



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

**Regular Meeting
Virtually Held
(PA 254)**

**May 19, 2021
MINUTES**

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (held virtually) was called to order by President Blackmon on May 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: James Beri (Allen Park, Michigan), Mary Blackmon (Detroit, Michigan), Danielle Funderburg (Romulus, Michigan), Lynda Jackson (Brownstown Township, Michigan) and James Petrie (Northville, Michigan)

C. Approval of Agenda

Member Beri supported by Member Jackson, moved to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll call vote: Beri-Yes, Blackmon-Yes, Funderburg-Yes, Jackson-Yes, and Petrie-Yes, the motion carried 5-0.

D. Public Participation - none

E. Introduction of New Staff

Kelly Bohl, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources introduced the following new staff and provided brief background information on each:

Natasha Villarreal - School Outreach Nurse, effective May 17, 2021

Vonetta Clark-Toolles - Education Improvement Consultant, effective Monday, May 3

F. President's Remarks and Board Comments

Member Petrie:

- Asked for clarification regarding the latest information around in-person board meetings. Steve Ezikian shared that the latest information from the Wayne County Health Department extends the opportunity to continue with remote meetings, if the Board decides to do so. Discussion amongst the board/administration ensued pertaining to this subject.

President Blackmon:

- Expressed how wonderful it has been working with Dr. Liepa adding that he has been a fantastic leader. Also, Welcomed Dr. Daveda Colbert sharing that she is delighted that she will be leading Wayne RESA as the next Superintendent.
- Provided a brief overview from the recent Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) meeting she attended (Broadband Capability for students/parents working from home, Infrastructure Concerns of the Region, Improvements to walking environments). In

addition, she noted that Congresswoman Debbie Dingell participated in the meeting and spoke about things happening in Washington that affect our Region.

- Shared the following Wayne County local school district highlights:
 - We are so excited that most of our school districts have found ways to celebrate graduations and proms in safe ways and in ways that students will be honored in the traditional sense, recognizing students for their achievements in memorable ways will last a lifetime.
 - Many of districts have been working with the WC Health Department and have set up vaccination clinics in their schools, so students can be vaccinated safely and efficiently. These efforts will help our State to defeat COVID and get our communities fully active again.
 - Lastly, we want to recognize the significant planning that is happening in the districts to advance learning recovery for students who have fallen behind during the Pandemic. We appreciate the resources allocated from our state and federal government, but want to recognize our local Wayne County schools who have worked so diligently to get students the resources they need to be successful in school.

Member Jackson:

- Shared that she has just been appointed to serve on the American Red Cross Biomedical Committee.

G. Communications - none

H. Superintendent's Report

Executive Director of Legislative Affairs, Mike Latvis:

- Shared a Legislative Presentation providing a summary and highlights on:
 - A potential June 1st adjustment to the Governor's Vacc to Normal plan, allowing a change to current restrictions to move faster.
 - The 2021-22 Proposed Budgets (the Governor's Executive Recommendation Budget, the House Budget and the Senate Budget). Shared likes, dislikes and the message Education Lobbyists are pushing.
 - Supplemental Budgets – release of ESSERS funds proposed.

Mike answered questions from the Board

Associate Superintendent Dr. Daveda Colbert:

- Thanked Mike for his tireless advocacy for public education and the students of Wayne County.
- Provided an overview on the Third Grade Reading legislation and the damaging effects of retention, noting that we do not support retention, it is not in the best interest of our students per educational research. We are looking for the best outcomes for all students and will continue to help our districts in every way possible, advocating for them against this law.
- Expressed that she is excited about the Governor's Academic Recovery Plan, pleased that she had an opportunity to provide input into it.

Deputy Superintendent, Steve Ezikian

- Noted: in the report that Mike gave on the budget, unfortunately, there are no added funds for ISD's.
- Described a technical pronouncement from the state on the distribution of tax dollars.

