

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

## BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING

March 14, 2017 –5:30pm

M.L. King, Jr. Senior High School  
3200 E. Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48207

### MINUTES

#### **Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Detroit Public Schools Community District was called to order by President Taylor at 5:35pm.

#### **Roll Call**

Secretary of the Board, Karen Morgan called the roll:

Present: Deborah Hunter-Harvill, Georgia Lemmons, LaMar Lemmons, Sonya Mays, Angelique Peterson-Mayberry, Misha Stallworth, and Iris Taylor

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

#### **Meeting Norms**

Meeting Norms were read to the audience by President Taylor.

#### **Student Presentation**

Color Guard, “Star Spangled Banner”, and “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

#### **Welcome**

Welcome was presented by Principal Dr. Deborah Jenkins along with students

#### **Approval of the Agenda**

Treasurer Mays moved a motion to approve the agenda

Secretary Stallworth supported

Motion carried without objection

#### **Approval of Minutes**

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Minutes coming forth for approval were the February 8<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting and Closed Session and February 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting and Closed Session.

Treasurer Mays moved a motion to approve Minutes collectively as distributed.  
Secretary Stallworth supported

Member Hunter-Harvill requested an amendment to the minutes of February 14<sup>th</sup> regarding the academics committee. The amendment should include discussion on samples of parents and students on curriculum-oriented test taking skilled items in preparation for April 2017 with MI-Access. Member Hunter-Harvill will provide specific language.

All members were in favor of approving minutes with the change from Member Hunter-Harvill.  
Motion carried without objection

## **Standing Board Committee Reports**

### **Curriculum/Academic Committee**

Chair and Member Hunter-Harvill presented the Academic Committee Report

### **Finance Committee**

Chair and Treasurer Mays presented the Finance Committee Report

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry motioned to approved the Finance Report submitted by Treasurer Mays  
Treasurer Mays supported

Treasurer Mays requested an amendment to the Motion to include the Academic Committee Report  
Member Hunter-Harvill supported  
Motion carried without objection

Chair motioned to approve and accept both the Academic and Financial Committee Reports.  
All members were in favor  
Motion carried without objection

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

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

Chair opened the floor for discussion on facilities contracts allowing members an opportunity for discussion prior to approval. Ken Tokarz, Deputy Superintendent of Operations and Facilities answered questions of the Board.

One of the items of concern was the rate of service for the vendors which averaged 1.8. Mr. Tokarz stated moving forward he is looking into getting a third party to do building inspections.

## **Superintendent Search Committee Report**

Chair and Vice President Angelique Peterson-Mayberry presented the Superintendent's Search Committee Report stating the Board was on target with the approved timeline.

Treasurer Mays motioned to approve the Superintendent Search Committee's Report

Member Stallworth supported

Motion carried without objection

## **Superintendent's Report**

Interim Superintendent Alycia Meriweather reported on the good, the bad, and the ugly of the District. Providing updates on operations and talent. During the Superintendent's Report Kenneth Tokarz spoke briefly addressing items of issue and concerns brought forth by the Board. Ms. Meriweather talked about the Innovations Program for the 16 DPSCD schools and 8 EAA schools that are on the SRO list. The high-level pieces that will drill down onto the partnership model and focus on differentiated interventions, delivering dedicated support to those 24 schools, extended learning time, recruiting, developing and retaining the best talent, promoting additional autonomy and resources to the school level, establishing strategic partnerships.

During Mr. Tokarz presentation he reported that they wear a lot of hats in the department and are looking at personnel in the department such as a Physical Plant Custodian and Physical Plant Maintenance and Engineering purpose specific to and knowledgeable of their departments. Field Inspector/Engineer to work nights. Noted not a lot that can be done during school hours. The department will also post inspections reports on the web for public viewing.

Treasurer Mays moved to approve the Superintendent's Report

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry supported

Motion carried without objection

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

## **Deputy Superintendent of Finance Report**

Deputy Superintendent of Finance, Marios Demetriou presented his report on the District's finances and while answering questions brought forth by the Board. Budget is expected to have a surplus of \$48 million at the end of the year. The \$25 million dollars of transition funds will be spread out over 3 years with \$5 million to facilities, \$1.9 million to academics and \$800,000 for public safety. Next year will be \$5 million to facilities, \$4 million to academics, and \$400,000 to public safety.

