MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
Regular Meeting
November 18, 2024

President Bradford convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

Members Absent: Bonifield

Recognition of Educators and Support Staff of the Year 2024-2025

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopts resolutions for the 2024-2025 Educators and Support Staff of the Year.

Kelly Stark

WHEREAS, The Trustees of the Board of Education are desirous of recognizing and promoting excellence in education in this school district; and

WHEREAS, Kellie Stark, an art teacher at Coolidge Elementary, and a 14-year employee of Livonia Public Schools, has distinguished herself by being named Elementary Educator of the Year for 2024-2025 by a district-wide committee; and

WHEREAS, In achieving that recognition, it is evident that she is an exceptional educator, going far beyond the expected range of her duties to meet the needs of students, colleagues, parents, and others; and

WHEREAS, Kellie has shown a deep dedication to her students, her school, and the school district through her passion for educating her students in visual arts while building confidence and instilling kindness and perseverance in all that her students do inside and outside of the classroom.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Kellie Stark for being named Elementary Educator of the Year for 2024-2025 and for the dedication and loyal service she has rendered to Livonia Public Schools, her students, and the community.

Gary Mann

WHEREAS, The Trustees of the Board of Education are desirous of recognizing and promoting excellence in education in this school district; and

WHEREAS, Gary Mann, a teacher in the Criminal Justice program at the Livonia Career Technical Center, and a six-year employee of Livonia Public Schools, has distinguished himself by being named Secondary Educator of the Year for 2024-2025 by a district-wide committee; and

WHEREAS, In achieving that recognition, it is evident that he is an exceptional educator, going far beyond the expected range of his duties to meet the needs of students, colleagues, parents, and others; and

WHEREAS, Gary has shown a deep dedication to his students by providing professional instruction in the field of law enforcement, while building relationships with his students, supporting and guiding them each step of the way, in their pursuit of their future careers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Gary Mann for being named Secondary Educator of the Year for 2024-2025 and for the dedication and loyal service he has rendered to Livonia Public Schools, his students, and the community.

Daniel Alessandrini

WHEREAS, The Trustees of the Board of Education are desirous of recognizing and promoting excellence in education in this school district; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Alessandrini, a school bus driver, and a five-year employee of Livonia Public Schools, has distinguished himself by being named Support Staff Person of the Year for 2024-2025 by a district-wide committee; and

WHEREAS, In achieving that recognition, it is evident that he is a skilled, reliable and compassionate staff member, going far beyond the expected range of his duties to meet the needs of students, colleagues, parents, and others; and

WHEREAS, Dan has shown a deep dedication to students and families of Livonia Public Schools by consistently being a positive role model and friendly adult presence in the daily lives of the many students who ride his bus routes each day to and from school.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Daniel Alessandrini for being named Support Staff Person of the Year for 2024-2025 and for the dedication and loyal service he has rendered to Livonia Public Schools, students in his care, and the community.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Recognition of American Education Week

It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District designate November 18-22, 2024 as the 103rd annual observance of American Education Week.

American Education Week
November 18-22, 2024
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility, and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, public education employees work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, schools unite entire communities, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District do hereby proclaim November 18 – 22, 2024 as the 103rd annual observance of

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

And urge all citizens to make a commitment to public education and to the future of our children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education take this special occasion to thank Livonia Public Schools employees, parents,

and community volunteers for the work they do to educate and support the children of our school district.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

District Update from the Superintendent

Superintendent Oquist elected to yield the time allotted for the monthly District Update in favor of providing more time for audience communication. The District Update was tabled until the December 9, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting. Highlights of the District Update will also be included in next edition of The LPS Link.

Written Communications

None

Response to Prior Audience Communications

None

Audience Communications

President Bradford read a prepared statement dispelling widespread, false rumors surrounding the cause for termination of a former employee. Extensive audience participation occurred. Eight speakers approached the Board in support of the former LPS employee, including the former employee themselves. One additional speaker approached the Board in opposition of the former employee. The Board recessed during audience communication due to audience escalation and disruption. The recess lasted for approximately twenty minutes before resuming audience communication.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following consent agenda item, as recommended by the Superintendent:

*Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 18, 2024

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Approval of 2025 Bond Renovation Bid Packet

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation of its Owner’s Representative, Plante Moran Realpoint and it’s Construction Manager, Clark Construction Company, to

approve contractors identified in the Board Packet and construction project budgets for Phase 4, Bid Package #1 for 2025 renovations at Buchanan, Grant, Johnson and Churchill in the amount of $14,958,428.00 which includes hard construction costs, fees and contingency.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Approval of 2025 Roofing Bid Packet

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation of the Owner's Representative, Plante Moran Realpoint, to award contracts for roofing replacement at Central Office Administration Building to MTD Construction, Brighton MI in the amount of $298,165, the Warehouse Building to Lutz Roofing, Shelby Township MI in the amount of $348,000 and Webster & Churchill to Royal Roofing, Lake Orion MI in the amount of $3,470,100 plus 6% contingency on the total project in the amount of $246,976 for a total approved roofing project amount of $4,363,241.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Approval of Purchase of HS Field House Equipment