- Special Education distributions – As in previous years, as a result of our Act 18 fund balance, we will be making a one-time distribution payment in July to districts with Special Education Transportation expenses. You will see a Board Recommendation for these payments in your June Board Materials.
- Volkswagen Grant comes to an end. You may recall a grant opportunity for districts, through a Volkswagen settlement, to receive funding to help replace older busses for new more fuel-efficient models. The grant will be reimbursing about \$2.5 million to five of our school districts. You will see a Board Recommendation for these payments in your June Board Materials.
- Michigan School for the Deaf (MSD) - MSD is having a lot of problems with staffing and compliance. MDE operates the school and they have approximately 30 students from Wayne County in attendance. The State is trying to pass the responsibility of providing FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education) to the students back to the counties where the students come from. We have a problem with how this may affect the Center Programs we run, and ultimately the service students receive in the program.
- Years ago we were providing stipends for Paraprofessionals working to obtain their Special Education certification, however, we were cited for that by the State and it was deemed unallowable. Good news - we just received approval to offer this incentive again.
- ACE Academy (a strict discipline academy) in Highland Park is looking for a new authorizer and have approached WRESA to authorize them, however, we declined as they have a number of significant compliance issues. They have been denied by others as well, and as a result will likely be closing. We may want to explore the possibility of a strict disciplinary academy down the road. We are working with the Wayne County Juvenile group and Detroit schools to see if we can help accommodate the students, if the school closes.

Superintendent, Randy Liepa:

- The last Superintendent Meeting (WCSSA) of the school year is Friday, May 21st. Superintendents and district staff have had a heck of a year, are exhausted. However, most will have a busier than normal summer and things are changing daily with regard to the health and safety requirements in Michigan (which, of course, always impact our schools).
- Recognized Deputy Superintendent Steve Ezikian as he has done an outstanding job working with the Health Department, providing guidance throughout the entire Pandemic. As we head into the end of the year our districts are facing new guidelines. They are more than ready to close out and prepare for next year. There is hope on the horizon for returning to a more normal school year, but of course there's no way to know if we will get an uptick in cases. We just have to be nimble to provide equitable education for all regardless of the circumstances.
- Thanked Associate Superintendent Daveda Colbert for the 3rd grade reading recap. It's unfortunate that our legislature didn't address and pause this, but our districts are working to have a game plan for their 3rd grade students.
- Shared that there are a variety of special education issues going on in the state that we are trying to help navigate. Our special education population were the most impacted through the pandemic. Superintendent Liepa recognized Assistant Superintendent Karen Howey and her colleagues as have had an enormous job trying to support local schools and advocate for special education students.
- Recognized and commended WRESA Board Member Lynda Jackson for her appointment to the American Red Cross Biomedical Committee; and for her willingness to serve and provide her expertise to this committee.

I. Consent Agenda

Member Petrie, supported by Member Jackson, moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Roll call vote: Beri-Yes, Blackmon-Yes, Funderburg-Yes, Jackson-Yes and Petrie-Yes, the motion carried 5-0.

Items include approval of:

- Superintendent's Recommendations
- Minutes from April 21, 2021, Regular Meeting
- Minutes from April 29, 2021, Study Session
- Minutes from May 3, 2021, Special Meeting
- Minutes from May 6, 2021, Special Meeting
- Minutes from May 7, 2021, Special Meeting
- Minutes from May 7, 2021, Closed Session
- Minutes from May 12, 2021, Special Meeting
- April WRESA Check Register
- Outstanding Investments, Revenues & Expenditures

179-20-21

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

- Vonetta Clark-Tooles, Educational Improvement Consultant, effective May 3, 2021.
- Natasha Villarreal, School Outreach Nurse, effective May 17, 2021.
- Carol Paul, Educational Improvement Consultant, effective May 24, 2021.

180-20-21

The Board approved the following leave(s):

- Leanne Smith, Special Programs Administrative & Fiscal Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective April 14, 2021.
- Virginia Winters, School Culture & Climate Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective April 14, 2021.

181-20-21

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

- Leanne Smith, Special Programs Administrative & Fiscal Consultant, Family/Medical Leave, effective April 19, 2021.
- Deana Jentzen, Part-time English Learner Program Facilitator, Unpaid Personal Leave, effective April 20, 2021.

182-20-21

The Board approved the appointment of the following representative(s) to the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee (WCPAC) for a three-year term. This is effective for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

Jamie Czernik	Trenton Public School District
Philip Czernik	Trenton Public School District
Jennifer Seal	Garden City Public Schools
Kara Clarke	Livonia Public School District
Eileen Brandt	Livonia Public School District

183-20-21

The Board approved the appointment of the following representative(s) to the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee (WCPAC) for a three-year term. This is effective for the period May 19, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

Kristin Huff	Garden City Public Schools
--------------	----------------------------

184-20-21

The Board approved a purchase from US Math Recovery Research Council (AddVantageMR1 and AddVantageMR2) for assessment and intervention kits in an amount not to exceed \$120,456 for the period May 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

