



Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency
Board of Education · 33500 Van Born Road · Wayne, Michigan

Regular Meeting
April 17, 2024

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency Board of Education was called to order by Vice President James Petrie on April 17, 2024, at 8:32 a.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: James Beri, Mary Blackmon, Danielle Funderburg (at 8:34 a.m.) and James Petrie
Absent: Lynda Jackson (excused)

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Approval of Agenda

Member Beri, supported by Member Blackmon, moved to approve the agenda as presented. On voice vote, the motion carried 4-0.

E. Public Participation – None.

F. Introduction of New Staff

Kelly Bohl, Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services, introduced and provided a brief introduction for the following new staff members. The Board welcomed all new hires to Wayne RESA.

- Dr. Angela Jack – Educational Improvement Consultant
- Arlo McMillian – Administrative Assistant
- Malik Harvey - Administrative Assistant – Reception/Event Services
- Marilyn Baxter - Administrative Assistant – SEEIS

G. President’s Remark and Board Comments

Member Funderburg shared highlights from the National School Board Association (NSBA) Annual Conference attended by Wayne RESA Board members April 6 – 8, 2024. Highlights included the keynote by Ruby Bridges, civil rights icon, activist, author, and speaker who, at the age of six, was the first Black student to integrate an all-White elementary school alone in Louisiana. Ms. Bridges spoke to Breaking Barriers: A Fireside Chat on Equity, Education, and Empathy.

Member Funderburg also spoke about keynote speaker, Richard Montanez, former Vice President, Multicultural Sales & Community Activation, PepsiCo North America; author and philanthropist, who began his career as a janitor at Frito-Lay (a PepsiCo division) in 1976, going

on to create the Flamin' Hot product line, which evolved into both a billion-dollar enterprise and a cultural phenomenon.

Member Funderburg added that Wayne RESA board members attended workshops presented by Wayne County Superintendents. River Rouge Superintendent, Dr. Derrick Coleman presented with Shakesha Alexander, River Rouge Director of Animal-Assisted Interventions on "Trauma-Informed Framework featuring Animal-Assisted Interventions" which shared how the program is training animal support dogs in the district. Harper Woods Superintendent, Steven McGhee and Michael Carrauthers, Harper Woods Chief Academic Officer presented on "You Can't Open Tomorrow's Doors With Yesterday's Keys", K-12 Instruction Re-Imagined For Equity which included a presentation on how the district is revving up their construction trades program utilizing shipping containers. Member Funderburg shared how nice it was to have Wayne County Schools represented at a national conference.

Member Beri shared highlights from NSBA Conference keynote speaker, Dr. Timothy Shriver, Chairman of Special Olympics, Co-founder and CEO of UNITE, Co-Creator of the Dignity Index, who spoke about the country being divided, sharing skills for dignified disagreements. Member Beri also shared his appreciation for the informative general sessions that were offered during the conference and the opportunity to speak with school board members from across the country.

Member Blackmon added that Dr. Shriver's presentation also assisted board members with discussion about assessing what is important and what is not important. Member Blackmon also shared that she enjoyed the presentations by Harper Woods and River Rouge Superintendents and members of their team and is looking forward to hearing more about their programs.

Member Blackmon felt the conference was very well planned and spoke about the benefits of interacting and learning from colleagues throughout the country, and spending time with fellow Wayne RESA board members.

Member Petrie shared his experiences from the NSBA Conference. He spoke about keynote speaker, Ruby Bridges and how for 35 years, no one knew her name, but that she initiated the desegregation of public education and how she handled it all with dignity and composure.

Member Petrie also acknowledged Don Hubler, Macomb ISD Board Member who was named NSBA President during the conference.

H. Communications

The Board acknowledged a communication received from the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) on April 11, 2024 announcing that the board decided to fill, by appointment, a board vacancy representing Region 8 which was created by the resignation of Dr. Darlene Pomponio, Southgate Community Schools. A link to MASB's Civility in the Appointment Process was provided and candidate applications and materials are due by noon on May 17, 2024.