Carrie Blanchard Financial Advisor from Public Financial Management (PFM) provided the companies recommendation on the Build America Bonds proposal and Request for Proposals (RFP) process resulting in savings to the tax payers. Since the federal government sequestered apart of the subsidy promised to be paid, many Districts refinance their bonds to avoid the federal government taking more interest. The Board will have the authority to negotiate the Bond.

Revolving Loan fund is expected to go from \$230 to \$280 million due to a payment due on May 1<sup>st</sup> which is taken from the School Bond Loan Fund.

No money is expected for the Transitioning of EAA schools to DPSCD. The District will receive student allocation funding and grant funds once all commitments are paid from the fund.

Treasurer Mays moved to approve the Deputy Superintendent of Finance Report

Member Stallworth supported

Motion carried without objection

## **Public Safety Report**

Public Safety/DPSCD Police Chief Stacy Brackens addressed issues and concerns regarding the potential cost in fulfilling requests for cameras and equipment of DPSCD schools and the incoming EAA schools. The budget for public safety is \$10.5 million.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

**EAA CHARTER RECOMMENDATION** – Request to issue charter contracts to the Trix, Murphy and Stewart Performance Academies, which are K-8 schools that have operated under a single charter as Michigan Educational Choice Center (MECC) since 2012.

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Member Hunter-Harvill moved to issue charter contracts on behalf of committee.

## Roll Call Vote

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

## Capstone Academy Reauthorization

Request to issue a new charter contract to Capstone Academy, a DPSCD-authorized strict discipline academy. The academy was founded in 2012, when DPS converted a former contract school (Detroit Behavioral Institute) into a charter school. Capstone serves residential adjudicated youth, who are not eligible to attend DPSCD.

Member L. Lemmons moved to issue charter to Capstone

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry supported

Motion carried without objection

## Safe Zone Resolution

A Resolution of the Board of Education of the Detroit Public Schools Community District affirming its commitment to a safe and supportive school environment for all students regardless of citizen status and immigration status.

Secretary Stallworth motioned to accept the proposed resolution to make DPSCD a safe zone for all DPSCD students.

Member L. Lemmons supported

Motion carried without objection

## Resolution Opposing SSRO Actions

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Resolution of the Detroit Public Schools Community District Board of Education opposing any state school reform office actions to close DPSCD Schools, appoint a CEO in a DPSCD School or place a DPSCD school in the State Reform Office.

Member Hunter-Harvill motioned to accept, adopt and pass the resolution opposing SSRO actions

Member L. Lemmons supported

Motion carried without objection

## **Contracts**

### **Option to Renew Zone 1 Contract for One (1) Year with the Facility Group**

Treasurer Mays motioned to approve the Option to Renew Zone 1 Contract for One (1) Year with the Facility Group

Treasurer Mays stated the expectations of the contractors should be managed very, very cautiously and thoughtful regarding performance.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry agreed stating contractor's services should be reviewed mid-year.

Member Hunter-Harvill supported

Motion carried without objection

### **Option to Renew Zone 3 Contract for One (1) Year with Lakeshore, LLC**

Treasurer Mays motioned to approve the Option to Renew Zone 3 Contract for One (1) Year with Lakeshore, LLC

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry supported

Motion carried without objection

### **One (1) Year Contract with Wiltech, Inc.**

Treasurer Mays motioned to approve the One (1) Year Contract with Wiltech, Inc. Security Services for the DPSCD Security Department for \$450,000.00

Member L. Lemmons supported

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Motion carried without objection

## Out-of-State Travel (condensed version)

Number of Participants	School/ Department	Conference Name	Location of Trip	Dates of Conference	Funding Source	Total Est. Cost	Approved by
5	Office of Science	National Conference on Science Education	Los Angeles, CA	3/29/17-4/3/17	Grants	\$11,950.00	MDE on 2/6/2017
1	Office of Science	National Conference on Science Education	Los Angeles, CA	3/29/17-4/3/17	Grants	\$2,390.00	MDE on 7/28/16

