

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Hamtramck, Wayne County, Michigan, was held on Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Hamtramck High School Library, 11410 Charest, Hamtramck, MI 48212

The meeting was called to order by President Aiyash at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall  
Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**Acceptance of Agenda**

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Obaid that the Hamtramck Board of Education approves the agenda with any additions or deletions.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Employment

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Cynthia Szuminski**, as Finance Manager, annual salary of \$115,000.00, start date upon completion of on-boarding.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Employment

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Obaid that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Shawn Shackelford** as the Director of K-12 Instruction & Professional Development, annual salary of \$115,000.00, start date upon completion of on-boarding.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Employment

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Afrin Alavi** as the MLD Director, Step 7 of the HAA Contract, effective August 12, 2024.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Employment

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Obaid that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Alia Hamka**, as Principal at Tau Beta, Step 7 of the HAA Contract, start date upon completion of on-boarding.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Employment

It was moved by Member Hall and seconded by Member Obaid that the Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Jazmine Graves**, as Payroll Coordinator, annual salary of \$65,000.00, start date upon completion of on-boarding.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Closed Session

It was moved by Member Obaid and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Board of Education does hereby go into Closed Session for the following purpose:

***To discuss pending litigation***

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

*The meeting went into Closed Session at 6:09 p.m.*

Open Session

It was moved by Member Obaid and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Board of Education does hereby resume the meeting in Open Session

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

*The meeting resumed in Open Session at 7:30 p.m.*

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “Board” or “the District”) is committed to transparency and accountability in its operations;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the need to produce certain privileged documents as part of ongoing litigation against the District;

WHEREAS, the Board understands the importance of maintaining confidentiality and protecting the interests of the District, its employees, and its students while ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. *Authorization for Production:*

The Board authorizes the production of the following privileged document in accordance with the guidelines set forth herein:

*Susan Hartmus Hiser, Fisher & Phillips, LLP, “Investigation into Employee Complaints,” dated November 21, 2022.*

2. *Conditions for Production:*

The production of the aforementioned document shall be subject to the following conditions:

- The document shall only be produced in ongoing litigation against the District.
- Appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure that the document is produced in a manner that maintains the confidentiality and privilege to the maximum extent possible under the circumstances.
- Legal counsel for the District shall review the document(s) prior to production to identify and redact any information that is not relevant or is protected by other privileges or confidentiality obligations.

3. *Effective Date:* This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Acknowledgements**

Retirement of Deborah Caminita, Payroll & Benefits Coordinator

Retirement of Denise Rubaga, Administrative Assistant, Kosciuszko.

*The Board thanked all retiring employees for their service to the District and wished them well.*

**Reports to the Board****HHS Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Interim Superintendent, Jim Larson-Shidler shared with the Board that there has been an exciting project taking place. PPG along with the Heart of America and General Motors have collaborated on a transformative paint project at Hamtramck High School over the past three years.

The Interim Superintendent also reminded everyone that HPS will be holding their Family Fun Fair for back to school on August 20<sup>th</sup> at Pulaski Park. All are invited to attend – the event will be held from 11:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**Construction Updates**

Ron Zuhorski from Plante Moran and Mike Gagnon from Frank Rewold gave an update to the Board on construction projects. They provided a presentation outlining what has been accomplished to date and a plan for projects moving forward.

AAYSF is recognizing Mr. Algahaim and honoring him as Community Member of the Year for his contributions to the community and the school district on the evening of August 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Bylaws and Policies**

Bylaw 0155 – Committees

Bylaw 0165.3 – Committee Meetings

**Action Items**

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall that the Board of Education does hereby approve a 3% increase for the following staff effective July 1, 2024:

- David Farver, Asst Behavior Int Coach
- Patrick Cashen, VLI Specialist
- Nathan Talbot, Data Specialist
- Afaf Saleh, Home to School Coordinating Specialist
- Karina Patmalnieks, Academic & Behavior Specialist
- Jennifer Johnson-Crudup, Behavior Specialist
- D’Juana Jackson, Recreation Coordinator
- Heather Kuehneman, Director of Student Achievement
- Jeremy Howard, At Risk Advocate
- Hane Dreshaj, School & Community Facilitator
- Judy Mills, Compliance Manager
- Kimberly Collins, Compliance Manager
- Corlis Brown-Lloyd, School & Community Facilitator
- Majid Al-Topai, Parent Engagement Facilitator
- Christopher Oliphant, Student Engagement Facilitator
- Farzana Akhanjee, Bilingual Translator
- Jasmin Akther, Bilingual Translator
- Amirah Saleh, Home to School Liaison
- Mirjana Maros, ELD District Facilitator
- Jim Larson-Shidler, CFO

