



**Minutes of the
Special Board Of Education Meeting of
April 8, 2025**

I. Special Board Meeting Called to Order - A Special Meeting of the Oakland Schools Board of Education was called to order by Board President Marc Katz at 6:00 pm on April 8, 2025, at Oakland Schools located at 2111 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford, Michigan.

II. Roll Call – Board Secretary Carol Finkelstein called the roll.

Present: Board Members Marc Katz, Carol Finkelstein, Connie Williams, George Ehlert, Steven Gottlieb

Superintendent Ken Gutman was also present.

III. Statement of Purpose of the Meeting – Board President Katz announced that Oakland Community College (OCC) notified Oakland Schools of a vacancy on its Board of Trustees, effective February 3, 2025. He shared that the OCC Trustee who resigned was serving a six-year term, which ends on December 31, 2026. He stated that, according to MCL 168.311, the Oakland Schools Board of Education is responsible for filling the vacancy if the OCC Board of Trustees does not fill the vacancy by appointment within 30 days.

The Board President also stated that at a meeting held on April 1, 2025, the Oakland Schools Board of Education scheduled a special meeting to be held on April 8, 2025, to interview six applicants.

IV. Action Item

- a) Approval to Add An Additional Applicant Interview - It was moved by Board Trustee Ehlert, with the support of Board Secretary Finkelstein, to interview Mary Ston as a candidate for the vacancy on the OCC Board of Trustees. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

Katz – yes Williams – yes Finkelstein – yes Ehlert – yes Gottlieb – yes

Motion carried 5/0

- V. Applicant Interviews** – The Board President mentioned that an invitation to interview was extended to six candidates, but only four candidates responded. He stated that candidate Mary Ston would be interviewed in accordance with the Board's approval.

Board President Katz stated that each candidate will have the opportunity to make a one-minute opening statement and a one-minute closing statement. He also stated that each of the five Oakland Schools Board Trustees would pose a question to each candidate and 90 seconds would be allotted for a response to each question..

The following individuals were interviewed by the Oakland Schools Board of Education to fill the vacancy on the OCC Board of Trustees:

- Dwayne Brown
- MiVida Burrus
- Adam Duberstein
- John McCulloch
- Mary Ston

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VI. Visitor Comments - The following individuals made comments regarding the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees vacancy:

- Peter Provenzano
- Jolene Chapman
- Pam Jackson
- Eunice Jeffries
- Steve Simpson
- Kathleen Bertolini
- Bianca Bryant

Board President Katz recessed the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:37 p.m. by the Board President.

VII. Discussion by Oakland Schools Board of Education – The Board Trustees deliberated on the candidates' responses and thanked those who participated.

VIII. Motion to Fill Vacancy Via Appointment – It was moved by Board Trustee Ehlert, with the support of Board Secretary Finkelstein, to appoint MiVida Burrus to the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

Katz-yes Williams-yes Finkelstein-yes Ehlert-yes Gottlieb – yes

Motion carried 5/0

IX. Adjournment – Board President Katz adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Approved on April 15, 2025



Carol Finkelstein, Board Secretary