185-20-21

The Board approved a purchase from Complete Book and Media Supply LLC for board books to be given to Early On eligible families along with guidance and materials to promote literacy in the family routines for an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the period June 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

186-20-21

The Board approved payment to reimburse the following subrecipients for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Curriculum Grant, in the amounts indicated, for the period April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

GSRP SUBRECIPIENT	AMOUNT	GSRP SUBRECIPIENT	AMOUNT
A & W Day Care Center	\$1,105.00	Jude Family Childcare Learning Center	\$906.00
Above & Beyond Learning Child Care Center	\$2,230.00	Karnak Creative Child Care	\$385.00
Academy for Business and Technology	\$2,100.00	KinderCare Education LLC at Champions	\$120.00
Advanced Technology Academy	\$13,160.00	Kingdom Kare Learning Center	\$2,905.00
Alhadi Child Care Center	\$1,061.00	Kristy's Development Center	\$1,310.00
Alawie Educational Services	\$4,200.00	Lincoln Park Public Schools	\$3,480.00
Al-Wali Childcare Center	\$956.00	Livonia Public Schools	\$880.00
American International Academy	\$1,193.00	Metropolitan Children and Youth Inc.	\$730.00
American Montessori Academy	\$1,127.00	ndividualME Early Learning Academy	\$1,232.00
Arab-American Children Center	\$379.00	Nene's Little Angels Daycare LLC	\$12,262.00
Bambi Land Child Care	\$1,105.00	New Paradigm College Prep	\$9,150.00
Blessed Beginnings Learning Center	\$995.00	New Paradigm Loving	\$9,975.00
Blossom Learning Center	\$3,850.00	New St Paul Tabernacle Head Start Agency	\$787.97
Brainiacs Clubhouse CDC	\$20,586.00	New Greater Bethlehem Temple (We Care)	\$4,606.00
Bridge Academy East	\$543.00	Old Redford Academy	\$5,800.00

Bright Beginnings Montessori Inc.	\$660.00	Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	\$3,019.90
Chandler Park Academy ECEC	\$1,506.00	Quality Childcare and Learning Center	\$1,050.00
Child Star Development	\$1,127.00	R.A.C.E. Reaching All Children Equally	\$12,500.00
Children's Garden LLC	\$6,500.00	Ready 2 Learn Childcare	\$1,050.00
Children's Paradise Learning Center	\$1,651.00	Redford School District	\$1,105.00
Children'z Place II	\$4,150.00	River Heights Academy	\$1,200.00
Childtime Childcare, Inc.	\$3,150.00	River Rouge School District	\$4,373.00
Christios Childcare & Academy	\$1,990.00	Riverside Early Childhood Center	\$457.00
Circletime with Friends Learning Center	\$1,105.00	Riverview Community School District	\$500.00
Creative Learning Children's College	\$1,595.00	Romulus Community Schools	\$11,550.00
Crestwood School District	\$4,260.00	Someplace Else	\$6,850.00
Crossbridge Action Network	\$4,430.00	Southgate Community School District	\$12,000.00
David Ellis Academy	\$907.00	St. Paul Child Development	\$2,022.00
David Ellis Academy West GSRP	\$1,124.00	Star International Academy	\$1,375.00
Dearborn City School District	\$15,500.00	Starfish Family Services	\$194,967.00
Dee's Little Angels C.C.C.	\$1,127.00	Summer Preschool Early Learning Center	\$311.00
Detroit Edison PSA	\$40,000.00	Taylor School District	\$6,000.00
Detroit Leadership Academy	\$174.99	The Dearborn Academy	\$10,103.00
Detroit Service Learning Academy	\$1,663.00	The Learning Tree Child Care Center North	\$656.00
EC - Development Centers	\$1,192.00	The Learning Tree Child Care Center West	\$691.00
Dreamy Children's Center	\$1,520.00	The Learning Tree Child Care Center South	\$656.00
Dreamy Children's Center 2	\$760.00	The Nest Child Care & Parent Institute	\$2,200.00
Ecorse Public School District	\$1,265.00	The Order of the Fishermen Ministry Educational Services	\$800.00
Garden City Schools	\$39,000.00	Trenton Public Schools	\$327.99
George Washington Carver Academy	\$3,732.00	Trillium Academy	\$2,488.00
Gibraltar School District	\$5,000.00	Universal Academy	\$275.00
Global Heights Academy	\$178.00	Universal Learning Academy	\$550.00
Greater Ebenezer Christian Child Care Center	\$8,905.00	Van Buren Public Schools	\$6,789.00
Growing Minds Learning	\$16,642.00	Village of Shiny Stars	\$995.00

