

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 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, 3201 Roosevelt St, Hamtramck, MI 48212

The meeting was called to order by President Aiyash at 6:11 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

Acknowledgements

"I Voted Sticker" contest finalist – Tasneem Rahman

The Board congratulated Tasneem and shared a visual of the sticker she created.

Reports to the Board

WIDA Results

Afrin Alavi and Mirjana Maros presented to the board on the WIDA results including how HPS students compared to other students in the state.

Construction Updates

Mike Gagnon and Joe Lucci 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.

(Member Farris entered at 6:40 p.m.)

Bylaws and Policies

Bylaw 0155 – Committees

Bylaw 0165.3 – Committee Meetings

Action Items

Appointment of MASB Delegates

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Farris that the Board of Education does hereby appoint member Abdulmalik Algahaim as a delegate to the Michigan Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly and Daz’Shavon Hall as an alternate.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Adoption of Bylaws

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Farris that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby adopt changes to the following Board Bylaws/Policies as discussed:

Bylaw 0155 – Committees

Bylaw 0168.3 – Committee Meetings

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Adoption of Joint Defense Agreement

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

1. **Authorization to Enter Agreement:** The Board of Education of Hamtramck Public Schools hereby approves the Joint Defense Agreement as presented and authorizes the appropriate representatives of the District to execute the Agreement on behalf of the School District.
2. **Conditions for Execution:** The execution of the Joint Defense Agreement shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - o The agreement shall be limited to the ongoing litigation initiated by Nabil Nagi.
 - o All information shared under this agreement shall be handled in a manner that preserves its privileged and confidential status.
 - o Legal counsel for the District shall review all shared documents to ensure compliance with the agreement and the protection of privileged information.
3. **Effective Date:** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Purchase – SEL Curriculum

It was moved by Member Farris and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of K-12 Social-Emotional curriculum – Character Strong, total amount not to exceed \$99,970.00 Purchase funded through Title IV

Need further information, will revisit the resolution....

Approval of Purchase – Pearson Curriculum

It was moved by Member Farris and seconded by Member Obaid that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of **Pearson Connexus**, training, on-line curriculum and teaching staff for the VLI Program, from Pearson, total amount not to exceed \$170,150.00 Purchase funded through General Fund.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Purchase – SEL Curriculum

It was moved by Member Farris and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of K-12 Social-Emotional curriculum – Character Strong, total amount not to exceed \$99,970.00 Purchase funded through Title IV

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Purchase – Dell Chromebooks and Carts

It was moved by Member Hall and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of 4333 Dell 3110 touch screen chrome books and licensing from CDW-G, for a total price not to exceed \$1,719,811.03 and 29 computer charging carts from bluum, USA, Inc, for a total price not to exceed \$23,653.85.

Total purchase of \$1,743,464.88 funded through ESSER III

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Awarding of Bid – Conant Building RTU Replacement

It was moved by Member Hall and seconded by Member Algahaim that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby award the bid for the Conant Building Remodel - RTU Replacement project to **Trane Michigan**, total bid not to exceed \$158,542.00. Project funded through ESSER

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Purchase – Passenger Van

It was moved by Member Algahaim and seconded by Member Aiyash that the Hamtramck Board of Education does hereby approve the purchase of a Dodge Promaster Passenger Van for McKinney Vento from Valley Ford, total purchase price not to exceed \$78,881.00

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Approval of Minutes from:
 1. Regular Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2024
- b. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Myles McNichols**, Community Center/Recreation Coordinator, \$12.50 per hour, maximum of 35 hours per week, effective September 30, 2024.
- c. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Wafa Kassem**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$21.11 per hour, maximum of 37.5 hrs per week, effective September 16, 2024.
- d. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Sumaya Hassan**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$18.91 per hour, maximum of 37.5 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.
- e. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Suraya Choudhury**, Special Education Paraprofessional at Early Childhood Elementary, \$21.11 per hour, maximum of 37.5 hrs per week, effective August 26, 2024.
- f. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Zoja Dukaj**, 2nd Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 7 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- g. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Kathryn Valadez-Herrera**, 6th Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- h. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Sondra Williams**, Part-time School Psychologist, Step 16 for a Doctorate Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- i. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Stephanie Palmer**, Resource Room Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 12 for a Masters Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- j. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jennifer Reddick**, Social Worker at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 8 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.