I. Special Presentations

1. April is Autism Acceptance Month

911READY Bags – Lisa Vilella, Executive Director, Mimi's Mission/President, 911Ready, Inc and Lt. Andrew Starzec, 911READY System Consultant/Deputy Chief of Brownstown Police Department provided a demonstration of the contents of the 911 Ready bags being used by first responders from most of the downriver police

departments, Monroe, Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Woods police departments and Detroit Police and Fire (through a partnership with the Detroit Pistons) to assist with calls involving citizens with autism and those with mental health concerns. The bag's contents included a weighted blanket, breakaway necklaces, noodles for stress relief and noise canceling/reducing headphones.

2. **Preliminary Budget Presentations** – Drew McMechan, Assistant Superintendent of Financial Services presented Wayne RESA's 2024-25 preliminary budgets which included the budget timeline and assumptions, and overviews of the General Fund, Cooperative Fund, Enhancement Millage, and the Act 18 Fund.

J. Superintendent's Report

Executive Director of Legislative Affairs Mike Latvis

Mr. Latvis shared the following legislative updates:

- The Democrats won general elections for State Representatives in Westland and Warren on April 16, 2024. The House Democrats have the majority back (56/54).
- Of the large school safety package of bills, a more focused package was presented with four of the five bills being pushed through to the House for vote.
- The House Education Committee is working on the school safety and dyslexia bills, policy regarding charter transparency and the FAFSA requirement.
- The Senate voted on April 16 to pass the bill which requires kindergarten and includes a waiver for families who believe their student is not ready.
- Foundation allowance recommendations have been received from the Governor's office (\$9849) and the Senate (\$9910). The House budget is expected the week of April 22.
- Section 56 language has been changed back, removing the restrictive language the impacts Wayne RESA.
- \$670 million has been freed up for fully funding healthcare benefits under MPSEER. The Governor has proposed to continue with the current rate with the state reissuing the funds in categorical, but an ask has been submitted to lower the rate that districts pay back by 7% which could equate to \$400-\$600 per student on an ongoing basis.

Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services, Kelly Bohl

Ms. Bohl shared the following update:

- French and Associates submitted plans for Beacon/Gilead as a K-12 site, but the state has identified the site as change of use. As a result, an amended recommendation for board approval has been submitted with the April Board Recommendations for a complete roof replacement for the Beacon/Gilead building.

Assistant Superintendent of Financial Services, Drew McMechan

Mr. McMechan provided an explanation for Board Recommendation 258-23-44, submitted in the April packet, based on a question from a board member. The contract with Follett Software Company for Destiny Library Software building licenses for Wayne County schools is for 37 districts, including some districts outside of Wayne County.

Superintendent Dr. Daveda Colbert

Dr. Daveda Colbert shared:

- Throughout April RESA honors Autism Acceptance to celebrate all learners and raise the praise and awareness for all students and ensure all learners are able to achieve the highest quality of life and success.
- RESA also honors the Week of the Young Child, April 6 -12, 2024, as we continue to celebrate early learning, young children and their development, and their teachers, and families. A picture of the Wayne RESA Early Childhood Team was posted to social media thanking them for their dedication to improving the education and outcomes of the whole child.
- RESA celebrates Arab American Heritage Month, which is an opportunity to amplify the priorities and celebrations among the Arab American community. Arabic American History resources were shared with constituents and staff including information about visiting the Arab American National Museum.
- Lisa Ogiemwonyi, Wayne RESA Science Consultant, provided solar eclipse glasses and strategies for educators to Wayne County Schools to ensure students were engaged, acting as scientists, during the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024.
 - Dr. Colbert and Beth Gonzalez, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services, delivered glasses provided by Lisa Ogiemwonyi to The Dearborn Academy on March 20 when they read to elementary students during the academy's Mystery Reader event. Principal Melissa Lathrup expressed her appreciation.
- Wayne County Districts represented on the national stage with phenomenal presentations during the National School Board Association (NSBA) Annual Conference held April 6-8, 2024 in New Orleans, Louisiana. River Rouge presented "Trauma-Informed Framework Featuring Animal-Assisted Interventions" and Harper Woods presented "You Can't Open Tomorrow's Doors with Yesterday's Keys: K-12 Instruction Re-Imagined for Equity. Kudos to River Rouge and Harper Woods Superintendents, Dr. Derrick Colmen and Steven McGhee, along with their teams, staff and Boards of Education.
- Congratulations to Don Hubler, Macomb ISD Board Member, for becoming the NSBA 2024-25 President. Mr. Hubler was thankful for the support of Michigan school board members and shared his appreciation for the Wayne RESA Board of Education's continued support. Don Hubler's first speech as president was inspiring as he talked about the importance of showing up and the future of NSBA.
 - Macomb ISD Superintendent Mike DeVault also shared his appreciation for the support of the Wayne RESA Board.
- RESA received confirmation that the Michigan Department of Treasury made the final payment to retire the remaining debt for Inkster Schools on Monday, April 1, 2024! This is exciting for the Inkster residents and exciting for RESA. This monumental final payment was made possible through the hard work and advocacy of many people over the past decade or more. Efforts began with Chris Wigent, former RESA Superintendent during the dissolution of the district, and continued with former RESA Superintendent, Dr. Randy Liepa, and their teams. Former RESA employees, Steve Ezikian, Tamara Dust, and Kathy Merry were instrumental with the initial work to support this effort and Drew McMechan, Assistant Superintendent of Financial Services, Kelly Bohl, Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services and Mike Latvis, Senior Executive Director of Legislative Affairs carried the efforts over the finish line. Special thanks to Attorney

Amanda Van Dusen, Miller Canfield, who assisted RESA with this process from the beginning to end.

- The RESA team hosted the National MISTAR Q Users Experience Conference on April 9–11, 2024, in Novi, Michigan. Kudos to Jenni Munroe and Brandon Wilkins, who both serve on the advisory board, for their coordination and welcoming presence as participants arrived at the conference. Dr. Colbert delivered the keynote to MISTAR Q users nationwide, including those from Wayne, Oakland, and Livingston Counties, as well as the Sault Area Public Schools. Special thanks to Dana Chicklas and Chris Slat in coordination with Brandon Wilkins and Kurt Rheame on the outstanding MISTAR video that was produced and now available on the RESA website and social media. Thanks to the Wayne RESA and Oakland Schools Information Technology Teams for their contributions to the development and training of the software and for the support given to all users and for hosting an amazing conference in Michigan.
 - Special thanks to Andrell Williams for his technology support and assistance to Dr. Colbert to ensure she was prepared as she delivered the keynote.
- Beth Gonzalez, Krista McKinney-King and Sandra Dukhie presented during the MASA Women in Leadership Conference in Traverse City. Their session was standing room only as they provided valuable data and a phenomenal presentation on Leadership.
- The End-of-Year convening of the Wayne County Women in Leadership was held on April 15 at Wayne RESA. The affinity group has been beneficial as evident by the feedback received.
- Dr. Colbert will share a few words during the Excellence in Transportation Gala being held Saturday, April 20. This is an annual celebration and recognition of bus drivers, bus aides, specialists and mechanics presented by Wayne RESA and hosted by Student Transportation.
- RESA looks forward to celebrating all of our administrative assistants and support professionals during Administrative Professionals Week, April 22 – 26. The contributions, dedication, and hard work of each of our administrative staff keep the organization moving in the right direction.
- April 18 is the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee's Special Recognition event where educators who support our special population students are celebrated. Dr. Colbert will open the meeting, which has been coordinated by the Committee Chair, Kara Clarke, and Dr. Jennifer Taiariol, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Early Interventions Services will deliver closing remarks.
- An op-ed by Terri Gamlin, a longtime Career and Technical Education director and principal, was published by the Detroit News. Ms. Gamlin shared information about Harper Woods School District's career-technical program and their College & Career Institute Center (CCI). The article spoke about how funding provided by the Wayne County Regional Enhancement millage helps support the programs provided by CCI. More powerful stories from Wayne County Schools will be shared in upcoming months.
- Save-the-Dates were shared with the RESA Board for upcoming Wayne County program visits and RESA Staff celebrations and outings. As we transition through the fourth quarter, we will do so by recognizing and celebrating RESA staff and the work that we do!
 - Thanks were extended to the Wayne RESA Board of Education for their unwavering commitment to advocacy for public education and increased student outcomes in Wayne County.

