



Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency
Board of Education

Regular Meeting

August 15, 2018

33500 Van Born Road · Wayne, Michigan 48184

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency was called to order by President Jackson in the Education Center, 33500 Van Born Road, Wayne, Michigan on August 15, 2018, at 8:30 a.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: James Beri, Mary Blackmon and Lynda Jackson

Excused: Danielle Funderburg, James Petrie

C. Pledge of Allegiance – President Jackson led the Board in the 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 3-0.

E. Public Participation – Sharon White – Learning Link Academy – addressed the Board with her concerns regarding the notice of closure that she received from WRESA for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) that she operates. Dr. Liepa asked for Ms. White to submit a specific outline of her concerns and we would respond to them.

F. President's Remarks and Board Comments:

President Jackson shared the following highlights regarding great things happening in our schools throughout the County:

- Recognized and congratulated Van Buren school district for their Food Corps program. An excellent program which is designed to help students learn more about health and nutrition.
- Congratulated Taylor school district for their efforts to apply and qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal program that will now allow every student in their district to have breakfast and lunch at no cost.
- Congratulated the Wyandotte Scholarship Foundation as they have recently celebrated receiving a \$6,000 donation. Approximately 60 – 70 students annually receive scholarships through this foundation and this generous gift will be a huge benefit to again offer scholarships next year.

Member Blackmon

- Shared that SEMCOG has recently released a report on the real cost to fix the roads and what Michigan is spending in comparison to similar states. In addition, they have also published a bicycle and pedestrian travel report. Both reports are available to through the website.
- Expressed that Governor Snyder's recent dedication of the fountain on Capitol Plaza in Lansing, in memory of former state Superintendent Brian Whiston, was a wonder tribute.
- The Shining Light awardees have been identified, however, the names cannot be released yet.
- Attended a meeting last evening and heard a speaker outlining the primary election results.
- Brenda Jones won the unexpired term for 6 weeks.

G. Introduction of Staff – Tracey Wright, Executive Director, Human Resources

- Paul Bobrowski, Application Database Analyst
- Ashley Duford – Application Support Technician
- Beverly Rodgers – Secretary in Special Education
- Nandini Vaishnav – Finance and Budget Director Residency Intern
- Rhonda Walker – Early Childhood Specialist
- Nathan Spencer – Science Consultant

H. Staff Presentation(s)

Aspiring Administrator Academy Update – Leonard Rezmierski and Syndee Malek
Superintendent Liepa recognized and commended Leonard Rezmierski and Syndee Malek, co-facilitators for the Aspiring Administrator Academy, for their continued work with this value added program.

Leonard Rezmierski and Syndee Malek provided the Board with an overview of the program, now in its 6th year. This program, which is unique to Wayne County, provides Wayne County teachers aspiring to be administrators with a very comprehensive overview and experience of what the role of a District / Building Administrator entails.

Len and Syndee answered questions from the Board. Mr. Beri mentioned “Kids Talk”, a program through the Guidance Center that he thought would be another good resource to take the participants to. Mrs. Blackmon thought that this would be a good MASB presentation. Syndee noted that she and Len did present the program to MAISA two years ago.

Wayne County Superintendents & Local Board Support Update – Leonard Rezmierski
Dr. Leonard Rezmierski, Wayne RESA Superintendent Support Administrator, also provided an overview of the many areas of support that he has provided to the Wayne County Superintendents, Boards of Education and others during the 2017-18 school year.

President Jackson called for a recess at 9:48 a.m., the meeting reconvened at 10:01 a.m.