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Acosta that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase and installation of 6 portable basketball hoops and removal & replacement of one ceiling hung volleyball system with side lifting multi-sport practice/batting cage at Churchill. Franklin and Stevenson High Schools from Bareman & Associates Inc, in Jenison, MI for a total project cost of $343,000 which includes contingency.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Teachers for Approval

It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and offer employment for the 2024-2025 school year to the following teachers:

Anne Doute (1.0)	**Student Services Early Childhood ASD Coach**
Kelsey Smit (1.0)	**Academic Services Elementary EL Teacher**
Vesna Tanceva (1.0)	**Academic Services Secondary EL Teacher**

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Teacher for Tenure

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Burton hat the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and acknowledge that tenure status has been granted to:

Name	Date Effective
Ashlee Docking	November 1, 2024.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Leaves of Absence

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the requests for a leave of absence as listed below:

Name	Date Effective
Mary Baharozian	November 15, 2024
Tara Forrester	November 15, 2024
Ashley Straub	November 25, 2024

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Resignations

The Board was informed of the following resignations:

Name	Date Effective
Sara Albano	November 8, 2024
Emma Chapman	October 24, 2024
Kristina Collyer	December 20, 2024
Sara McCoy	November 12, 2024

Retirements

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution of appreciation for:

Kimberly Cucci

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Kimberly Cucci will retire from the district on December 6, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, Kimberly Cucci has devoted 18.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding

service to the Livonia Public Schools as a paraprofessional at Cass Elementary and Randolph Elementary; and,

WHEREAS, She has given conscientious, careful, and loyal service to the students, staff, and community during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby express its deep appreciation to Kimberly Cucci for her countless contributions to our school system and extends best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding retirement.

Lynn Doully

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Lynn Doully will retire from the district on December 31,2024; and,

WHEREAS, Lynn Doully has devoted 27.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a paraprofessional at Perrinville Early Childhood Center and Roosevelt Elementary; and,

WHEREAS, She has given conscientious, careful, and loyal service to the students, staff, and community during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby express its deep appreciation to Lynn Doully for her countless contributions to our school system and extends best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding retirement.

Gayle Fedoronko

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Gayle Fedoronko will retire from the district on December 22, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, Gayle Fedoronko has devoted 27.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a paraprofessional at Cleveland Elementary and as an Assistant Administrator in the Early Childhood Program at the Livonia Early Childhood Center; and,

WHEREAS, She has given conscientious, careful, and loyal service to the students, staff, and community during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby express its deep appreciation to Gayle Fedoronko for her countless contributions to our school system and extends best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding retirement.

Beverley Jaasko

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Beverley Jaasko will retire from the district on January 15, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, Beverley Jaasko has devoted 29.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a paraprofessional at the Western Wayne Skill Center; and,

WHEREAS, She has given conscientious, careful, and loyal service to the students, staff, and community during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby express its deep appreciation to Beverley Jaasko for her countless contributions to our school system and extends best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding retirement.

David Potes

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that David Potes will retire from the district on January 6, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, David Potes has devoted 11 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a driver in the Transportation Department and as

a custodian at Churchill High School; and,

WHEREAS, He has given conscientious, careful, and loyal service to the students, staff, and community during his tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby express its deep appreciation to David Potes for his countless contributions to our school system and extends best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding retirement.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy IKF – School Stores

I was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language for Board Policy IKF – School Stores:

BOARD POLICY **IKF**
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM **NOVEMBER 18, 2024**
SCHOOL STORES

The superintendent or designee shall be authorized to establish school stores for the purpose of the sale of school supplies, school and/or district spirit wear and merchandise, and food and beverage. Items for sale by the school store must be in compliance with district policy and state and federal law and approved by the Director of Secondary Programs and District Services or designee. Accounting procedures for the school stores will align with best practices as outlined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and as approved by the Chief Financial Officer. Sales reports will be provided monthly to the Chief Financial Officer or designee.

LEGAL REF.: Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy IF – Instructional Resources

I was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language for Board Policy IF – Instructional Resources:

BOARD POLICY **IF**
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM **NOVEMBER 18, 2024**
INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

The Livonia Public Schools School District shall provide materials, equipment, and other physical resources, a technology network and related resources, consultative assistance, and auxiliary supportive personnel to teachers and administrators within budget limitations where appropriate.

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LEG REF.: Title 17 of the United States Code
CROSS REF.: IFA – District Technology Network and Related Resources
IFC – Instructional Materials and Equipment Selection

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

First Reading Board Policy IFE – Field Trips

The Policy Committee has reviewed the following changes:

BOARD POLICY **IFE**
INSTRUCTIONALPROGRAM **~~JANUARY 12, 2015~~**
FIELD TRIPS **DECEMBER 16, 2024**

The Livonia Public Schools School District recognizes that field trips, when used for teaching and learning integral to the curriculum, are an educationally sound and important ingredient in the instructional program of the schools. Properly planned and executed field trips should:

A. Supplement and enrich classroom ~~procedures~~ curriculum by providing learning experiences in an environment outside the schools~~.~~ or the traditional classroom instruction (in-school field trip).