K. Approval of Consent Agenda

Member Beri, supported by Member Funderburg, moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Items include approval of:

1. Superintendent's Recommendations
2. Minutes from March 20, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
3. March WRESA Check Register
4. March Inkster Check Register
5. Outstanding Investments, Revenues & Expenditures
6. Pre and Post Travel – April 2024

On voice vote, the motion carries 4-0.

245-23-24

The Board approved the following external applicant(s) for the position(s):

- Andy Henry, Part-time Web/GIS/AREN Multimedia Developer, effective March 20, 2024
- Malik Harvey, Administrative Assistant-Reception/Event Services, effective April 1, 2024
- Lisa Sturges, Interim Program Administrator, Early Childhood, effective April 25, 2024
- Bailey (Arlo) McMillian, Administrative Assistant, effective April 3, 2024
- Marilyn Baxter, Administrative Assistant – SEEIS, effective April 8, 2024
- Angela Jack, Educational Improvement Consultant, effective April 9, 2024

246-23-24

The Board approved the following leave(s):

- Carissa Orr, Early Childhood Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective March 21, 2024
- Geri Sifton, Early Childhood Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective March 22, 2024

247-23-24

The Board approved the following return from leave(s):

- Yolanda Johnson, Student Application Business Analyst, Family/Medical Leave, effective March 11, 2024
- Michelle Boury, Business Services-Business Analyst Implementation Specialist, Family/Medical Leave, effective March 20, 2024

248-23-24

The Board approved the removal of the following representative(s) to the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee (WCPAC). This is effective as of February 17, 2024.

Iesha Brassell	Dearborn Heights School District #7
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249-23-24

The Board authorized a purchase from InaCOMP Technical Services Group for laptop computers in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024.

250-23-24

The Board approved the following actual and necessary expenses incurred by Wayne RESA Board members in discharging their official duties and in performing functions as authorized by the Board March 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024:

Mary Blackmon: \$ 57.49
Danielle Funderburg: \$ 5.90

Lynda Jackson: \$ 0
James Petrie: \$ 145.58

251-23-24

The Board authorized payment to the following school districts for Section 31n(6) Mental Health Supports for General Education Students in the amounts indicated, for a total amount not to exceed \$3,505,291 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

District	Amount
Crestwood School District	\$493,291
Dearborn City School District	\$600,000
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$600,000
Redford Union Schools, District No. 1	\$600,000
Riverview Community School District	\$512,000
School District of the City of Lincoln Park	\$100,000
Taylor School District	\$600,000
TOTAL:	\$3,505,291

252-23-24

The Board authorized payment to the following school districts for Health Resource Advocates (HRAs) in the amounts indicated, for a total amount not to exceed \$8,138,000 for the period August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024.

District	Amount
Advanced Technology Academy	\$336,000
Allen Park Public Schools	\$112,000
Dearborn City School District	\$1,120,000
Dearborn Heights School District # 7	\$336,000
Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences	\$112,000
Detroit Leadership Academy	\$336,000
Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$2,520,000
Fostering Leadership Academy	\$112,000
Northville Public Schools	\$560,000
Pathways Academy	\$112,000
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	\$1,120,000
Plymouth Educational Center Charter School	\$112,000
Summit Academy North	\$112,000
The School District of the City of Harper Woods	\$448,000
Wayne-Westland Community School District	\$690,000
TOTAL:	\$8,138,000

253-23-24

The Board authorized a payment to Lakeshore Learning Materials, LLC for developmentally appropriate manipulative materials in an amount not to exceed \$374,572 in carryover funds for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

254-23-24

The Board authorized Act 18 payments for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for rent for separate facility buildings in the following districts committed to operating the programs in those buildings after June 30, 2024.

