



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

**Regular Meeting  
January 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 Board Vice President James Petrie on January 17, 2024 at 8:31 a.m.

**B. Roll Call**

Present: James Beri, Mary Blackmon, Danielle Funderburg, and James Petrie  
Absent: Lynda Jackson (excused)

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

**D. Approval of Agenda**

Member Beri, supported by Member Funderburg, 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. Linda Lazar, Leadership Development Consultant
- Matthew (Matt) Smoot, learning, Innovation, and Technology Consultant

**G. President’s Remark and Board Comments**

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Day, observed January 15, 2024, **Member Petrie** shared his reflections on the diversity within the RESA organization and the communities RESA serves. Member Petrie also encouraged everyone to attend the Henry Ford Museum to tour the Nelson Mandela display.

Sympathy and condolences were also extended on behalf of fellow board members to Board President Lynda Jackson and her family for their recent loss.

**H. Communications – None.**

## I. Special Presentations

1. **Wayne RESA School Board Recognition** – Dr. Colbert acknowledged each member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education, recognizing their years of service and unique contributions to the board. Dr. Colbert thanked board members for their leadership, wisdom, and commitment to service.
  - **Member Blackmon** shared the joy it has been to serve on the Wayne RESA Board of Education, stating it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve with outstanding superintendents and each member of the RESA Team. She thanked staff for their dedication to Wayne RESA and the students, families and communities we serve.
  - **Member Beri** thanked Dr. Colbert for her kind words and acknowledgement. Member Beri shared his appreciation for how well the RESA board works together and how the organization is mentioned a lot throughout the county for good things being done and representing all students in Wayne County. Kudos to the RESA staff.
  - **Member Funderburg** thanked everyone and shared how she enjoys being of service on the RESA Board of Education. She added that the RESA vision, “Leading Learning for All,” is on display throughout the organization. The work being done at RESA gives her hope as the organization prepares students for the future. Member Funderburg said she is happy to be a cheerleader for RESA staff and encourages those modeling excellence to keep fighting the good fight.
  - **Member Petrie** said it is wonderful to hear all of what RESA does for the 33 districts in Wayne County. He shared his appreciation for the leadership and the wonderful superintendents he has worked with at RESA over the years. Member Petrie shared accolades including the joy of watching Early Childhood Education and other initiatives that were carefully nurtured by RESA leadership. Member Petrie shared he is happy to be a part of this great team.
  
2. **Enhancing the Success of Multilingual Learners: Update on Current Initiatives** – Khalil El-Saghir, Zeinab Haidous and Kalyn Wulatin, Multilingual Consultants and Mari Treece, Executive Director, Educational Services, presented on the Wayne RESA Consortium and RESA’s partnership with English Learner Consortium of Southwest Michigan. The team also shared how they are building capacity in Wayne County and beyond, highlighting professional learning opportunities, integration with departments and initiatives across RESA, and collaboration and resource creation statewide, including the Wayne County Multilingual Collaborative (WCMC). The RESA Multilingual Menu of Services was also shared with board members.

## Superintendent’s Report

### Executive Director of Legislative Affairs Mike Latvis

Mr. Latvis shared the following legislative updates:

- Federal judges have declared 13 of Michigan’s House and Senate districts, located in Detroit and feed into Oakland and Macomb counties, be redrawn (7 House districts and 6 Senate districts). Mike will continue to watch this case as it involves all of Wayne County.
- With the 54/54 split in the House, leadership has asked committee chairs to work on bi-partisan issues which may include school safety.
- The Attorney General (AG) is pushing for legislators to draft a bill where the AG would investigate all school shootings.

- A package of Charter School bills, which includes financial transparency, has been passed out of committee.
- The Dyslexia bills package is moving forward and expected to pass end of year.
- The House is taking testimony on issues over the next couple of weeks regarding the shortage of mental health employees in schools.
- The Governor's State of State will be held on January 24, 2024.
- The Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference was held in January. School aid revenue is up about 2%.

**Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services, Beth Gonzalez**

Ms. Gonzalez shared the following updates:

- The Talent Together Consortium now includes all 56 ISDs in the state. Currently, there are 900 people enrolled in Talent Together at different stages of pursuing certification. The application for Cohort 2 is open and closes on March 3.
- The final release of A to F School Grades, Michigan's State Accountability System, shows consistent growth in a positive direction in Wayne County. A summary of the data will be provided to board members.

**Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services, Kelly Bohl**

Ms. Bohl shared the following updates:

- Wayne RESA is teaming up with the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), Macomb ISD and Oakland Schools to file an amicus brief in support of the appeal to the Batista case (v ORS MPERS) filed by the Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA). The brief represents the employer perspective of the impact the Court of Appeal's interpretation of the Public School Employees Retirement Act (PSERA) in the Batista case.
- RESA is on schedule to close on the Annex property February 14, 2024. Several board recommendations were submitted this month to accommodate maintenance at the Annex and the Beacon/Gilead property.

**Superintendent Dr. Daveda Colbert**

Dr. Daveda Colbert shared:

- The Wayne RESA Board of Education was recognized during School Board Recognition Month. Their individual and collective service and commitment to Wayne County students, parents and families were highlighted and acknowledged.
- RESA closed out 2023 by celebrating Wayne County students with a performance by Ecorse's Mighty Marching Raiders band during the December 20 board meeting and followed by Center Based Program students sharing their unique creations with the Wayne RESA staff during the Sip and Shop event held on December 21. Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make sure the students felt welcomed and appreciated.
- RESA staff also enjoyed the Soup with the Superintendent event on December 21, where staff was able to network and enjoy time with colleagues.
- On Monday, January 15, 2024, RESA honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a civil rights leader, whose vision, work, and legacy empowers us to remain committed to community service. As educational leaders and community members, it is our duty to continue to

work towards an equitable society – and that starts with thriving communities and a public education system that serves every student and their family.

- The week of January 16 began with frigid temperatures and dicey road conditions that caused many schools in Wayne County to close. Each district made decisions based on what was best for the safety of the students and families in their community and their staff. RESA remained open; however, some professional developments and other events were cancelled due to school closures. It was also understood if RESA staff members needed to use time due to school closures and/or the best decisions for them and their families.
- Affinity groups have been created to support educators throughout the county. The Wayne County African American Leaders Network was scheduled to meet on January 17 (but that meeting has been rescheduled due to school closures) and the Wayne County Women in Leadership will convene on January 22. These groups were created based on needs expressed throughout the County and will assist leaders with building capacity to lead the real and necessary work that is needed to improve student outcomes, and feeling supported as a leader, which includes being intentional about self-care.
- RESA will continue to keep the Perry, Iowa community lifted in our thoughts. RESA will also continue to advocate for safer communities and will be intentional about our advocacy as it relates to school safety. Schools are for teaching and learning. Students and staff should feel safe in their school environment. We will continue to support districts with resources as needed to support students, families, staff, and communities. RESA's Trauma Informed Team has scheduled sessions to support staff with their needs. Staff has also been reminded of the Employee Assistance Program that provides counseling, self-improvement tools and solutions to assist staff at home or at work. The services are free, confidential and available all day, every day to RESA employees and their household members.
- RESA continues to plan strategically for the possible November 2024 Enhancement Millage Ballot Initiative, as we prepare for local district decisions regarding the initiative. Resolutions from districts will be submitted to RESA May 1, 2024 – July 16, 2024.
- Wayne County Schools will be represented by 10 people, advocating on Capitol Hill, during the National School Board Association Advocacy Institute in Washington, D.C. January 28-30, 2024.
- We continue to look forward to improved outcomes throughout 2024 and a great year ahead!

