activities across the District.
- The committee moved four (4) Contracts and two (2) Out-of-State Travel requests to the Board for approval.
- The Committee encouraged the Superintendent to ensure student trips are aligned with the Strategic Plan and that students are receiving the optimal educational experience they deserve.

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- The next Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 24, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fisher Building, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room. Chair Mays noted that the date for the meeting may change.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry Motion to accept the Finance Sub-Committee Report.  
Member L. Lemmons second the Motion.  
Motion carried without objection.

## **Policy Ad-hoc Committee Report**

Secretary Stallworth serves as Chair of the Policy Ad-hoc Committee. Chair Stallworth presented the report for the Policy Ad-hoc Committee. She reported that:

- The Policy Ad-hoc Committee met on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 with the first review of Professional policies and review of the Finance and Administrative policies with comments from the Board's public review.
- Policies coming before the board will include Finance policies with no comments being presented for the second and final reading, Finance and Administrative policies edited for Board comments presented for final public reading, and Professional Staff policies presented for the first public reading.
- The next scheduled meeting for the Policy Ad-hoc Committee is Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 9:00am in the Fisher Building, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry Motion to accept the Ad-hoc Committee Report.  
Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill second the Motion.

Member L. Lemmons stated he felt the Board should have utilized the Michigan Association of School Board's (MASB) recommended procedures for best practices in adopting policy. Member Lemmons also stated he was unable to contribute to the process and that existing policy should have been reviewed.

Secretary Stallworth and Policy Committee Chair clarified that no Board members were drafting policy and that policy is being drafted by staff and NEOLA who the Board has contracted to work with staff. Board members review policy for edits and comments. NEOLA reviews existing policy and list the necessary policy and changes for the District.

Chair stated, NEOLA is accountable for ensuring best practices in updating policy and legislative changes that maybe affected in policy for the next 3 years. Chair further stated, the Board adopted basic policy along with bylaws in which to operate until NEOLA was contracted and developing policies are approved.

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Member L. Lemmons stated his objection remains while noting the body failed to place Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill on the Policy Ad-hoc Committee when she was as he felt the most experienced.

Motion carried without objection.

## **Finance Report**

Jeremy Vidito, Senior Executive Director of Finance presented the report on the District's Finances. He reported that for:

Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD):

- The District recorded a surplus of revenues over expenditures of \$8.8 million dollars in the month of November 2017.
- Actuals were below budget on the expenditure side by \$1.1 million dollars a 17% decrease.
- The net cash flow for November 2017 was \$9.3 million dollars
- The ending cash balance was \$63.8 million dollars.
- The projected FY 2018 net cash flow is still a positive \$34.1 million dollars.

Detroit Public Schools (DPS)

- The overall increase was approximately \$1.2 million dollars.
- DPS had \$18.2 million dollars in terms of balance.
- \$1.8 million dollars in property taxes was collected.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry Motion to accept the Finance Report.

Member L. Lemmons second the Motion.

Member L. Lemmons asked at what point and where will the District be able to identify dates for outstanding proposals for action to be taken by the body.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated the leadership team is planning to provide an outline of deadlines to the Finance Committee so the Board and internal staff is aware of timelines for both DPS and DPSCD.

Motion carried without objection.

## **Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent presented the Board with certificates in honor of Board Appreciation Month. Awards were also given to staff from Ronald Brown Academy who exhibit the District's

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core values. Certificates were presented to: Quanita Cunningham, Shawanda Baskin-Campbell, Marilyn Maxie, Sheree Parker, Felicia McGruder, Barbara Taylor, Tanikka Mabene, Samantha Jenkins, Reshena Moore, Tracey Jones, and Christine Thompson. The Superintendent reported on the following:

## Operations

- Superintendent Dr. Vitti thanked Felicia Venable, Senior Director of Operations and Maintenance, and her staff for their service to the District during inclement weather.
- A request will come before the Board to approve the Contract with OHM Advisors for Facilities Assessment and School Facility Planning.