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- k. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Mike Kostovski**, Phys Ed Teacher at Hamtramck High School, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- l. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Rachelle Warren**, Part-time Adult Education Teacher, \$30.56 per hour, effective August 26, 2024.
- m. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Candace Apple**, Resource Room Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 14 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 26, 2024.
- n. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Joanne Dougherty**, Title I Reading Specialist at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective August 28, 2024.
- o. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Ghasag Alawadi**, Arabic Teacher at Hamtramck High School, Step 12 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 3, 2024.
- p. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Kassem Doghman**, Arabic Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 10 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 3, 2024.
- q. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Zainab Hussain**, Multi-Lingual Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 6 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective September 3, 2024.
- r. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Kikelomo Thompkins**, Kindergarten Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 9, 2024.
- s. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jason Zobl-Tar**, Title I Reading Specialist at Early Childhood Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 3, 2024.
- t. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jerret Smith**, Student Academic and Behavior Interventionist at Tau Beta School, annual salary of \$65,000.00 effective September 3, 2024.
- u. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Aileen Stewart**, Multi-Lingual Teacher at Hamtramck High School, Step 6 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 23, 2024.

- v. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Thomas Wolf**, Music Teacher at Tau Beta School, Step 8 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective September 10, 2024.
- w. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Jeri Johnson**, Kindergarten Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 15 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 24, 2024.
- x. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Angela Parker**, 2nd Grade Teacher at Early Childhood Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 3, 2024.
- y. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Shy’Lexia Hill**, Student Academic and Behavior Interventionist at Hamtramck High School, annual salary of \$65,000, effective September 23, 2024.
- z. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Shayma Alrifai**, Paraprofessional at Tau Beta School, \$15.91 per hour, maximum of 27.5 hrs per week, effective September 3, 2024.
- aa. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Taoba Begum**, Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$15.91 per hour, maximum of 27.5 hrs per week, effective September 16, 2024.
- bb. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Kaitlyn Hill**, 6th Grade Teacher at Dickinson West Elementary, Step 4 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective September 16, 2024.
- cc. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Patricia Murray**, 6th Grade Teacher at Dickinson East Elementary, Step 16 for a Master’s Degree, effective September 23, 2024.
- dd. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Fahmida Begum**, Multi-Lingual Paraprofessional at Dickinson East Elementary, \$16.97 per hour, maximum of 27.5 hrs per week, effective September 16, 2024.
- ee. Approval of Employment – Employment of **Cameron Hanlon**, Science Teacher at Tau Beta School, Step 5 for a Bachelor’s Degree, effective September 12, 2023.

Ayes: Members Aiyash, Algahaim, Obaid, Hall and Farris

Nays: None

Absent: Members Watson and Hadwan

MOTION CARRIED

Board Calendar Updates

There is a need to add another meeting for the month of September....date to follow

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

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board took a short recess at 7:35 p.m.

Reconvened at 7:42 p.m.

Audience Participation

Various members of the public addressed the Board:

Shahina Akter is a paraprofessional in the District and addressed the issue of parapro pay as compares to individuals who are hired through the third party contractor.

Ms. Evie is also a paraprofessional at Dickinson West and spoke about the current pay they are receiving.

Joshua Hansknecht, teacher, spoke about employee onboarding and the lack of appropriate training and sharing of information with new staff.

Toni Coral, HFT President spoke about the disparity in pay for paraprofessionals, training modules that staff are expected to complete, staff morale, etc.

Bill Albrecht spoke about the recycling program at HHS to encourage support

Kristina Gerstacker spoke about the visit from the Superintendent, Admin and Board Members. She truly appreciates the support and would love to see everyone visit again!

Angela Chen spoke about the upcoming millage renewal. She asked the Board for their support in terms of a monetary donation.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daz'Shavon Hall, Secretary

Approved:

Jihan Aiyash, President