#### **J. Approval of Consent Agenda**

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

Items include approval of:

1. Superintendent's Recommendations
2. Minutes from December 20, 2023, Regular Board Meeting
3. December WRESA Check Register
4. December Inkster Check Register
5. Outstanding Investments, Revenues & Expenditures

6. Pre and Post Travel – January 2024

On voice vote, the motion carries 4-0.

**163-23-24**

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

- Amy Jones, Administrative Specialist – Helpdesk and Event Services, effective January 22, 2024

**164-23-24**

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

- James Brett Forgach, Part-time Business Services-Business Analyst Implementation Specialist, effective December 21, 2023
- Robert Toth, School Safety Consultant, effective January 22, 2024
- Kelly Anderson Parr, Early Childhood Social and Emotional Development Consultant, effective February 5, 2024

**165-23-24**

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

- Kate de Fuccio, Graphic Designer, Family/Medical Leave, effective December 20, 2023

**166-23-24**

The Board approved a regular administrative employment contract(s) after successful completion of a one-year probationary contract for:

- Elizabeth Grace, Manager of Early Childhood, effective February 7, 2024
- Dana Chicklas, Senior Executive Director of Communications, Public Relations, and Marketing, effective February 13, 2024

**167-23-24**

The Board approved the following reclassifications(s):

- Alexander Ahmed, Part-time Junior Programmer, effective December 21, 2023  
*Successfully completed internship and will be continuing on a part-time basis.*

**168-23-24**

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 September 11, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

Barbara Young	Dearborn Heights School District #7
Jamille Edwards	George Washington Carver Academy
Joann Goree	Detroit Public Schools Community District
Sharene Nathan	Detroit Public Schools Community District
Stacey Johnson	Detroit Public Schools Community District

**169-23-24**

The Board authorized a purchase from Into the Wind for materials and supplies to support the Wayne RESA/NASA AEROKATS and ROVER Education Network (AREN) grant in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

**170-23-24**

The Board authorized a purchase from Nutty Scientists of SE Michigan (Nutty Scientists) of Canton, Michigan for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) kits in an amount not to exceed \$117,650 for the period January 17, 2024 through January 17, 2025.

**171-23-24**

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 December 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023:

Mary Blackmon: \$ 0	Lynda Jackson: \$ 0
Danielle Funderburg: \$ 0	James Petrie: \$ 0

**172-23-24**

The Board authorized a payment to Dearborn Public Schools for Section 31n(6) Mental Health Supports for general education students in an amount not to exceed \$216,996.55 for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

**173-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to enter into a contract with Byrum & Fisk Advocacy Communications to provide communications and campaign support services related to the Wayne County Regional Enhancement Millage campaign. The proposed cost is \$77,500.

**174-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to enter into an agreement with Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) to support the work of the MiSTEM Tri-county Culturally Responsive Math Institute in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

**175-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to enter into an agreement with the Hanover Research Council for program evaluation in an amount not to exceed \$47,190 for the period December 21, 2023 through December 20, 2024.

**176-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to enter into agreements with the following districts participating in Michigan Statewide System of Support (SSoS) as identified Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools (CSI) for various requests of services outlined within each district's Service Plan in the amounts indicated, for a total amount not to exceed \$4,390,928 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

Districts	Amount
Clara B. Ford Academy (SDA)	\$130,000
Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences	\$440,000
Detroit Community Schools	\$33,760
Detroit Public Safety Academy	\$60,000
Detroit Public Schools Community District	\$900,000

Ecorse Public Schools	\$130,000
Hope Academy	\$19,980
Inkster Preparatory Academy	\$40,000
Joy Preparatory Academy	\$140,560
Old Redford Academy	\$470,473
Pathways Academy	\$70,000
Plymouth Educational Center Charter School	\$151,000
School District of the City of Hamtramck	\$180,241
School District of the City of River Rouge	\$605,205
Romulus Community Schools	\$155,000
Southgate Community School District	\$146,000
Taylor School District	\$146,598
The School District of the City of Harper Woods	\$80,000
University Preparatory Art & Design	\$130,000
W-A-Y Academy	\$145,683
WAY Michigan	\$101,428
Westfield Charter Academy	\$115,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,390,928</b>