## Academics

- The team that will conduct the audit of Career Academies will be Alycia Meriweather, Deputy Superintendent of External Partnerships, Enrollment and Innovation. Brenda Belcher, Principal Leader for Career and Technical Education/Innovation, and Rod Hardiman, Contractor. The team will review if the program at the school should remain, if the program remains how can the District better support, and what more relevant program can be implemented to increase enrollment and performance. The District will report to the Board in late Spring 2018.
- Interviews for Master Teachers will be conducted the week of January 8, 2018. Selected teachers will go to Los Angeles for training in literacy and math.
- The Special Education Audit was initiated this week with the Council of Great City Schools. The audit should be completed by February.
- The District have doubled the number of Lego and Robotics teams.

## Human Resources and Talent

- The District is currently working on engaging experienced educators outside of Detroit to improve retention and retain teachers as well as bringing teachers whole.
- District teams consisting of principals will be visiting 14 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) this spring.
- The District have entered into an agreement with colleges and universities to post positions on their Website.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill Motion to accept the Superintendent's Report.  
Secretary Stallworth second the Motion.

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Member L. Lemmons asked when will the report on facilities be completed.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated if approved the report on facilities should be completed by later spring or early summer.

Member L. Lemmons asked what the District's response would be regarding the allegations of the former Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Marios Demetriou. Member Lemmons also asked if there are there specifics on the loss of the \$6.5 million dollars and have the District formally submitted a written request to Treasury. If a request has been submitted Member L. Lemmons requested the Board receive a copy.

Chair stated she will respond to the question regarding the former CFO once an investigation has been completed. Chair deferred to Counsel regarding a written report to Treasury.

General Counsel, Jenice Mitchell Ford stated the District submitted a request to Treasury on the evening of Sunday, January 7, 2018. The request included a legal argument as to why the District should be made whole.

Motion carried without objection.

## Policies

### P.1 Administrative Policies for Second Read with Final Review and Recommendation by Policy Committee for Voting:

Policy Number	Policy Name
0001	Preamble
1120	Superintendent Contracting Authority
1123	District Strategic Plan
1124	Reports
1125	Legal Controls
1210	Board-Superintendent Relationship
1220	Employment of the Superintendent

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## Administrative Policies for Second Read....cont'd

Policy Number	Policy Name
1230	Qualifications and Responsibilities of the Superintendent
1231	Development of Administration Guidelines and Procedures
1242	Incapacity of the Superintendent
1247	District Organizing and Hiring
7250	Commemoration, Naming, and Renaming of School Facilities

Treasurer Mays Motion to tie bar the final second reading of Administrative Policies.  
 Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.  
 Motion carried without objection.

Treasurer Mays Motion to approve the Administrative Policies: 2<sup>nd</sup> Read Final Review.  
 Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.

Member L. Lemmons objected to the process and procedure of adopting policy and opposed voting.

### Roll Call Vote

Deborah Hunter-Harvill	No
Georgia Lemmons	No
LaMar Lemmons	No
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry	Yes
Sonya Mays	Yes
Misha Stallworth	Yes
Iris Taylor	Yes

Motion carries

## P.2 Finance Policies: First Read

Policy Name & Number	Comments/Edits
6606 Fundraising for Litigation	No Comments
6616 Time and Effort Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Line 4 – provide a clear definition of “certain circumstances”. Vice President Peterson-Mayberry</li> <li>Line 9 – replace the word “only” with “whenever possible”. Member L. Lemmons</li> <li>Line 18 – include the Board in litigation as well as the superintendent. Member L. Lemmons</li> </ul>



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## P.3 Finance Policies: Second Read

### P.3.1 Finance Policies for Voting Approval without Previous Comments

Policy Number	Policy Name
6001	Detroit Public Schools
6107	Authorization to Accept and Distribute Electronic Records and to Use Electronic Signatures
6112	Cash Management of Grants
6114	Cost Principles Spending Federal Funds
6144	Investments
6146	Post-Issuance Compliance for Tax-Exempt and Tax-Advantaged Obligations
6151	Bad Checks
6210	Fiscal Planning
6220	Budget Preparation
6231	Budget Implementation
6320	Purchasing
6321	New School Construction Renovation
6325	Procurement Federal Grant Funds
6460	Vendor Relations
6510	Payroll
6520	Payroll Deductions
6550	Travel Payment Reimbursement
6670	Internal Service Fund and Trust Agency Fund
6700	Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)
6800	System of Accounting
6830	Audit
6850	Public Disclosure and Reporting
5136	Personal Communication Devices

Treasurer Mays request a review of the language in Policy 6550 – Travel Payment Reimbursement to ensure alignment with the requirements of the Financial Review Commission (FRC)

Treasurer Mays Motion to defer the Finance Policies – 2<sup>nd</sup> Read to the February Board Meeting. Member L. Lemmons second the Motion. Motion carried without objection.

