



Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee

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Angela Khater Chairperson, **Jessica Owulette**, Chair-Elect
Melissa Richardson, Secretary **Lisa-Marie Bailey**, Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2026

Call to Order

Angela Khater called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A quorum of members were present.

Members' Present: -

Angela Khater – Dearborn	Lisa-Marie Bailey-Wayne-Westland	Jessica Owulette-Plymouth Scholars	Gloria Gonzalez-Woodhaven	Megan Arabucki-Woodhaven
Barbara Young-Dearborn Heights District 7	Crystal Upshaw-Lincoln Park	Samara Wolf-Taylor Public	Heather Hogg-Northville Public Schools	Mandee Ordaz-Northville Public Schools
Tenisha Williams-Westland	LaTeesha Curry-Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences	Ashley Johnson-PCCS	Jessica Gallina-Plymouth/Canton	

Members Excused: Melissa Richardson- Allen Park

Guests Present: Mary Sunisloe- Wayne/Westland, Dalala Thakwan-Dearborn, Natalie Rindali-Taylor, Heba Takouz-Michigan Alliance

RESA Representatives: Beth Santer, Celeste Johnson, Theresa Franklin

Dates to Remember

<i>Dates to Remember</i>	
<i>May 14, 2026</i>	<i>Last meeting- VIRTUAL</i>

I. Approval of Agenda

A copy of the meeting agenda was emailed and posted to the website for members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Lisa-Marie Bailey and seconded by Jessica Owulette to accept the agenda. Motion was supported by a majority of members present. No objections were made.

Objections: _____

II. Approval of Minutes

A copy of the meeting minutes from the November meeting was emailed and posted to the website for members in advance. Approval of minutes first motion Mande Ordaz and second motion Crystal Upshaw.

Objections: _____

III. Presentation

Techtown Essential Elements

Presenter: Kate Pearson

The goal is to have less than 1% of students (around 7,000 students) to be taking the MI-Access assessment. Metrics show this has been going down every year since 2017.

TeachTown is in its pilot (1st) year within Wayne County. Some districts that are already using it are Taylor, Garden City, and Northville. It is a curriculum program for students on the Certificate of Completion track.

Jessica Owulette asked: Who in the district is requesting TeachTown?

Kate Pearson answered: It was presented to all Special Education Directors as an option to use in their districts.

Gloria Gonzalez asked: If a district does not use TeachTown, how does the process get started?

Celeste Johnson answered: The district can contact Kate Pearson at Wayne RESA.

Heather Hogg asked: Are there upgrades, and can IEP goals generate assignments?

Kate Pearson answered: Yes to both questions.

Gloria Gonzalez asked: Is there access for parents without going through the school district?

Kate Pearson answered: There isn't access without purchasing the program which can be quite expensive. The best way to get access is through the school district.

Heather Collins asked: Is there a TeachTown program for adults moving into a Transition Program?

Kate Pearson answered: There is a program for ACT18 and Post Secondary Programs. The focus of the material is job skills and other life skills.

Kate Pearson can be reached at pearsok@resa.net for further questions.

IV. Chairperson Report

Please review the Member Folder on Google Drive. Remind app classrooms for WCPAC are @wcpacmem for WCPAC members and @wcpacmtg for the general public.

V. Chair Elect Report

If you have not received the link for the Google Drive, or are having difficulty accessing it, please contact Jessica Owulette, so she can give you access to the information you need. The roster has been updated, and please remember that this information is confidential. Jessica also mentioned

the Remind App. If you are newly appointed, or any information has changed, please see Jessica to confirm that your information is correct.

VI. Secretary Report

In the absence of Melissa Richardson, Angela Khater gave this report. She mentioned that business cards can be ordered by contacting Melissa. Lisa-Marie Bailey said that she will need some made for her.

VII. Treasurer Report

The account balance is \$1808.40. Thanking many members for everything they do.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

Nomination Subcommittee

Samara Wolf shared that a new Executive Board for next year will need to be voted on during our next meeting on May 14, 2026. All nominations (which include self nominations) need to be emailed to Kara Clark and/or Samara Wolf before the next meeting. Kara Clark's email is karaaclarke@gmail.com and Samara Wolf's email is corgimommy@hotmail.com.

Samara Wolf also suggested that the May meeting be both in person and virtual since it will be a voting meeting.

Lisa-Marie Bailey gave a report regarding the **Legislation Subcommittee**.

Crystal Upshaw gave a report regarding the **Special Recognition Subcommittee**. She reminded members to get their RSVP's to Dawn Bonam. The invitation for the nominees was included in the chat, and will be put out on the listserv. The Special Recognition meeting will be held on April 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

IX. RESA Reports

RESA report given by Beth Santer.

Beth Santer talked about podcasts that are now available. She also talked about how MDE recently came out to check on the progress since the Cohort meeting that took place in January of 2025 regarding Least Restrictive Environments within the county. They were impressed with the progress that has been made.

X. Member Report

Mandee Ordaz reported that she has come across someone who has running chairs that are available free of charge for special needs kids participating in events like 5K's. She will have more information sent out on the listserv.

Samara Wolf provided a link for free access to national parks for those with accessibility issues. The link is www.nps.gov/subjects/accessibility/interagency-access.pass.htm

XI. Public Reports

No public reports

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mande Ordaz and seconded by Lisa-Marie Bailey to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion passed by majority present. No objections were made.

The next WCPAC meeting is scheduled hybrid for May 14th at 6:30 PM