I. Communications – none

J. Superintendent’s Report

Executive Director Kathy Merry:

- Distributed and reviewed a Primary Election Results handout and other election news.
- Noted that Kyra Harris (Cheryl Gambrel’s daughter) took the Southfield seat.
- Now that primary is over the House has cancelled all of their September dates so they can get out and campaign.
- There will be two ballot initiatives: Marijuana for recreational use and a new system for drawing boundary lines. One more initiative that could be on ballot has to do with mandatory sick time, but the board of canvassers hasn’t certified it yet.
- The Courts have overturned the law recently passed that prohibited straight ticket voting, however it has just come out that the State is planning to appeal it. A decision will have to be made by 9/9/18.
- Three percent health care payback – the MEA has filed that there wasn’t enough interest paid on the payback. The court did rule in their favor, question is - will there be an appeal.
- The Supreme Court ruled in Ann Arbor School Districts favor – supporting that the schools have the right to ban guns on school property.
- School safety funds – The legislature appropriated \$30M. Workgroups are being formed to decide how to allocate these funds.
- The State Board of Education is working to determine the details of the Marshall Plan application and how they will allocate the funds.

Associate Superintendent Paul Salah:

- Shared that next year we can expect to see some additional assessment steps being implemented.
- The PSAT is being introduced to grade eight.
- Bench mark assessments in grades three through eight, local districts can administer their normal assessments and the State will now pay for those tests.
- Kindergarten Readiness is on the horizon. Some areas of the state are expected to administer the Kindergarten Readiness assessment this year. This is a huge shift and we struggle with the time that this assessment will require.
- Educator Evaluation – this year 40% of every teacher evaluation must be based on student growth and 50% of the 40% must be based on state assessment data.
- Shared that he has been extremely busy with the interviewing/hiring process. As a result, the Educational Services Department is thinking very differently about office space and the days of individual offices are gone.
- He has been working with Taylor Schools as they have agreed to pilot a new English Learner delivery model.
- The Educational Services department is taking a deeper look at how we measure our impact. More to come.

Deputy Superintendent Steve Ezikian

- Enhancement Millage - we are having an issue with the County and how they are allocating the revenue. Currently the millage revenue is down and we believe they are incorrectly allocating it to us as ACT 18 funds. We have contacted the County and are working with them to correct this. We hope to have it resolved soon and will inform the superintendents at Friday's WCSSA meeting.
- MiStar needs assessment – A MiStar Steering Committee is being formed, made up of staff from the districts. We want to make sure we get value added input from our districts to help us understand their needs better.
- WRESA has recently hired four Assistive Technology Coordinators to work with students that need adaptive technology to function in the classroom. In the past Lincoln Park and Detroit housed and operated these Programs. It was agreed to have the services more centralized, so the program was moved to Burger.
- We are looking to hire a manager in Special Education, as the work is growing. The State now has greater monitoring expectations of us. Maybe down the road there will be more consultants needed as well. It is possible that we may have to hold back more of the Act 18 funds from districts to help fund these positions.

Superintendent Randy Liepa:

- As he has been meeting with Superintendents over the summer it is now obvious that they are gearing up for the new school year. Principals are starting to return and kick-off activities are being planned.
- Thanked the Board for a great retreat meeting in July. He appreciated the feedback, and felt the meeting was a very productive and a good use of time.
- Noted that the hiring process at WRESA is time consuming, but very thorough. He commended the administrators before him that worked to establish the process we follow, as it has proven itself by the quality staff that are being hired. As we continue to fill positions, we are trying to be very sensitive and somewhat flexible with starting dates if we are hiring staff from the local schools districts.
- Invited the Board to come to the first Wayne County School Superintendents Association (WCSSA) meeting, scheduled for Friday, August 17, 2018, for a brief meet and greet. There is only one new superintendent joining the group this year.
- Recently attended the Second Annual Midwest Forum for Equity, Opportunity and Inclusive Practices in Southeast Michigan. Staff from Washtenaw, Oakland and Kent ISD's were also in attendance and it was great to walk out with new learning and a commitment to work together and learn from each other.