Subtotal Grant-funded

**\$14,340.00**

Number of Participants	School/ Department	Conference Name	Location of Trip	Dates of Conference	Funding Source	Total Est. Cost	Approved by
2	Office of Specialized Student Services	Special Education Convention	Boston, MA	4/19/17-4/22/17	Center Based Special Ed	\$6,655.14	Interim Superintendent
Number of Participants	School/ Department	Conference Name	Location of Trip	Dates of Conference	Funding Source	Total Est. Cost	Approved by
2	Office of Charter Schools	Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Conference	Indianapolis, Indiana	6/20/17-6/22/17	General Fund	\$3,031.20	Interim Superintendent

Subtotal General-funded

**\$3,031.20**

<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>\$24,026.34</b>
----------------------	--------------------

Treasurer Mays moved a motion to approve all Out-of-State Travel

Secretary Stallworth supported

Motion carried without objection

## Library Commission

Treasurer Mays moved a motion to rescind previous motion declaring all Library Commission positions vacant

Secretary Stallworth seconded

Member L. Lemmons disagreed with the opinion of Counsel.

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Counsel stated the Library Commission is their own government entity and the Board does not have authority to remove any members only to appoint

## Roll Call Vote

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

## Motion Carried

Chair appointed to Members G. Lemmons, Hunter-Harvill, and Vice President Peterson-Mayberry to review resumes regarding filling the vacant positions. All members accepted

## Bond Resolution

Treasurer Mays moved a motion for DPSCD Resolution to Develop an RFP regarding reissue of the Bonds  
Member Hunter-Harvill seconded  
Motion carried without objection

## Closed Session

Chair motioned to go into Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 (h) to review material exempt from disclosure attorney client privilege communication legal memorandum regarding Non-Renewal process and a request for action on the Delegation of Authority and Draft Resolution

## Roll Call Vote

Deborah Hunter-Harvill	Yes
Georgia Lemmons	Yes
LaMar Lemmons	Yes



# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Sonya Mays	Yes
Angelique Peterson-Mayberry	Yes
Misha Stallworth	Yes
Iris Taylor	Yes

Members moved to Closed Session at 8:28pm

## **Return from Closed Session**

Treasurer Mays moved a motion to return from Closed Session at 10:07pm

Member Stallworth seconded

Motion carried without objection

## **Non-Renewal Process**

Treasurer Mays moved to accept the Non-Renewal process as distributed by Human Resources

Member Hunter-Harvill seconded

Motion carried without objection

## **Affirmation Interim Superintendent's Contract**

Treasurer Mays moved to affirm the contract of Interim Superintendent, Alycia Meriweather pursuant to PA 192 until June 30, 2017 while we continue to finalize the Superintendent search.

Member G. Lemmons seconded

Member Hunter-Harvill's concern was the media dialogue about this affirmation and how that will be addressed.

Chair stated the Board will direct communications to assist with preparing a response to simply state the Board is complying with legislation in terms of this board confirming the Interim Superintendent's contract and understand it is the existing contract.

Motion carried without objection

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

## **Resolution for Delegation of Authority**

Treasurer Mays moved to approve the Resolution for Delegation of Authority for DPSCD  
Secretary Stallworth seconded

Treasurer Mays clarified that the Board was voting on the resolution that was included in the Board packet entitled Detroit Public Schools Community District Delegation of Authority (a 3-page document).

Chair stated that is correct

Motion carried without objection

## **Litigation against State School Reform Office (SSRO)**

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry moved to move forward with litigation against SSRO against school closures with the necessary adjustment as discussed

Member Hunter-Harvill seconded

Motion carried without objection

## **Acknowledgements**

Vice President Peterson Mayberry presented certificates of award to the following:

MAD – Making a Difference – King H.S. students’ young men mentoring group

Amy Lazarowicz - Life Change of the Year Award winner

Betti Wiggins – Silver Plate Award winner

Member L. Lemmons acknowledged Mr. Burks regular attendee who is in the hospital

## **Public Comments**

Several comments were given

Jim Arini, Operating Engineer and Treasurer of Local regarding allegations against Lakeshore Global and the Facilities Group

## **Adjournment**

Chair requested a motion to adjourn

No objections

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 pm

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KM', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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