



Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee

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Kara Clarke, Chairperson **Victoria Martinez & Sharene Nathan**, Co-Chair Elects
Samara Wolf, Secretary **Jennifer Seal**, Treasurer

MEETING MINUTES
 February 8, 2024

Call to Order

Kara Clarke called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

Members Present: -

Melissa Richardson Allen Park	Jouhaina Bazzi Dearborn	Angela Khater Dearborn	Joann Goree Detroit	Stacey Johnson Detroit
Sharene Nathan Detroit	Elena Mirea Garden City	Jennifer Seal Garden City	Rosalind Pope Grosse Pointe	Sandy Borgne Lincoln Park
Crystle Upshaw Lincoln Park	Kara Clarke Livonia	Michelle DeJesus Melvindale/NAP	Maria Warmuth Northville	Bethany Gomillion Redford Union
Tracee Winston South Redford	Phil Czernik Trenton	Sandra Cunningham Wayne/Westland	Tenisha Williams Westwood	Priscilla Grossenheider-Albano Woodhaven/Btown.
Victoria Martinez Wyandotte	Jermaine Harris Canton Charter	Bertrina Thomas Detroit Merit	Laila Ismael Hanley Intl'	Samara Wolf Taylor Prep

Members Excused: Lindsey Ivan, La'Toya Scott, Jamille Edwards, Artis Onister, Eileen Brandt

Guests Present: Tiffany Cowen, Dena Jayson, Lisa-Marie Bailey, Jen Nardini, Rodica Babut, Catherine Griffin, Janice Davis, Eugenia Thompson, Fatmeh El-Ali, Cryerra Byse, Mandee Ordaz, Vensus Harris, Shawn Grant, Kelly Michael, Lisa Horvatich, Erin Rouse, Nicole Vaughn, Jenice Knight, Jackie Grant, Kristina Decaminada, Capri Martinez, Jim Michalik

RESA Representatives: Vita Lusk, Dr. Jennifer Taiariol, Theresa Franklin

Dates to Remember

<i>March, 2024</i>	<i>No Meeting this month!</i>
<i>April 11, 2024</i>	<i>Virtual Meeting</i>
<i>April 18, 2024</i>	<i>Virtual Special Recognition</i>

I. Approval of Agenda

A copy of the meeting agenda was emailed and posted to the website for members in advance and made available at the meeting. A motion was made by Victoria Martinez and seconded by Samara

Wolf to accept the agenda. Motion was supported by a majority of members present. No objections were made.

Objections: _____

II. Approval of Minutes

A copy of the meeting minutes from the last meeting was emailed and posted to the website for members in advance. A motion was made by Jouhaina Bazzi and seconded by Samara Wolf to accept the minutes as noted. Motion supported by majority present. No objections were made.

Objections: _____

III. Presentation

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)
Eugenia Thompson & Fatmeh El-Ali
www.Michigan.gov/MRS

Michigan Alliance for Families
Capri Martinez, Parent Mentor
<https://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org>

Click on the link below to view the presentations and handouts from both presentations.
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19EJh9Mg2SlwtVnqtgsGEKdd9WhIU8q3o?usp=share_link

IV. Chairperson Report

REMINDER – there is NO March meeting.
Northville Parent Camp – Big thank you to Phil from Trenton for volunteering and hosting our table at the event. Another big thank you to you Maria and Clare from Northville for being willing to host both their local PAC table and the WCPAC table. Maria thank you for taking care of all the materials and another big thank you to Vita for making sure the printed materials were in Northville for the event. I'd also like to thank Lisa-Marie from Westland and Krystina from Legacy for offering to host if no one else was available. Our PAC is only as strong as our members, thank you for being so awesome!

We have an immediate opening for the secretary position on the Executive Board. If you are interested in this position, please contact Kara or Victoria. We will also be making calls to inquire about who might be interested in this position.

V. Chair-Elect Report

If you have not received the link for the Google Drive, or if any of your contact information has changed, please contact Victoria Martinez.

VI. Secretary Report

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

VII. Treasurer Report

The account balance is \$1808.41.

VIII. **Subcommittee Reports**

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

Special Recognition – the nomination period has closed (except for the new members who received an email from Kara). Thank you to everyone who has made a nomination. Everyone is welcome to join the celebration on April 18th at 6:30 pm on Zoom. Link will be sent soon!

IX. **RESA Reports**

Vita Lusk:

We have previously discussed that all ISDs in the state are required to provide the MDE with the ISD Plan which outlines the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services. There are a number of steps involved in this process in order to ensure all district special education directors, superintendents, and PSA CEOs have the opportunity to provide input. WRESA completed all required steps with the constituent districts and our Plan was approved by MDE in September of 2023. Due to a few PSA changes, WRESA resubmitted the Plan to MDE, and the updated Plan was approved on February 5th. We are working on ADA Compliance and should have the updated Plan on our website within the next few days.

During the 22-23 school year WRESA created partnerships with Wayne State and EMU to attract, prepare, and retain special education staff in Wayne County. Paraprofessionals in Wayne County had the opportunity to apply to WSU for an endorsement in CI, or EMU for an endorsement in CI or ASD. Books are provided each semester and Wayne RESA pays for tuition and fees associated with program requirements. We held an informational meeting yesterday for interested paraprofessionals to join a new WSU ASD cohort which will begin in the fall of 2024. We will be accepting 25 paraprofessionals who meet the criteria for consideration. We are very excited about this partnership and the success of the program after our first year. For more information, please contact Amber Wade at wadea@resa.net.

Our Special Education and Early Intervention Services department continues to grow.

Dr. Kelly Anderson is a new Wayne RESA consultant. She comes with a depth of knowledge and experience, and we feel very fortunate to have Dr. Anderson join our team. Dr. Anderson will work primarily with GSRP. However, she will be working with Lisa Perugi, our Early On Consultant one day each week supporting our state systemic improvement plan on social-emotional development. We're excited for this additional partnership with our GSRP colleagues.

We have also interviewed for the Essential Elements Consultant and have selected a candidate. We hope to announce the candidate next month.

X. **Member Reports**

Victoria Martinez – during a meeting, county websites were discussed, and it was mentioned that Wayne RESA is doing a great job! Kudos to RESA for a job well done.

XI. **Public Comments**

Damian's Village of Hope – this organization provides resources, connects families with community partners, assists with appointments and helps with after school care. You can find out more by visiting their website - <https://www.damiansvillageofhope.com>

XII. **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Samara Wolf and seconded by Sharene Nathan to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion passed by majority present. No objections were made.

The next WCPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. to be held virtually.