



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 November 13, 2025 Dinner with Directors In-person

Call to Order

Angela Khater called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. A quorum of members were present.

Members' Present: -

Angela Khater – Dearborn	Lisa-Marie Bailey- Wayne-Westland	Jessica Owulette- Plymouth Scholars	Barbara Young-District 7 Dearborn Heights	Meghan Arabucki- Woodhaven Brownstown
LaTeesha Curry- Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences	Melissa Adcock- Flat Rock	Amie Conrad-Allen Park	Sandy Borgne- Lincoln Park	Crystal Upshaw- Lincoln Park
Samara Wolf- Taylor	Jessica Gallina- Plymouth Canton Community School	Melissa Richardson- Allen Park	Kara Clarke- Livonia	Gloria Gonazlez- Woodhaven/Brownst own
Mandee Ordaz- Northville	Tenisha Williams- Westwood Community Schools			

Members Excused:

Guests Present: Matt Sokol- Allen Park Public Schools, Jadie Kieft- Northville, Heather Hogg-Northville, Lauren Feigel-Livonia Public Schools, Mike Esseily-Dearborn Public Schools, Gail Strickland-Westwood, Darlene Heard-Thomas-Romulus

RESA Representatives: Beth Santer, Celeste Johnson, Dr. Jennifer Taiariol

Dates to Remember

<i>Dates to Remember</i>	
<i>February 12th</i>	<i>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 Melissa Richardson and seconded by Samara Wolf 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 October meeting was emailed and posted to the website for members in advance. A motion was made by Lisa Marie-Bailey and seconded by Jessica Owulette under item 9 to change LRA to LRE and correct the typo of Eilean Blant's name to be corrected. Motion supported by majority present. No objections were made.

Objections: _____

III. Presentation

Successful Collaboration with Families and Special Education Directors

Presenters: Angela Khater & Mike Esseily- Dearborn School District

How It Started vs How It's Going: A True Wayne County Miracle

Angela is a BCBA and autism mom.

Mike Esseily is the Special Ed Director of Dearborn School District.

Get to know your directors. Directors, listen to the parents; don't just react. Learn to listen. It's important to hear from you, the directors, and people in the district. Learn that through actually working together you can make a huge difference in your district, with your teacher(s), and your children. Make sure you advocate for yourself, and use all resources available to you.

"It's people over policy"—Mike Esseily

IV. Chairperson Report

Please review the member folder on the 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

If you need business cards, please contact Melissa Richardson. Please make sure you sign in at each meeting you attend. This is not just for minute purposes, but also for year-end mileage reimbursement (only applies for in-person meetings).

VII. Treasurer Report

The account balance is \$1808.40.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

We need your help!

Please read the subcommittee description (found in the member folder on the Google Drive) and consider signing up! Please reach out.

[Subcommittee Sign Up - click here!](#)

IX. RESA Reports

Beth Santer

Dr. Jennifer Taiariol

RESA report given by Beth Santer.

Acknowledged Dr. Jennifer Taiariol for doing a fantastic job. Also credited Celeste Johnson and Theresa Franklin, stating she could not do what RESA does for PAC without them.

Focusing on LRA in Wayne County. They are giving presentations in districts and public-school academies, so everyone has information about PCs (Personal Curriculumms). RESA started doing this work last year and continuing this year.

We want more PAC engagement; including podcasts. This month's podcasts are Working Well Together with Angela Khater and Mike Esseily speaking about collaboration between a parent and a director, and Collaborative Problem Solving: Tips for Parents and School Staff with Beth Kohler.

Directors are receiving the podcasts in the WCPAC Newsletter, and we are asking everyone to share with parents and within the special needs community.

Also focusing on NCTS (National Child Traumatic Stress)

Early Childhood- specifically making sure that when kids are entering Special Ed at the preschool level, they are looked at for placement.

RESA moved to the Annex. Now everyone is under one roof. The move had just taken place.

RESA report given by Dr. Jennifer Taiariol.

Thanked everyone for their time and supporting all of the students that they support. She also gave an additional thank you to the Special Education directors for everything that they do. She thanked our parents for advocating for your children and the district. RESA is here for you and your children. If you need anything, please reach out to any directors or anyone from RESA.

Theresa Franklin was in GA learning more about Trauma Informed Practices to bring back to Wayne County. With the support of the superintendent, they are looking at new ways to improve interaction.

X. Member Report

- If you haven't heard of Michigan Alliance for Families, Kara Clarke is the parent mentor for Northwestern Wayne County. They have a lot of training. The majority of the training is virtual and there is never a cost.
- If you are looking for a fun, winter sport, Lincoln Park Community Center has an adaptive skating program. Registration has started, it's a 6 week session. Crystal Upshaw will send the link for the registration.
- Team Impact was mentioned by Kara Clarke. They match kids with physical disabilities with college sports teams.
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) was mentioned by Jessica Owulette. They have a work program for students and young adults with IEPs.

XI. Public Reports

None

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Samara Wolf and seconded by Tanisha Williams to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Motion passed by majority present. No objections were made.

The next WCPAC meeting is scheduled for February 12th 6:30 PM