- He and others from the School Finance Research Collaborative attended a Michigan Education Justice Coalition meeting on Saturday. There were representatives in attendance from Detroit, Grand Rapids, Flint and Pontiac. The purpose of the meeting was to come together to discuss communication strategies around the Adequacy Study results.
- The Tri-County Alliance (TCA) Executive Board held a planning meeting last week. It was a good session and a great reaffirmation that the goal of having a voice in Lansing and a voice for the students in Southeast Michigan is important.
- Briefed the Board on a board recommendation in their packets to approve an agreement with a polling firm for research related to school funding and the renewal of the Wayne County Enhancement Millage. There were three questions that were related to the renewal of the millage in this poll.
- Noted that Sharon has been working full time in HR to help with the enormous amount of fingerprint work needed due to the change over from PESG to EduStaff.

K. Consent Agenda

Member Blackmon, supported by Member Beri moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended to include Board Rec #31-18, 32-18-19, 33-18-19 & 34-18-19. On voice vote, motion carried 3-0. Items include approval of:

- Superintendent's Recommendations
- Minutes from July 11, 2018, Organizational Meeting
- Minutes from July 11, 2018, Regular Meeting
- Minutes from July 20, 2018, Board Workshop
- Minutes from July 21, 2018, Board Workshop
- July WRESA Check Register
- Outstanding Investments, Revenues & Expenditures
- Pre and Post Travel Report

12-18-19

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

Paul Bobrowski, Application Database Analyst, effective July 16, 2018.

Ashley Dunford, Application Support Technician, effective July 30, 2018.

Nandini Vaishnav, Finance and Budget Director Residency, effective July 30, 2018.

Beverly Rodgers, Secretary, effective August 7, 2018.

Vita Lusk, Special Education Consultant, effective August 21, 2018.

Rhonda Walker, Early Childhood Specialist, effective August 13, 2018.

Asha Williams, Literacy Coaching Consultant, effective August 13, 2018.

Nathan Spencer, Science Consultant, effective August 14, 2018.

Kathryn Munoz, Secretary, effective August 15, 2018.

Amy Jones, Secretary, effective August 21, 2018.

13-18-19

The Board approved the following leave(s):

Christina Kujawa, Special Education Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective July 23, 2018.

Steven Michael, Connectivity/Network Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective August 6, 2018.

Sudha Addepalli, Application Architect, Family/Medical Leave, effective August 9, 2018.

Tanya Owen, English Learner Program Facilitator, Unpaid Personal Leave, effective September 4, 2018.

14-18-19

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

Donna Adams, Secretary, Family/Medical Leave, effective June 26, 2018.

William Heldmyer, TV Producer Director, Family/Medical Leave, effective July 11, 2018.

15-18-19

The Board approved the following reclassification(s):

Samkit Shah, Application Programmer, (from Track 3) to Application Programmer Analyst (Track 3.5) effective June 15, 2018.

16-18-19

The Board approved the removal of the following representative to the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee at the request of the local district. This is effective August 15, 2018.

Kimberly Schwebes	Trenton Public Schools
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17-18-19

The Board approved the appointment of the following representative(s) to the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee (WCPAC) for a three-year term. Effective for the period August 15, 2018 through June 30, 2021.

Samantha Shafer	Southgate Community Schools
Michelle Muse-Worthy	Southgate Community Schools
Clare Brick	Dearborn Public Schools
Eilia Syed	Dearborn Public Schools
Jamie Czernik	Trenton Public Schools
Philip Czernik	Trenton Public Schools
Jamie LaForest	Wyandotte Public Schools
Victoria Martinez	Wyandotte Public Schools

18-18-19

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 July 1, 2018 through July 31, 2018: Mary Blackmon, \$85.02; Danielle Funderburg, \$13.73; Lynda Jackson, \$43.60; James Petrie, \$131.06

19-18-19

The Board approved payment to the Detroit Public School Community District in the amount of \$27,082.71 for 2017-18 PBIS final expense payment.

20-18-19

The Board approved additional payments of Act 18 funds for the 2015-2016 operating year, to the following school districts operating special education center programs.

