

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Hamtramck, Wayne County, Michigan, was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, 3201 Roosevelt St., Hamtramck, MI 48212.

The meeting was called to order by President Srodek at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Absent: None

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Motion by Member Obaid  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts and approves the Agenda, with any additions and deletions.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION****CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from Susan Wright dated August 15, 2017 (read by Member Hadwan)

Letter from Gwendolyn Reedus dated August 10, 2017 (read by Member Hadwan)

Letter from Emily Selwa dated August 10, 2017 (read by Member Hadwan)

Letter from Liredona Marashi (read by Member Hadwan)

**BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION**

Ms. Srodek congratulated Mr. Major on his recent marriage.

Mr. Major commented on the Board Self-Assessment. A meeting needs to be held with all members attending so that the process can continue and move forward. Two meetings have been scheduled, but there were members absent for both meetings. Mr. Major also asked that the discussion regarding the dress code be continued and shared his concerns with the DACA program and what the effect is on students and their families,

Ms. Srodek reminded everyone of the upcoming Open House dates and expressed a sincere thank you for all the help at the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Member Khan  
Seconded by Member Lukas

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the following items under the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from:
  1. Regular Meeting Minutes from August 9, 2017
  2. Special Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2017
- b. Acceptance of Resignation – Resignation of **Susan Wright**, Math Teacher at Horizon High School, effective August 16, 2017.
- c. Acceptance of Retirement – Retirement of **Gwendolyn Reedus**, Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, effective at the end of the 2016-2017 school year.
- d. Acceptance of Resignation – Resignation of **Emily Selwa**, Resource Room Teacher at Hamtramck High School effective August 27, 2017.
- e. Acceptance of Resignation – Resignation of **Liredona Marashi**, Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, effective September 6, 2017.
- f. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Tamanna Ahad**, resident of Hamtramck, as a Paraprofessional at Holbrook Elementary School, \$12.00 per hour, maximum of 27.5 hours per week, effective September 20, 2017.
- g. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Shahina Akter**, resident of Hamtramck, as a Special Education Paraprofessional at Dickinson West Elementary, \$12.00 per hour, maximum of 32.5 hours per week, effective September 5, 2017.
- h. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Megan Nowakowski**, resident of Hamtramck, for Safety Patrol at Dickinson East, \$10.00 per hour, maximum of 10 hours per week, effective September 5, 2017.
- i. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Joe Young Jr.**, resident of Detroit, for Safety Patrol at Dickinson East, \$10.00 per hour, maximum of 10 hours per week, effective September 5, 2017.
- j. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Kelley Terrell**, resident of Harper Woods, as a Special Education Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$12.00 per hour, maximum of 32.5 hours per week, effective September 11, 2017.
- k. Approval of Purchase – Purchase from **Inacomp** in the amount of \$36,921.60 for the purchase of HP Chromebooks for Holbrook Elementary School. Funding through Title I.

- l. Approval of Purchase – Purchase in the amount of \$70,030.92 from **Schoolcraft College** for the purchase of HOPE for K-8 Education and all related materials. Funding through Title II.
- m. Approval of Purchase – Purchase in the amount of \$35,200.00 from **NEWSELA** for the purchase of District Licenses and necessary training sessions. Funding through Title I.
- n. Approval of Purchase – Purchase in the amount of \$35,477.50 from **Northwest Evaluation Association** for Web Based system for measurement of academic progress. Funding through Title I.
- o. Approval of Purchase – Purchase in the amount of \$59,400.00 from **LEXIA Learning Systems** for the purchase of LEXIA reading site licenses and support. Funding through General Fund and Title I.
- p. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Amal Mehtar**, resident of Hamtramck, as a 48 Week Secretary to the Assistant Principal, Grade III, Step 1 of the AFSCME Contract, effective September 18, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

**INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS**

Reports by the Superintendent of Schools:

*GM Engine Team/BAPAC Recognition – Mr. Thomas Niczay*

Mr. Niczay gave a brief update on the work that was done during the summer by the GM Engine Team. They did a wonderful job sprucing up Pulaski Park and painted a beautiful mural on one of the walls.