B. ~~Arouse~~ Inspire new interests among students.

C. Help students relate school experiences to the reality of the world outside of school.

D. Bring the resources of the community – natural, artistic, industrial, commercial, technological, governmental, recreational, educational – within the student's learning experience.

E. Afford students the opportunity to study real things and real processes in their actual environment.

All field trips must be approved by the building administrator and appropriate director. Those requiring an overnight stay or travel to another state or to Canada require prior approval by the appropriate director. Field trips to a foreign country, other than Canada, require prior approval by the Board of Education.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES **IFE**
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM **~~APRIL 11, 2016~~**
FIELD TRIPS **DECEMBER 16, 2024**

1. **Definition**—School field trips are excursions into the community under school sponsorship and supervision. The use of municipal parks adjoining the individual school properties, game trips by athletic teams carrying out their regular schedules, and work experience activities of cooperative training students shall not be considered field trips for purposes of these regulations.

2. **Criteria**—The community, both local and extended, should be viewed as a part of the learning laboratory of the school. As such, its resources should be utilized whenever feasible and whenever such utilization holds promise of more effective learning and obtainment of the objectives of the school. The need to gain the maximum benefit from the instructional hours available makes it necessary to restrict field trips during instructional hours to sites that support instruction. Teachers and principals should review proposed field trips and sites in light of the instructional benefit or gain.

   ~~At the elementary level, safety and service squad trips may occur during instructional hours and are exempted from the site restrictions.~~ Field trips can be scheduled in lieu of traditional party events (e.g., Halloween, Valentine's Day,) during instructional hours. End-of-the-year activities for elementary classes may be scheduled during instructional hours during the last week of school.

   To the best of our ability either through fundraising or financial assistance we will ensure that all students, regardless of their socio-economic status, have the opportunity to participate in field trips.

3. **Mode of Transportation** - Students in grades kindergarten through fourth must travel by BUS for field trips; these students are not permitted to travel in any other vehicle.

4. **Local Field Trips**—Trips within the Livonia School District and its immediately adjoining communities shall be considered as "local" field trips. Local field trips which are directly related to instruction, are completed in one day, and do not involve district bus transportation may be approved by the principal for fifth through twelfth grade students. Students in grades kindergarten through fourth will only be permitted to participate in a local field trip if they are walking to the field trip site~~.; as that age group of students is only permitted to travel via bus.~~

5. **Regular Field Trips**—Trips involving transportation, either parent or school bus, are considered regular field trips. Trips requiring school bus transportation need to be scheduled during the hours specified by the transportation department ~~(currently 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.).~~ ~~Two trips per day can be scheduled district-wide beyond the specified times, and the transportation department should be contacted and the times reserved prior to initiating the field trip request form~~. An Online Application for Field Trip must be submitted at least ten days prior to the date of a regular field trip. All regular field trips require approval of the building administrator.

6. **Longer Field Trips**—Longer trips within Michigan and those requiring overnight arrangements must be approved by the appropriate director. An Application for Field Trip must be submitted at least ten days prior to the date of the trip. The request should be made on a form available from the director's office. These trips are limited to a 60-mile radius on school days, but buses are available after school and on weekends and non-school days for longer trips.

7. **Extended Field Trips**—Field experiences in another state must have the prior approval of the appropriate director. Field experiences in a foreign country, other than Canada, must have prior approval by the Board of Education. Preliminary plans must be submitted in writing to the appropriate director at least four months in advance.

8. **Parental Permission**—A permission slip signed by the student's parent or guardian **must be filed** with the school to permit any pupil to take a field trip. Permission must be obtained for **each** trip and not as "blanket" coverage for the year. A single permission slip may be completed which covers multiple events for Marching Band, Robotics, Forensics, Debate, or Quizbowl provided that the details (date, time, location, mode of transportation, etc) are listed for each event. The single permission slip must also be on file with the school prior to the first event.

9. **Field Trip Funds**—These funds may only be used for transportation expenses, and this can include commercial carriers when school buses are not available.

10. Supervision/Chaperones
    - Teachers must ensure that students are adequately supervised and chaperoned by a responsible adult at all times during field trips. All chaperones must be at least age 21. A chaperone is prohibited from drinking alcoholic beverages or using non-prescribed controlled substances at any time during the field trip. A chaperone must adhere to all District and building volunteer requirements
    - The District may deny or terminate a chaperone assignment for any reason that is not unlawful. An iChat background check will be completed for each chaperone attending a field trip.
    - The District will not prohibit an eligible student from participating in a field trip solely because the student's parent/guardian does not chaperone.

11. Student Conduct on Field Trips
    - A student's failure to comply with Board Policy, the student code of conduct, and any other applicable rules or behavioral expectations while on a field trip may result in disciplinary action and removal or exclusion from the trip.

NOTES

- *Remove Exhibit*
- *Communication update Field Trip permission slip*

Hearing from Board Members	None
Adjournment	President Bradford adjourned the meeting at 9:10pm.