



**WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, April 22, 2025**

The Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, in Washtenaw ISD's Teaching and Learning Center Board Room at 1819 South Wagner Road in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by President Diane Hockett.

**ATTENDANCE**

**The following members were present:**

Diane Hockett, President  
Mary Jane Tramontin, Vice President  
Sarena Shivers, Treasurer  
Dorcas Musili, Trustee **(Virtual)**

**The following member was absent:**

Steve Olsen, Secretary

**Quorum was met.**

**Also present:**

Naomi Norman, Superintendent  
Cherie Vannatter, Deputy Superintendent  
Brian Marcel, Associate Superintendent  
Tanner Rowe, Director of Operations  
Ashley Kryscynski, Director of Communications and Public Relations  
Alicia Kruk, Assistant Director of Preschool and Family Services  
Michelle Pogliano, Assistant Director of Early Intervention Services  
Bethany Whidden, Director of Student Services of Miami County  
TJ Greggs, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Sarena Shivers moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, to approve the agenda, as presented.**

**Ayes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**COMMUNICATIONS:** There were no communications.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There was no public participation.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel reviewed the financial reports for March 2025 and Assistant Director of Preschool and Family Services Alicia Kruk reviewed the Head Start financial reports for April 2025.

**Mary Jane Tromontin moved, Sarena Shivers seconded, that the Board of Education approve the April 2025 Head Start financial report, as presented.**

**Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers**

**Voting no: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE DIALOGUE:** Superintendent Naomi Norman and Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter facilitated the Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (EISJ) discussion, sharing about the following:

- Superintendent Naomi Norman shared the Proclamation of Honor of DeShawn Leeth from the Nicole Brown, mayor of the City of Ypsilanti.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Sarena Shivers moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education approve the regular meeting minutes and Superintendent's recommendations in the Consent Agenda, as presented.**

**Ayes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved the minutes of the April 8, 2025, regular meeting.

**108-24-25**

The Board approved the following reclassification requests:

- Jeffery Brown, Teaching Assistant, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I to Teacher, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit II.

**109-24-25**

The Board approved the following new position requests:

- MISTEM Advisory Council Administrator, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Worksite: TLC, Non-Affiliated bargaining.

**110-24-25**

The Board approved the following staff resignations:

- Jenna Heinrich, effective April 21, 2025

**111-24-25**

The Board approved the following staff retirements:

- Mary DiFranco, effective June 7, 2025

**112-24-25**

The Board approved the following staff terminations:

- Nicole Grode, effective April 4, 2025

**113-24-25**

The Board accepted the following layoff notifications:

- Julie Liskiewicz, effective June 11, 2025
- Melissa Grisham, effective April 25, 2025
- Sarah Roth, effective June 6, 2025
- Takeshia Banks, effective June 6, 2025

**114-24-25**

The Board approved the Washtenaw County 2025-2030 Common Calendar, as presented.

**115-24-25**

The Board approved the administration to contract with 7 Cylinders for an additional \$42,000, for a total not to exceed \$50,500, as presented.

**116-24-25**

The Board authorized administration to approve a contract with Emdin Support Services for an additional \$27,500, for a total amount of \$120,000, as presented.

**117-24-25**

The Board authorized administration to approve a contract with Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center for an additional \$16,123, for a total amount not to exceed \$89,723.36, as presented.

**118-24-25**

The Board authorized administration to approve a contract amendment with Care Solace decreasing the total cost from \$182,090 to \$79,004, as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS – FY26 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) Funding –**

Superintendent Naomi Norman shared details of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program grant that Regional School Health Coordinator Danielle Dros wants to apply for.

**Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Sarena Shivers seconded, that the Board of Education approve the FY26 SNAP-Ed grant application in the amount of \$360,746, as presented.**

**Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers**

**Voting no: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS – Grant Title: PreK-12 Strategic Investments in STEM Career Exposure - 2025 –**

Superintendent Naomi Norman shared details of the Grant Title: PreK-12 Strategic Investments in STEM Career Exposure that Career Technical Education Director Dr. Ryan Rowe wants to apply for.

Sarena Shivers moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education approve the application for the PreK-12 Strategic Investments in STEM Career Exposure grant in the amount of \$500,000, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS – Strong Beginnings Three-Year-Old Preschool Pilot Program Grant** – Assistant Director of Preschool and Family Services Alicia Kruk discussed how the Strong Beginnings Grant will be utilized with the Board.

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Sarena Shivers seconded, that the Board of Education approve the application for the Strong Beginnings Three-Year-Old Preschool Pilot Program for the amount of \$209,000, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS – Updated Head Start/GSRP Policies** – Superintendent Naomi Norman shared the updates to the Head Start and Early Head Start policies with the Board.

Sarena Shivers moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education approve the updated Head Start and Early Head Start Policies:

- Child Mental Health & Social and Emotional Well-Being Services
- Dental Hygiene
- Diapering & Toileting
- First Aid Kit
- Health & Safety Walk Through
- Lead Screening Requirements
- Mandated Reporting Requirements
- Medication Administration
- Participant Health Summary
- Refusal of Health Screenings
- Safety Practices
- Screening Requirements & Tracking
- Universal Precautions
- Vision & Hearing Screening Requirements

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS – Strong Beginnings Three-Year-Old Preschool Pilot Program Grant** – Superintendent Norman acknowledged the recommendation for probationary teachers that was included in the packet for the Board of Education to review.

**NEW BUSINESS – Intent to Apply for Grant – Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids (LEAD-K)–**

Assistant Director of Early Intervention Michelle Pogliano discussed the purpose of the LEAD-K grant and how it will be utilized with the Board.

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Sarena Shivers seconded, that the Board of Education approve the application for the Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids grant, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS – Authorization of Closed Session**

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Sarena Shivers seconded, that the Board of Education convene in closed session under Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider letters from Washtenaw ISD attorneys, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**RECESS**

The Board went into recess for Closed Session at 5:34 PM session under Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider letters from Washtenaw ISD attorneys.

**RECONVENE**

The board reconvened at 6:18 PM to continue open session.

**OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS – Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release:** In the matter of Construction Dispute Related to High Point School's window assemblies, the Board has reached its determination in supporting the superintendent's decision to approve the settlement agreement.

Sarena Shivers moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education approve the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release in relation to the construction dispute with Curtis Glass, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS – State Complaint 25-0041:** In the matter of State Complaint #25-0041, the Board has reached its determination in supporting the superintendent's decision to move forward with necessary legal counsel.

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Sarena Shivers seconded, that the Board of Education authorize legal counsel and necessary steps to appeal MDE's decision in state complaint #25-0041, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS:** There were no Board of Education reports.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - Superintendent's Report:**

- Director of Communications and Public Relations Ashley Kryscynski presented the results of the county CTE millage poll.
- Superintendent Naomi Norman introduced Director of Student Services of Miami County Bethany Whidden to the Board and shared their week.
- Superintendent Naomi Norman discussed the option of reapplying for accreditation with the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Olsen, Secretary

Washtenaw ISD Board of Education