**177-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to amend Board Recommendation #226-22-23 to increase the contract with W.J O'Neil Company (W.J. O'Neil), Livonia, MI, for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Equipment and Building Control Systems Maintenance at Wayne RESA (WRESA) Education Center, Annex and Burger Baylor in an amount not to exceed \$440,912 for the period February 14, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

**178-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to amend Board Recommendation #127-23-24 to increase the contract with RNA Facilities Management (RNA), Ann Arbor, MI for additional custodial services at Wayne RESA's (WRESA) Annex building from \$479,253.62 to \$512,056.82 for the period of February 14, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

**179-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to amend Board Recommendation 128-23-24 to increase the contract with RNA Facilities Management (RNA), Ann Arbor, MI for Security Guard Services at Wayne RESA's (WRESA) Education Center, Annex, Burger Baylor and Beacon Day Treatment facilities \$87,000 to \$97,000 for the period of February 14, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

**180-23-24**

The Board authorized administration to amend Board Recommendation #219-22-23 to increase the contract with RNA Facilities Management (RNA), Ann Arbor, MI, for Ground and Property Maintenance Services at Wayne RESA's (WRESA) Education Center, Annex building and Burger Baylor facilities, from \$145,000 to \$175,000 for the period February 14, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

**181-23-24**

The Board authorized an amendment to Board Recommendation #45-23-24 to amend contracts previously approved for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) subrecipients listed in the amounts indicated, for a total amount not to exceed \$402,628 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

Subrecipient	Original Amount	Amended Amount
New Paradigm College Prep	\$167,756	\$201,314
New Paradigm Glazer-Loving Academy	\$167,756	\$201,314
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$335,512</b>	<b>\$402,628</b>

**182-23-24**

The Board authorized an amendment to Board Recommendation #95-23-24 to amend contracts previously approved for transportation allocations for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) subrecipients listed below, in the amounts indicated, for a total amount not to exceed \$120,000 for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

Subrecipient	Approved Amount	Amended Amount
LACC Child Care Academy	\$0	\$45,000
George Washington Carver Academy	\$18,398	\$75,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$18,398</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>

**183-23-24**

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

Grant	Grantor	Amount	Term	Purpose	Responsible Party
Section 32n Out-of-School Time Grant	Michigan Department of Education - Public Act 103 of 2023, Section 32n of the State School Aid Fund	\$1,278,720	01/02/2024 - 09/30/2024	This grant is to fund the 2024 summer learning initiatives: Kinder Lit Lab, Lit Lab 1.0, Lit Lab 3.0, and Boys College Summer Literacy Institute. Wayne County schools can partner with Wayne RESA to receive grant funding as subrecipients.	Educational Services



**K. Informational Item(s)**

**1. Superintendent's Evaluation Timeline**

Board Study Sessions for the purpose of the Superintendent Evaluation will be held Wednesday, January 17, 2024 (following the January Board Meeting) and Wednesday, February 31, 2024 (following the February Board Meeting).

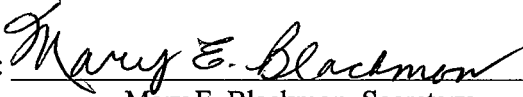
**L. General Board Comments**

The Board acknowledged the recent passing of former Wayne RESA employee, Sam Mangione, Ed.D. who in 1967, began working for Wayne RESA until he retired in 1990. Dr. Mangione began his teaching career in the Lincoln Park School District where he was a junior high school administrator and district curriculum coordinator.

**M. Adjournment**

Member Beri, supported by Member Funderburg, moved to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote the motion carried 4-0. Vice President Petrie adjourned the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Submitted by:

  
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Mary E. Blackmon, Secretary