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## P.3.2 Finance Policies with Secondary Review and Recommendation by Policy Committee for Voting Approval

Policy Number	Policy Name
6110	Grant Funds
6111	Internal Controls
6145	Borrowing
6321	New School Construction Renovation
6424	Purchasing Card
6470	Payment Claims
6605	Fundraising
6680	Recognition

Treasurer Mays Motion to defer action on the Finance Policies with Secondary Review and Recommendation until review by the Finance Committee.  
 Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.  
 Motion carried without objection.

## P.4 Human Resources Policies (Volume 1): First Read

Policy Name & Number	Comments/Edits
3120.06 Selecting Student Teachers /Administrative Interns	• Lines 27/28 - Include an all-encompassing language. Vice President Peterson-Mayberry
3120.08 Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra Curricular Activities	• Create a general Human Resources report of new hires, salary, duration of employment, and potential financial impact. Member L. Lemmons
3122.01 Drug-Free Workplace	No Comments
3122.02 Nondiscrimination Based on genetic Information of the Employee	No Comments
3130 Assignment and Transfer	• Line 10 add the word "without bias" after staff members in the line beginning with Assignment. Vice President Peterson-Mayberry

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## Human Resources Policies (Volume 1): First Read Cont'd

Policy Name & Number	Comments/Edits
3139 Staff Discipline	Superintendent stated they will work to refine language or have a policy specific to teachers.
3170 Substance Abuse	No Comments
3214 Staff Gifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure language does not penalize educators for supporting students with actual needs.</li> </ul> Lines 7/8 soften language. Treasurer Mays
3215 Use of Tobacco by Professional Staff	No Comments
3216 Staff Dress and Grooming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language is too vague and subjective. Vice President Peterson-Mayberry and Member L. Lemmons</li> <li>• Collaborate with Detroit Federation of Teachers. Dr. Hunter-Harvill</li> </ul>
3231 Outside Activities of Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Line E – add “or district property”. Vice President Peterson-Mayberry</li> </ul>
3310 Freedom of Speech in Non-Instructional Settings	No Comments
3362.01 Threatening Behavior Toward Staff Members	No Comments
3419.02 Privacy Protections of Fully Insured Group Health Plans	No Comments
3419.03 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act	No Comments
3440 Job-Related Expenses	No Comments

### Action Items

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill Motion to Approve **Out-of-State Travel for Faculty Supporting Students at Osborn High School.**

Member L. Lemmons second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

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Member L. Lemmons Motion to Approve **Out-of-State Travel for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant Requirements.**

Treasurer Mays second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Member L. Lemmons Motion to Approve the **iReady Amendment for K-3 Literacy Expansion Districtwide.**

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Member L. Lemmons Motion to Approve an **Amendment/Extension to the Frontline Technologies Group, LLC Contract for the Evaluation Platform.**

Member Georgia Lemmons second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Member L. Lemmons Motion to Approve the **Contract with OHM Advisors for Facilities Assessment and School Facility Planning.**

Treasurer Mays second the Motion.

Treasurer Mays requested the Superintendent to do the same for vacant school buildings and non-school holdings vacant land or otherwise in the portfolio to establish a District-wide disposition strategy.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated an Request for Proposal (RFP) will be issued.

Motion carried without objection.

Member L. Lemmons Motion **to Approve Contract Renewal for Insurance Brokerage Services.**

Treasurer Mays second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Treasurer Mays Motion to Approve **Out-of-State Travel for Board Educational Opportunity**

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry second the Motion.

Motion carried without objection.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti will speak with Karen Morgan, Secretary to the Board to schedule a special meeting to review Strategic Plan Metrics.

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## **Announcements and Acknowledgements**

Chair acknowledged receipt of a Resolution from Wayne Regional Educational Services Agency (Wayne RESA) for board Recognition month.

## **Public Comment**

Several public comments were made.

## **Adjournment**

Chair Motioned for adjournment

Member L. Lemmons second

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



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Certified:  
Karen Morgan, B.S.B.M  
Secretary to the Board