

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

## BOARD OF EDUCATION Special Board Meeting

June 19, 2017 - 5:30pm

Fisher Building, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
3011 W. Grand Blvd.  
Detroit, MI 48202

### MINUTES

#### Call to Order

The Special Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Detroit Public Schools Community District was called to order by President Taylor at 5:37pm.

#### Moment of Silence

Chair called for a moment of silence

#### 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 by the Chair

#### Call for Special Board Meeting

Secretary of the Board Karen Morgan read the following statement:

I, Karen Morgan, Secretary to the Detroit Public Schools Community District Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing Notice of the Special Board of Education Meeting was delivered to each Board of Education Member on Friday, June 16, 2017, pursuant to its applicable statute.

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

## **Approval of Agenda**

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Agenda

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill seconded

Motion carried without objection

Approval of Minutes

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the minutes for the Special Meeting May 9, 2017

Member G. Lemmons seconded

Motion carried without objection

## **Action Items**

### **Budget for Wayne RESA**

Chair stated the budget for Wayne RESA must be approved by each individual school district. Funds from the enhancement millage are completely flexible. The Board will decide how to allocate the funds.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti will follow up.

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Budget for Wayne RESA

Secretary Stallworth seconded

Motion carried without objection

### **2017–2018 Regular Board Meeting Calendar**

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the 2017-2018 Regular Board Meeting Calendar

Secretary Stallworth seconded

Member L. Lemmons opposed the cancellation of the August meeting.

Counsel stated the Revised School Code requires the Board issue the meeting schedule for the entire year and that language states regular meetings should be held at least once a month.

Treasurer Mays stated the Bylaws support the same.

Treasurer Mays stated the current Bylaws have the Board holding an Organizational meeting in January at which time there is an approval of meeting schedule for the entire year.

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Treasurer Mays motion to approve an amended calendar to include a meeting for Tuesday, August 8, 2017.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill asked for consideration to change the meeting date for August 15, 2017.

Member G. Lemmons stated that Tuesday, August 8, 2017 is an election day.

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Schedule with the addition of Tuesday, August 15, 2017 as the meeting date at Frederick Douglass Academy pending verification of the meeting location.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill seconded

Motion carried without objection

## **Education Achievement Authority Transition**

Treasurer Mays stated at the June 13, 2017 board meeting the approval of the EAA Rent Payment Agreement was deferred pending receipt of additional information and review by the Finance Committee. The agreement is a broader schedule that covered past due amounts for lease payments and funding for work on some of the schools. The contract value is for \$5, 046,000.00. The Finance Committee have reviewed the agreement and is comfortable with signing of the agreement. Superintendent Dr. Vitti provided a response to questions raised at the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Treasurer Mays motion to approve the EAA Transition Rent Payment Memorandum Agreement

Secretary Stallworth seconded

Member L. Lemmons asked if the Superintendent was in support of the agreement.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti replied in the affirmative.

Motion Carried without objection

## **Focus Discussion**

Chair requested members to provide their thoughts and concerns for a list to be generated as a focus for the next 6 to 9 months.

Chair wants to establish a retreat for a strategic plan within the next 6 months, work on policies and procedures for the district, complete the Bylaws, and engage in a process of self-evaluation or retain someone to externally evaluate the performance of the board.

## DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Treasurer Mays wants to reconnect with retreat-style professional work and a strategic planning exercise.

Secretary Stallworth wants to return to the Mission, Vision, and Values and bring to a close and develop branding and marketing for the District.

Treasurer Mays also want to prioritize and disseminate information, post meeting materials on line and before time, and have more transparency.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill wants to focus on parents such as bring back the Parent Academy and agrees the Board should move into a Board document system to have information on line.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated there is currently an RFT out for an Agenda Management System.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill stated the Academics and Curriculum would like to see the Superintendent evaluation start up and self-evaluation for Board members.

Member G. Lemmons would like to find a means to deal with poor customer service.

Chair requested members to review the Transition Team Reports for future discussion on the content of the reports.

Secretary Stallworth wants to look at teacher incentives and different pathways to leadership.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti asked chair about the Board's strategic plan and possible next steps.

Chair stated the next steps would be conducting an off-site retreat with a facilitator to equally participate with the outcome being a framework built for the strategic plan.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated branding and marketing component could be an aftermath of the plan as well.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill wants the Board to have transparency with the enhancement funds that shows the spending of the funds.

Member L. Lemmons stated Wayne State University through the Damon Keith Justice Center provides help in facilitating discussions and leadership training.

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Secretary Stallworth would like to continue to gather information and take the lead for professional development.

Dr. Vitti feels the process can be done in 3 months with the right kind of timeline and it the Board focuses on the Mission, Vision, and Core Values. The Superintendent will bring recommendations on the pillars.

Chair stated the process should start with brainstorming and pulling them into the foundation of the Mission, Vision, and Core Values establishing pillars and strategic items that line up under the pillars creating a metrics report on a quarterly basis tracking achievement and performance. The Board must build a process into the partnership agreement with a standing agenda item that assures the performance expectations of the agreement are met. The next performance plan is due around august.

Secretary Stallworth asked where have the Mission, Vision, and Values landed

Chair responded the Communications department have a report on the focus groups held around the Mission, Vision, and Values with employees and community.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti stated information from the community during the Superintendent search would could be using as well.

Member Dr. Hunter-Harvill requested the Board create a platform to go to Lansing to speak with the legislature about the needs of DPSCD.

Treasurer Mays stated there is a Legislative Ad hoc Committee with herself, Secretary Stallworth, and Member L. Lemmons.

The Board agreed to have the Mission, Vision, and Core Values completed by July 30, 2017 or the beginning of August.

Superintendent Dr. Vitti suggested having two (2) all day sessions and vetting with the community.

Chair suggested a weekend retreat.

## **Announcement(s) and Acknowledgement(s)**

Upcoming Sub-Committee Meetings were announced.

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

Member L. Lemmons stated there was a lawsuit that is being conducted by Etta Wilcox and Robert Davis in regards to Ilitch Holdings that directly affects the revenues of this body that should be discussed by the Finance Committee and the need to take action prior to our next scheduled meeting. Mr. Lemmons suggested vetting should go through legal and Finance Committee.

Chair asked Member L. Lemmons what action he believes should be taken.

Member L. Lemmons stated the District should file an amicus and alert the court the District have not been notified.

Chair stated legal can vet the concern and the Finance Committee can make a recommendation to the Board.

## **Public Comment**

Several participated in Public Comment

## **Adjournment**

Chair motioned for adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.



Certified:

Karen Morgan, B.S.B.M

Secretary to the Board