Center, Inc.			
Hanley International GSRP	\$8,383.31	Wayne Westland Community School District	\$11,367.00
Harper Woods School District	\$5,950.00	Wayne RESA (Early Childhood)	\$3,596.53
Highland Park Schools	\$760.00	Wyandotte Public Schools	\$15,000.00
Education Consulting Solutions (It Takes A Village)	\$8,383.31	YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit - Boll Branch	\$2,215.00
		Total	\$622,449.00

187-20-21

The Board approved payment to reimburse Detroit Public School Community District (DPSCD) for activities completed in the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Curriculum Grant, in the amount of \$558,060, for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

188-20-21

The Board approved payment of 2020-21 Section 107 grant funds to the following Intermediate School Districts, in the amounts indicated, for Prosperity Region 10 grant activities, as required, under Section 107 of the State Aid Act from the Workforce Development Agency for a total amount not to exceed \$41,203 for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021:

County	Intermediate School District	Amount
Oakland	Oakland Schools	\$27,959
Macomb	Macomb Intermediate School District	\$13,244
Total		\$41,203

189-20-21

The Board approved entering into a renewal contract with Lambert & Company for communication services in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

190-20-21

The Board approved entering into a renewal contract with Sonya Adams, Garden City, MI, for provision of processing referrals for Child Find services in Wayne County in the amount of \$56,000 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

191-20-21

The Board approved entering into a contract with the school districts and public school academies listed below, in the amounts indicated, for engaging in the Early Literacy Coaching Educator on Loan Initiative for the period July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

District / PSA	Amount	District / PSA	Amount
Allen Park Public Schools	\$112,000	Northville Public Schools	\$112,000
Chandler Park Academy	\$112,000	Plymouth-Canton Public Schools	\$112,000
Crestwood School District	\$112,000	Redford Union Schools, District#1	\$112,000
Dearborn Heights School District #7	\$112,000	School District of the City of River Rouge	\$112,000

Dearborn City School District	\$224,000	Riverview Community School District	\$112,000
Detroit Public Schools Community School District	\$672,000	Romulus Community School	\$112,000
Detroit Service Learning Academy	\$112,000	South Redford School District	\$112,000
Ecorse Public Schools	\$112,000	Southgate Community School District	\$112,000
Flat Rock Community Schools	\$112,000	Summit Academy North	\$112,000
Garden City Public Schools	\$112,000	Taylor School District	\$112,000
Gibraltar School District	\$112,000	Trenton Public Schools	\$112,000
Grosse Ile Township Schools	\$112,000	University Preparatory Academy	\$112,000
Grosse Pointe Public Schools	\$112,000	Van Buren Public Schools	\$112,000
School District of the City of Hamtramck	\$112,000	Washington-Parks Academy	\$112,000
The School District of the City of Harper Woods	\$112,000	Wayne-Westland Public School District	\$224,000
Huron School District	\$112,000	Westwood Community School District	\$142,000
School District of the City of Lincoln Park	\$112,000	Woodhaven-Brownstown School District	\$112,000
Livonia Public Schools	\$112,000	School District of the City of Wyandotte	\$112,000
Melvindale-North Allen Park Schools	\$112,000	Total	\$4,958,000

192-20-21

The Board approved written agreements with each of the following agencies for implementation of Early On activities in the amount of \$1,519,000 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

AGENCY/DISTRICT	AMOUNT
Chitter Chatter	\$1,040,000
Development Centers Inc.	\$400,000
Leaps and Bounds	\$79,000
Total:	\$1,519,000

193-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #108-20-21 to increase the contract amount by \$5,000 with Lambert & Company for communication services in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

194-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #8-20-21 for reimbursement to the following ISD and districts, in the amounts indicated, for Region 29 grant activities identified as approved under the federal Carl D. Perkins grant funds from the Michigan Department of Education for a total amount not to exceed \$2,725,822 for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

