



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

**Tuesday, April 8, 2025**

The Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 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  
Dorcas Musili, Trustee

**The following member was absent:**

Steve Olsen, Secretary  
Sarena Shivers, Treasurer

**Quorum was met.**

**Also present:**

Naomi Norman, Superintendent (Virtual)  
Cherie Vannatter, Deputy Superintendent  
Brian Marcel, Associate Superintendent  
Tanner Rowe, Director of Operations  
Jennifer Banks, Director of Instruction  
Matthew Cook, Chief Information Officer  
Sara Saylor, Children's Savings Account Coordinator  
Margy Long, Director of Success by 6 Great Start Collaborative  
TJ Greggs, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, to add the March 25 Regular Meeting and Closed Session minutes and remove the April 8 Work Session minutes in the consent agenda, as presented.**

**Ayes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Dorcas Musili**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

Moment of silence for Deshawn Leeth, WMBK Specialist who passed away on Friday.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter shared a letter from the Washtenaw County Health Department with the Board.

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

**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:

- Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter shared that 6 of the regional offices of Head Start were closed and asked if the Board would like to express their disappointment to any of our federal legislators.
- Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter asked if the Board would like to express any concerns to federal legislators regarding the Head Start budget and Head Start funding in May 2025.
- Superintendent Naomi Norman shared the details on the DEI certification letter with the Board.
- Superintendent Naomi Norman shared her speech from the Hands Off gathering at the Learning and Resource Center in Ann Arbor.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Dorcas Musili moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education approve the regular meeting and closed session minutes and Superintendent’s recommendations in the Consent Agenda, as presented.**

**Ayes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Dorcas Musili**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved the minutes of the March 25, 2025, regular meeting and closed session.

**101-24-25**

The Board approved the following employment recommendations:

- Laura Dills as a Head Start Family Support Specialist

**102-24-25**

The Board approved the following reclassification requests:

- Candice Craig, Office Professional II- Event Services, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Non-Affiliated to Office Professional II-Bridge Team, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Non-Affiliated.

**103-24-25**

The Board approved the following new position requests:

- MISTEM Program Manager & Grants Manger, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Worksite: TLC, Non-Affiliated bargaining.
- Special Education Office Professional 2, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Worksite: TLC, Non-Affiliated bargaining.
- Wraparound Facilitator Bridge, 2.0 FTE, 210 workdays, Worksite: TLC, Non-Affiliated bargaining.
- Wraparound Specialist II Bridge. 2.0 workdays, Worksite: TLC, Non-Affiliated bargaining.

**104-24-25**

The Board approved the following staff retirements:

- Cindy Evoy, effective June 6, 2025
- Kelli Ouimet, effective July 1, 2025

**105-24-25**

The Board authorized administration to approve the contract amended contract with Justice Leaders Collaborative (“JLC”) to support professional development for High Point School, for the 2024-25 school year for a cost not to exceed \$5,250.00, as presented.

**106-24-25**

The Board authorized administration to approve the 5-year contract with Applied Innovation in the amount of \$170,316.64, as presented.

**107-24-25**

The Board approved the bids for network electronics, as outlined by the bid from Inacomp TSG in the amount of 38,759.54, and the bid from People Driven Technology in the amount of \$142,690.51, as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS – Washtenaw Superintendents’ Association Special Education Fund Distribution/Fund Balance Recommendation** – Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel shared details of the Washtenaw Superintendents’ Association’s (WSA) motion to make a recommendation regarding the level of fund balance in the Special Education Fund.

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education approve the Washtenaw Superintendents’ Association recommendation to set the fund balance of the Special Education Fund at 10% of the WISD program expenditures (excluding outgoing transfers) of the Fund, not to exceed \$5 million, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS – 2025-2026 WISD Proposed Budget – First Reading** –Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel presented the 2025-2026 proposed budgets for the general education operating fund and special education operating fund. Mr. Marcel explained the budget development process, highlighted major changes, and fielded questions from the board. Board action was not needed at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS – CEDAM CSA Program Innovation and Sustainability Grant**– Children's Savings Account Coordinator Sara Saylor shared details about the grant funding from CEDAM (Community & Economic Development Association of Michigan) to support sustainability efforts for My Future Fund.

Dorcas Musili moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education authorize administration to apply for grant funding from CEDAM for the amount of \$100,000, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS – 2025 TLC HVAC Replacement** – Director of Operations Tanner Rowe shared the details of the condition of the TLC building’s HVAC system and the potential replacement options.

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education authorizes the utilization capital project funds to perform HVAC equipment replacement at the Teaching and Learning Center building in the amount not to exceed \$2,655,955, including the purchase of Trane HVAC equipment through the OMNIA cooperative purchasing program as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

**OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS** – There were no other items of business.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS:**

- Trustee Hockett asked about the details of the of the special education funding survey from Autism Alliance.

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

- Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter shared
  - o About the updates with the health research advocates (HRAs) and federal grant funding cancellation.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Olsen, Secretary  
Washtenaw ISD Board of Education