Van Buren Public Schools	\$42,112
Westwood Community School District	\$47,081
Total	\$89,193

21-18-19

The Board approved Act 18 payments, to be paid in ten monthly installments to school districts operating special education center programs for estimated allowable costs for the 2018-2019 fiscal year for a total amount not to exceed \$138,965,260.

School District	Amount	School District	Amount
Allen Park Public Schools	\$584,790	School District of the City of Dearborn	\$8,883,794
Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$35,396,034	Garden City Public Schools	\$8,473,515
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$6,072,839	Huron School District	\$1,113,548
School District of the City of Lincoln Park	\$8,461,024	Livonia Public Schools	\$10,662,727
Northville Public Schools	\$8,231,673	Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	\$3,971,364
Redford Union Schools	\$7,166,263	Southgate Community Schools	\$4,533,389
Taylor School District	\$2,702,489	Trenton Public Schools	\$3,092,539
Van Buren Public Schools	\$1,474,697	Wayne-Westland Comm. Schools	\$8,608,548
Westwood Community Schools	\$300,266	Woodhaven-Brownstown Schools	\$2,782,656
School District of the City of Wyandotte	\$16,453,105	Total All Districts	\$138,965,260

22-18-19

The Board approved entering into an agreement with Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research for polling work related to school funding and the enhancement millage renewal, in an amount not to exceed \$40,600.

23-18-19

The Board approved written agreements with each of the following agencies and school districts for implementation of Early On activities in the amount of \$1,261,500 for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Agency	Amount
Chitter Chatter	\$410,000
Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$34,000
Development Centers Inc.	\$350,000
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$23,000
Leaps and Bounds	\$87,000
Wayne County Department of Public Health	\$312,000
Wayne Westland Community Schools	\$45,500
Total:	\$1,261,500

24-18-19

The Board approved entering into a contract with Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Service Corporation, Lansing, MI for Food Service Consulting and Training Services, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 annually.

25-18-19

The Board approved entering into a contract with the community based organizations listed below, in the amount indicated, for operating Great Start Readiness Programs (GSRP) for the period October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Community Based Organizations	Amount
Busy Minds Child Care Center	\$116,000
Antioch Learning Center	\$116,000
Bright Beginnings/COTS	\$116,000

26-18-19

The Board approved entering into a contract with HighScope COR Advantage, Ypsilanti, MI for assessment licenses in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 for the period October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

27-18-19

The Board approved entering into a contract with Carol Hanner (Carol Hanner, LLC.), Plymouth, MI for Career and Technical Education (CTE) technical support in an amount not to exceed \$37,500 for the period September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

28-18-19

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #105-17-18 and #175-17-18 for reimbursement of allowable added costs for individual Student Aides employed during the 2017-18 school year, not to exceed the amounts listed below, to the following school districts and public school academies.

LEA/PSA	Original Amount	New Amount
Detroit Public Safety Academy	\$17,847	\$19,186
Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$1,327,385	\$1,328,527
Flat Rock Community Schools	\$90,232	\$91,188
Grosse Ile Township Schools	\$102,511	\$125,354
Hamtramck, School District of the City of	\$22,844	\$25,794
Jalen Rose Leadership Academy	\$19,988	\$26,084
Lincoln Park, School District of the City of	\$48,543	\$69,816
Plymouth Educational Center Charter School	\$27,541	\$29,989
Redford Union Schools	\$366,611	\$379,763
Riverview Community School District	\$49,970	\$56,428
Romulus Community Schools	\$328,444	\$348,427
Southgate Community School District	\$331,792	\$443,722
Summit Academy	\$0.00	\$14,318
Summit Academy North	\$0.00	\$122,443
Trillium Academy	\$75,392	\$76,872
Woodhaven-Brownstown School District	\$339,425	\$346,708
Totals	\$3,148,525	\$3,504,619

29-18-19

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendations #207-17-18 to increase the amounts indicated for the following sub-recipients operating Great Start Readiness Programs (GSRP) for the period October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Agency	Original Amount	New Amount
Alawie Educational Services	\$478,500	\$493,000
Blossom Learning Center	\$108,750	232,000
TOTAL	\$587,250	\$725,000

30-18-19

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #34-17-18 to increase the contract amount with Staff Development for Educators (SDE), LLC from \$378,992 to an amount not to exceed \$402,357 for the period September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

31-18-19

The Board approved payment of the Administrative Outreach Program Medicaid Claim reimbursement to the following local School Districts for services to Medicaid eligible Special Education students, in the amount of \$126,899.07. This amount reflects payment for quarter October 2017 through December 2017, and is determined by the Department of Health and Human Services.