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Purchase – SEL Curriculum - TABLED

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall that the resolution for the SEL Curriculum Purchase be tabled for further discussion.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Purchase – Solution Tree – Professional Development

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Obaid that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of the PLC At Work Embedded Coaching program from Solution Tree for the 2024-2025 school year, total cost not to exceed \$202,800.00 Funded through Title II

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Purchase – I-Ready Renewal

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of the I-Ready Benchmark Assessment from Curriculum Associates, for K-12 Student Assessments, total amount not to exceed \$181,186.00 Purchase funded through ESSER III and Title II

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**



Approval of Purchase – Laptops and Computer Carts - TABLED

It was moved by Member Hall and seconded by Member Algahaim that the resolution for the Laptops and Computer Carts be tabled for further discussion.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Approval of Purchase – Elevate K-12 Services

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Hall that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of Elevate K-12 Services, total amount not to exceed \$155,000. Purchase funded through General Fund

Ayes: None

Nays: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION FAILED**

Approval of Service Contract – Building Roof Evaluations

It was moved by Member Hall and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the contract with StructureTec for Building Roof Evaluations including development of a long-range program, total cost not to exceed \$48,900.00 Funded through General Fund

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan **MOTION CARRIED**

Authorization for Change Order

It was moved by Member Hall and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby authorize the Interim Superintendent to act on behalf of the District to modify the existing contract with Frank Rewold and Sons via Change Order to enable FRS to purchase the Federally required bond. The cost of the bond is \$188,412.99. This Change Order will be funded through the 2023 Capital Improvement Program.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

Awarding of Contract for Commissioning Agent

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Obaid that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby award a Commissioning Agent Services contract to IMEG on a lump sum basis of One Hundred Fourteen Thousand Nine Hundred Ten and No/100 Dollars (\$114,910.00). This fee includes preconstruction phase service through project close-out. The contract will be funded through the 2022 CIP Program.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Member Obaid and seconded by Member Hall that the Board of Education approves the following items under the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from:
  1. COW Minutes of June 12, 2024
  2. Regular Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2024
- b. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Lisha Thomas**, Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- c. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jazmin Gonzalez**, Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 4 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- d. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Valerie Raspberry**, Special Ed Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 8 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- e. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Rhonda White**, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Self Contained Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 1 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- f. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Sabrina Mills**, Resource Room Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 13 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- g. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Sarah Mazhar**, Special Education Compliance Manager, annual salary of \$92,700 effective August 26, 2024.
- h. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Mary Hunter**, Special Education Teacher at Holbrook Elementary, Step 11 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- i. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Linda Robinson**, Kindergarten Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 15 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- j. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Morgan Gaigalas**, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 4 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.

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- k. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Salisa Savel**, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 1 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- l. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Geoffrey Sperl**, ELA Teacher at Hamtramck High School, Step 4 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- m. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Rahima Begum**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 4 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- n. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jeremy Hein**, Instructional Coach, for HPS, Step 11 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- o. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Tina Kelly**, Instructional Coach for HPS, Step 8 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- p. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Tracey Nemeth**, District Nurse, Step 8 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- q. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jazzmyn Graves** as Floating Administrative Assistant for Hamtramck Public Schools, Grade 3, Step 3 of the AFSCME Contract, effective August 26, 2024.
- r. Approval of Employment – Employment of **LaDonna Taylor** as Floating Administrative Assistant for Hamtramck Public Schools, Grade 3, Step 3 of the AFSCME Contract, effective August 26, 2024.
- s. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Tahmina Begum**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$21.11 per hour, max of 37.5 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.
- t. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Mymoonnh Salah**, Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$18.39 per hour, max of 35 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.
- u. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Tahmina Shima**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Early Childhood Elementary, \$21.11 per hour, maximum of 37.5 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.
- v. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Eric Gerstacker**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Holbrook Elementary, \$17.00 per hour, max or 37.5 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.

- w. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jecil Canil**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$16.87 per hour, maximum of 37.5 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.
  - x. Approval of Employment – **Ripon Laskar**, Parent Engagement Facilitator, annual salary of \$50,500, effective August 8, 2024.
- Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid and Hall
- Nays: None
- Absent: Members Watson, Farris and Hadwan

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Board Calendar Updates**

Discussion of 2025 Calendar

Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

**Audience Participation**

Joseph Kochut introduced himself to the Board as he is a candidate running for one of the school board seats in the upcoming election.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Daz'Shavon Hall, Secretary

Approved:

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Jihan Aiyash, President