*Donation of AED's (Renkiewicz Family/Children's Hospital) – Mr. Thomas Niczay*

Mrs. Mary Renkiewicz was present to be recognized for her generous donation of AED's for the District. Three of them were purchased, with one being given in her daughter's name – Ann is a retired teacher from Hamtramck.

*HHS ACT & SAT Scores – Mr. Thomas Niczay*

ACT & SAT Scores were shared and kudos given to the staff for making positive gains in the scores.

*Enrollment Snapshot – Jean St. Germaine*

Mr. Niczay gave a brief update on enrollment numbers to date. Almost all classes have overages due to high enrollment numbers. Mr. Niczay will meet with the union to figure out the most equitable solution to the student numbers.

*A.L.I.C.E Training*

Christina Adamczyk and John Summerhill gave a presentation on the ALICE Training that has taken place. Staff members along with students will be trained on the procedures and expectations should there ever be an active shooter situation in the District. Parents will also be given information on ALICE.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ACTION ITEMS**

General Fund  
Board Report  
September 13, 2017

Attached hereto is a listing of invoices and checks now due for supplies, materials, equipment or services delivered or rendered to the School District. These invoices and checks represent purchases made or services ordered upon approved resolutions of the Board of Education for the current fiscal year. Where required or when possible, competitive prices have been obtained prior to placing orders, and where quality specifications permitted, purchases were made or services obtained at the lowest price quoted.

Invoices examined and recommended for approval by the Board of Education.

Thomas Niczay  
Superintendent of Schools

APPROVAL OF INVOICES AND CHECK REGISTER

Motion by Member Lukas  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Check Register for the period August 9, 2017 through September 13, 2017 as enclosed, be approved.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Obaid  
Seconded by Member Major

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Sarah Albanna**, as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 2 for a Master's Degree, effective August 29, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Obaid  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Amber Basch**, as a Resource Room Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 2 for a Bachelor's Degree, effective August 30, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.



APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Lukas  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Aieda Dabish**, as an ELL Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 7 for a Master's Degree, effective August 30, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Obaid

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Violetta Kuzniar**, as a 5th Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 2 for a Bachelor's Degree, effective August 28, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Khan  
Seconded by Member Lukas

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Alexis Lambdin**, as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 2 for a Bachelor's Degree, effective August 28, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Lukas  
Seconded by Member Obaid

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Patricia Mullen**, as an ELL Social Studies Teacher at Kosciuszko Middle School, Step 3 for a Master's Degree, effective August 28, 2017

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Lukas  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Leah Robinson**, as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 2 for a Bachelor's Degree, effective August 28, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Major

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Amadeusz Sepko**, as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 2 for a Master's Degree, effective August 28, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Obaid  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Stephanie Shipley**, as a Speech Pathologist for Hamtramck Public Schools, Step 2 for a Master's Degree, effective August 30, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Obaid

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Heather Walsh**, as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 2 for a Master's Degree, effective August 28, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Member Khan  
Seconded by Member Major

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Ruby Griggs**, as a Counselor at Hamtramck High School, Step 3 for a Master's Degree, effective September 11, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Lukas

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the contract for **Omar Thabet** as the Student Academic Interventionist at Hamtramck High School, annual salary of \$49,500.00 (pro-rated for time worked) effective September 5, 2017.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Khan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the contract for **Nabil Nagi** as the Elementary Instructional Facilitator for Hamtramck Public Schools, annual salary of \$49,500.00 (pro-rated for time worked) effective September 18, 2017

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Major

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the request of Stefan Pitcoff to attend the **Michigan Association of State and Federal Program Specialists Fall Institute** to be held October 3-6, 2017 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, MI. Funded through Title I.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Obaid

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the request of Rich Wawrzynski to attend the **MSBO Facilities/Operations Conference** to be held October 2-3, 2017 at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville, MI. Funded through Buildings & Grounds.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Obaid

Hamtramck Public Schools, advocates for the highest quality public education for all students, and develops and supports school system leaders, and

Hamtramck Public Schools supports and values an inclusive, safe and innovative quality public education system that ensures all students can succeed, regardless of their zip code, the color of their skin, their native language, their gender/gender identity, their immigration status, their religion, or their social standing, and