DISTRICT/LEA	AMOUNT	DISTRICT/LEA	AMOUNT
Dearborn City School District	\$76,000	Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$765,000
Garden City Public Schools	\$73,000	School District of the City of Lincoln Park	\$80,000
Livonia Public Schools School District	\$90,000	Northville Public Schools	\$163,000
Redford Union Schools, District No. 1	\$102,000	School District of the City of Wyandotte	\$391,000
		TOTAL:	\$1,740,000

255-23-24

The Board authorized the School Services Program Direct Services Claiming final settlement payments to the following local school districts for services to Medicaid-eligible special education students in the amount of \$1,084,017.43 for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

DISTRICT/LEA	AMOUNT	DISTRICT/LEA	AMOUNT
Allen Park Public Schools	\$20,032.15	Northville Public Schools	\$22,163.51
Crestwood School District	\$38,355.00	Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	\$85,002.87
Dearborn City School District	\$165,859.15	Redford Union Schools, District No. 1	\$33,416.02
Dearborn Heights School District #7	\$20,779.19	School District of the City of River Rouge	\$11,326.30
Ecorse Public Schools	\$9,479.49	Riverview Community School District	\$14,352.37
Flat Rock Community Schools	\$16,251.45	Romulus Community Schools	\$19,218.51
Garden City Public Schools	\$23,612.91	South Redford School District	\$22,811.27
Gibraltar School District	\$30,603.61	Southgate Community School District	\$33,132.30
Grosse Ile Township Schools	\$8,113.27	Taylor School District	\$66,790.82

Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$32,783.05	Trenton Public Schools	\$15,735.73
School District of the City of Hamtramck	\$20,924.67	Van Buren Public Schools	\$41,318.82
School District of the City of Harper Woods	\$8,731.18	Wayne-Westland Community School District	\$97,361.06
Huron School District	\$12,985.00	Westwood Community School District	\$19,248.16
School District of the City of Lincoln Park	\$43,591.44	Woodhaven-Brownstown School District	\$52,569.06
Livonia Public Schools School District	\$39,004.33	School District of the City of Wyandotte	\$39,354.50
Melvindale-North Allen Park Schools	\$19,110.21	TOTAL:	\$1,084,017.43

256-23-24

The Board authorized administration to enter into a three (3) year agreement with Foxbright of Grand Rapids, MI for design and development of a new customized Wayne RESA website in an amount not to exceed \$48,572 for the period of May 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

257-23-24

The Board authorized administration to enter into an agreement with Barton Malow, Southfield, MI for the program management of the Wayne RESA Education Center Security Camera System Project in the amount not to exceed \$800,000 which includes a 40% contingency and design and construction management services.

258-23-24

The Board authorized administration to enter into a contract with Follett Software Company in Chicago, Illinois for Destiny Library Software building licenses for Wayne County schools along with annual support in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

259-23-24

The Board authorized administration to enter into an agreement with HighScope Child Observation Record (COR) Advantage in Cambridge, Massachusetts in an amount not to exceed \$180,000 in carryover funds for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

260-23-24

The Board authorized administration to enter into an agreement with Teaching Strategies LLC in Bethesda, Maryland in an amount not to exceed \$115,000 in carryover funds for the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

261-23-24

The Board authorized administration to enter into an agreement with Outfront Media in Detroit, Michigan to purchase public awareness media for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) in an amount not to

exceed \$313,900 for the period April 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

262-23-24

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation # 200-23-24 to increase the contract with GameTime Playground Solutions, Holland, MI to purchase additional playground equipment at the Gilead/Beacon Center in an amount not to exceed \$114,000.