DISTRICT/LEA	AMOUNT	DISTRICT/LEA	AMOUNT
Allen Park Public Schools	\$2,815.30	Melvindale-North Allen Park Schools	\$1,418.00
Crestwood School District	\$2,031.38	Northville Public Schools	\$8,563.28
Dearborn City School District	\$13,081.61	Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	\$6,860.53
Dearborn Heights School District #7	\$2,810.26	Redford Union Schools, District No. 1	\$5,717.33
Ecorse Public Schools	\$1,016.88	School District of the City of River Rouge	\$819.16
Flat Rock Community Schools	\$2,050.27	Riverview Community School District	\$896.04
Garden City Public Schools	\$5,954.00	Romulus Community Schools	\$1,883.36
Gibraltar School District	\$1,264.08	South Redford School District	\$1,717.36
Grosse Ile Township Schools	\$1,755.71	Southgate Community School District	\$3,478.65
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$6,893.80	Taylor School District	\$3,790.38
School District of the City of Hamtramck	\$2,091.81	Trenton Public Schools	\$3,745.35
School District of the City of Harper Woods	\$917.98	Van Buren Public Schools	\$2,708.29
Huron School District	\$1,586.37	Wayne-Westland Community School District	\$11,955.81
School District of the City of Lincoln Park	\$7,385.16	Westwood Community School District	\$1,688.34
Livonia Public Schools School District	\$7,468.46	Woodhaven-Brownstown School District	\$5,890.89
		School District of the City of Wyandotte	\$6,643.23
		TOTAL:	\$126,899.07

32-18-19

The Board approved payments to MAISL Trust for property, casualty and liability insurance in the amount of \$47,795.

33-18-19

The Board approved payments to AJ Gallagher Risk Management Services for Cyber Liability insurance in the amount of \$47,187.50.

34-18-19

The Board approved entering into a contract with Barbara Cronk, Taylor, MI, as a third-party examiner to conduct Commercial Driver's License (CDL) road tests not to exceed the amount of \$40,000 for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

L. Action Item:

1. Superintendent Compensation

Member Blackmon supported by Member Beri, moved that the Board approve a compensation adjustment for Wayne RESA Superintendent Randy Liepa effective July 1, 2018. The adjustment is consistent with board approved adjustment for other members of the administrative team. On voice vote, the motion carried 3-0.

2. Recommendation to Terminate Employment

Member Beri supported by Member Blackmon, moved that the Board approve the termination of Nkoh Gaston, English Learner Program Facilitator, effective August 3, 2018. On voice vote, the motion carried 3-0.

M. General Board Comments

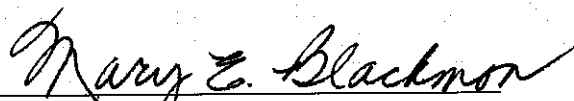
Member Blackmon

- Shared that she recently attended the Wayne County Community College 50th Anniversary celebration and it was a very nice event. It was well attended and they highlighted a number of things they are doing with schools and businesses to improve skilled trades.
- Presented a plaque received from SEMCOG for WRESA's significant membership to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of SEMCOG.
- Reminder -- the Shining Light Awards Ceremony will be October 4, 2018.

N. Adjournment

Member Beri supported by Member Blackmon, moved to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote, the motion carried 3-0. President Jackson adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Submitted by:


Mary E. Blackmon, Secretary