Hamtramck Public Schools promotes equity and excellence for students, educators and administrators by implementing continuous improvement and research-supported best practices, and

Hamtramck Public Schools advocates for policies that address the unique needs of persistently underserved children, and

Hamtramck Public Schools supports creating stable, equitable, predictable and adequate funding for schools based on local, state and federal revenues that will meet the challenges of universal proficiency and provide the funding base needed to support a system which leads to success for all students, and

Hamtramck Public Schools supports the application of public school accountability systems for all educational institutions receiving local, state or federal funding including, but not limited to: virtual schools; charter schools; independent schools; and home school placements, and

WHEREAS, investing in public education is crucial to ensuring the future health of our economy and our country's global competitiveness. Students must leave their public schools ready for success in our 21st century society and ready to fill current and future jobs. A robust federal investment in education is necessary to equip schools with the resources – personnel, facilities, technology – to position students to acquire the skills and knowledge needed for college and career success, and

WHEREAS, without quality public education, there will exist a great divide between the educated and uneducated, corresponding to the divide between the rich and the poor and the strong and the weak, and



WHEREAS, the existence of a strong, effective system of free public education for all children is essential to our democratic system of government, and

WHEREAS, public schools provide students with broad-based educational opportunities to include: learning multiple languages; having exposure to the history, culture, and context of all regions of the world; learning how to collaboratively solve problems and interact with peoples of different cultures and different lands; and developing empathy for human differences, commonalities, backgrounds and cultures,

WHEREAS, investing in public education is critical to student health. Public schools serve as a lifeline for children who can't access health services outside of school. Schools are uniquely positioned to help children and youth acquire life-long, health-promoting knowledge, skills and behaviors, and

WHEREAS, investment in public education matters. While the federal government contributes (on average) just over 10 percent of a school district's operating budget, the federal funds provide critical support to schools and the neediest students they serve, and

WHEREAS, getting children ready for democracy embraces the notion that, to thrive, this nation must have citizens committed to the ideals and work of democracy, equipped to operate in a democracy and who can find common ground in their differences and respect where common ground is absent, and

BE IT RESOLVED these statements exemplify the importance of enhancing educational opportunities for students, therefore:

The nation's public school superintendents call on local, state and federal lawmakers to prioritize support for strengthening our nation's public schools and empowering local education leaders to implement, manage and lead school districts;

Hamtramck Public Schools advocates for local, state and federal policy that is committed to supporting and educating the whole child, providing support for academic and non-academic factors, including counseling, extra/co-curricular activities and mental health supports;

Hamtramck Public Schools joins AASA, The School Superintendents Association in support of the I Love Public Education Campaign to tell the good news of public education, to engage in conversation related to ensuring that every community has access to a high quality public school, and to support the leaders of our nation's public schools;

Hamtramck Public Schools affirms its commitment to these values and will be steadfast in its efforts to protect students and their families, public schools and our communities from any policies that would undermine these values;

Hamtramck Public Schools urges Congress to ensure federal resources are allocated equitably, providing increased levels of support for needier communities and districts;

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPOINTMENT OF MASB DELEGATES

Motion by Member Obaid

Seconded by Member Major

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby appoint Salah Hadwan as a Delegate to the Michigan Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly and Dennis Lukas as an Alternate.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Motion by Member Khan  
Seconded by Member Lukas

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the request of the following individuals to attend the **2017 National PBIS Leadership Forum** September 28-29, 2017 in Chicago, Illinois:

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Shalika Robie</i>      | <i>Sharon Strean</i>       |
| <i>Sheila Flowers</i>     | <i>Kristen Hurt</i>        |
| <i>Julie Pieprzyk</i>     | <i>Renee Kronsperger</i>   |
| <i>Jean St. Germaine</i>  | <i>Thomas Niczay</i>       |
| <i>Christina Adamczyk</i> | <i>Sonya Waters-Thomas</i> |

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Motion by Member Hadwan  
Seconded by Member Major

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the request of Jaleelah Ahmed to attend the **Imagine Learning Partnership Forum** October 11-13, 2017 in Provo, Utah,

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Member Khan  
Seconded by Member Lukas

RESOLVED, that the Meeting be adjourned.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Salah Hadwan, Secretary

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Magdalena Srodek, President