263-23-24

The Board authorized administration to amend Board Recommendation 151-23-24 with Barton Malow, Southfield, MI for enhanced project management and to distribute funds to vendors completing the Gilead/Beacon Day Treatment Remodeling Phase 1 Project including \$2,500,000 for complete roof replacement in the amount not to exceed \$18,547,011.

264-23-24

The Board authorized an amendment to Board Recommendation #45-23-24 to amend the contract previously approved for Pencil Palace, a Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) subrecipient, from \$147,579 to \$0 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

265-23-24

The Board authorized an amendment to Board Recommendation #95-23-24 to amend the contract previously approved for transportation allocations for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) subrecipient, LACC Child Care Academy, from \$15,000 to \$45,000 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

266-23-24

The Board authorized an amendment to Board Recommendation #194-23-24 to increase and add 2024 summer learning initiatives allocations for the following school districts in the amounts indicated, for a total amount not to exceed \$104,950 for the period February 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024.

District	Original Amount	Amended Amount
Dearborn Heights School District #7	\$46,437.50	\$65,012.50
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$21,612.50	\$39,937.50
Total:	\$68,050.00	\$104,950.00

267-23-24

The Board authorized an amendment to Board Recommendation #227-23-24 to increase payment to Staples for developmentally appropriate manipulative materials from \$253,758 to \$267,961 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

268-23-24

The Board accepted the following grant(s) for the terms, amounts, and purposes noted:

Grant	Grantor	Amount	Term	Purpose	Responsible Party
Healthcare Resource Advocates	Michigan Department of Education	\$9,200,000	08/01/2023 — 07/31/2024	This grant supports multiple projects to 1)	Educational Services,

				comply with existing and/or future directives and guidance from the Secretary regarding control of the spread of COVID-19; 2) in consultation and coordination with Health and Human Services, provide, commensurate with the condition of the individual, COVID-19 patient care regardless of the individual's home jurisdiction and/or appropriate public health measures (e.g., social distancing, home isolation); and 3) assist the United States Government in the implementation and enforcement of federal orders related to quarantine and isolation.	Safe and Healthy Schools
Section 31n(6) Mental Health and Support Services	Michigan Department of Education (MDE)	\$6,761,025	10/01/2023 – 09/30/2026	Wayne RESA (Grantee) is granted from MDE (Grantor) for the provision of mental health and support services to general education students with mild to moderate mental health needs.	Educational Services, Safe and Healthy Schools

L. Action Item(s)

1. Proclamation - Board Recognition for National Teacher Appreciation Week

Member Funderburg, supported by Member Blackmon, moved that the Board approve the proclamation recognizing the commitment, effort, and leadership of all teachers/educators as a public sign of our gratitude and support for all that they do to educate our nation's children, and more specifically to highlight the work of the teachers/educators in Wayne County that continue to improve student outcomes daily throughout the 43 communities we serve, represented within the 33 local districts and 97 public school academies. On voice vote, the motion carried 4-0.

2. Wayne RESA Board Meeting Schedule – 2024-2025

Member Blackmon, supported by Member Beri, moved that the Wayne RESA Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule, as presented. On voice vote, the motion carried 4-0.

M. Informational Item(s)

1. The proposed dates for the 2024 Annual Board Retreat (Tuesday, July 16, 2024 and Wednesday, July 17, 2024) were confirmed by the board.

N. General Board Comments

Member Funderburg shared an impactful message she received while attending a general session during the NSBA Conference, “We can and we must give our students the gift of confidence.” The session presenter provided a booklet of resolutions containing different ways to help students gain the gift of confidence.

O. Adjournment

Member Blackmon, supported by Member Beri, moved to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote, the motion carried 4-0. Vice President Petrie adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Submitted by: _____



Mary E. Blackmon, Secretary