ISD/District	Previous Amount	Updated Amount
Allen Park Public Schools	\$66,795	\$66,795
Chandler Park Academy	\$43,094	\$43,094
Dearborn Heights School District #7	\$110,759	\$110,759
Dearborn Public Schools	\$249,951	\$249,951
Garden City Public Schools	\$58,123	\$56,499
Hamtramck School District	\$69,585	\$69,585
The School District of the City of Harper Woods	\$54,856	\$54,856
Huron School District – Downriver Career Technical Consortium	\$576,198	\$576,198
Lincoln Park School District	\$93,266	\$93,266
Livonia Public Schools	\$274,713	\$274,713
Melvindale Public Schools	\$99,493	\$99,493
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	\$243,076	\$243,076
Romulus Community Schools	\$86,930	\$86,930
Taylor School District	\$138,956	\$138,956
Van Buren Public Schools	\$44,463	\$43,579
Wayne-Westland Community Schools	\$294,981	\$297,489
Wayne RESA	\$220,583	\$220,583
Total ISD and District Perkins Grant	\$2,725,822	\$2,725,822

195-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #51-20-21 to increase the current contract with Wayne Metro Community Action Agency in compliance with Federal procurement requirements and Board Policy, from \$115,985 to an amount not to exceed \$240,975 for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

196-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #229-19-20 to increase the contract amount with AT & T, Southfield, MI for cloud hosted voice services (HVS) from \$32,615 to \$49,115 for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

197-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #102-20-21 to increase the contract amount with Rauhorn Electric, Inc., Bruce Township, MI, from \$98,392 to \$106,947, for the replacement of parking lot light poles.

198-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #77-20-21 to increase transportation funds, as indicated below, for the following programs for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Program	Approved Amount	New Amount
Livonia Public Schools	\$102,800	\$144,841
The Order of the Fisherman	\$0	\$1,086
Van Buren Public Schools	\$130,575	\$176,360
Total	\$233,375	\$322,287

199-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #49-20-21 to increase the reimbursement amounts for the LEA/PSAs listed below, in the amounts indicated for approved costs of capital expenditures in Wayne County Center Programs and District ASD Programs operating under the Wayne RESA Center Program Agreement during the 2020-2021 school year.

LEA/PSA	Original Amount	New Amount
Allen Park Public Schools	\$25,300	\$25,600
Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$1,500,000	\$1,598,200
Garden City Public Schools	\$332,700	\$358,700
Northville Public Schools	\$305,600	\$318,500
Southgate Community School District	\$190,000	\$195,200
Total	\$2,353,600	\$2,496,200

200-20-21

The Board approved an amendment to Board Recommendation #230-19-20, to increase the contract amount with Sonya Adams, Garden City, MI from \$30,000 to \$40,000 for provision of processing referrals for Child Find services in Wayne County, for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

201-20-21

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

Grant	Grantor	Amount	Term	Purpose
ISD Collaboration	Michigan Department of Education	\$11,500	10/01/2020 - 09/30/2021	Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (WRESA) (Grantee) is granted from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) (Grantor) for reimbursement of costs associated with the Comprehensive Literacy State Development Project.

J. Action Item(s)

1. Creative Montessori Academy Board Appointment

Member Funderburg supported by Member Petrie, moved that the Wayne RESA Board approve the appointment of Walker Evans to serve on the Creative Montessori Academy Board for a two-year term beginning May 1, 2020 and ending May 31, 2022. Roll call vote: Beri-Yes, Blackmon-Yes, Funderburg-Yes, Jackson-Yes and Petrie-Yes, the motion carried 5-0.

2. Wayne County Common Calendar – 2025-2026

Member Petrie supported by Member Beri, moved that the Wayne RESA Board approve the extension of the five-year common calendar to include the calendar for the July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 school year, as presented. Roll call vote: Beri-Yes, Blackmon-Yes, Funderburg-Yes, Jackson-Yes and Petrie-Yes, the motion carried 5-0.

K. Informational Item(s)


1. The Board received the Proposed Wayne RESA Board Meeting Schedule – 2021-2022.

L. General Board Comments

- President Blackmon shared that the Shining Light Award applications are now available and asked her fellow board members to encourage nominations from Wayne County.
- Brenda Jones will be the incoming chair of SEMCOG.
- SEMCOG has a newly organized Broadband Task Force and she would like to see someone from Wayne RESA serve on it.

M. Adjournment

Member Petrie supported by Member Jackson, moved to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Beri-Yes, Blackmon-Yes, Funderburg-Yes, Jackson-Yes and Petrie-Yes, the motion carried 5-0. President Blackmon adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Submitted by:  _____
James S. Beri, Secretary