



**Minutes of the
Regular Board Of Education Meeting of
April 1, 2025**

- I. Regular Board Meeting Called to Order** - A Regular Meeting of the Oakland Schools Board of Education was called to order by Board President Marc Katz at 6:30 pm on April 1, 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, Deputy Superintendent Chris Delgado, and Assistant Superintendents Dandridge Floyd and Teri Les were present.
- III. Public Comments** – The following individuals made comments regarding the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees vacancy:
 - Joe Petrosky
 - Liz Schnell
 - Steve Simpson
 - Christina Ayar
 - David Ceci
 - Kathleen Bertolini
- IV. Information from the Superintendent and Administration**
 - A. Superintendent's Report** – Reports on Heritage and World Languages and School Safety were presented.
 - B. Legislative Update** – A written legislative update was provided.

In accordance with state and federal law, Oakland Schools does not discriminate, nor permit discrimination, on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, pregnancy or parental status, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, military service, veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, in its educational programs and activities, employment, or enrollment. The District also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For questions or complaints regarding unlawful discrimination or harassment, employees should contact the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Personnel Management and Labor Relations at (248) 209-2429 or HR@oakland.k12.mi.us. Students and others should contact the Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator at (248) 209-2590 or Jacqueline.Zablocki@oakland.k12.mi.us.

The Board President recessed the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

At 7:50 p.m., the meeting was reconvened by the Board President.

V. Regular Working Agenda

A. Board of Education

1. Reports – None
2. Discussion - None
3. Action:
 - a) Oakland Community College Board of Trustees Vacancy – Board President Katz mentioned that Oakland Community College (OCC) notified Oakland Schools of a vacancy on the OCC Board of Trustees. He stated that according to MCL 168.311, the Oakland Schools Board of Education is responsible for filling the vacancy if the vacancy is not filled by OCC within the designated timeline.

Board President Katz requested input from each Trustee for their recommendations of candidates to interview for the vacancy. Discussion ensued among the Board and the six highest ranked recommendations were announced by the Board President.

It was moved by Board Trustee Ehlert, with the support of Board Secretary Finkelstein, to invite the following six candidates to interview for the OCC Board of Trustees vacancy:

- Dwayne Brown
- MiVida Burrus
- Adam Duberstein
- John McCulloch
- Aaron Martinez
- Jason Paulateer

The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

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It was moved by Board Treasurer Gottlieb, with the support of Board Trustee Ehlert, to interview the selected six candidates for the OCC Board of Trustees vacancy on Tuesday, April 8, at 6:00 p.m. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

- b) Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 18, 2025 – It was moved by Board Secretary Finkelstein, with the support of Board Treasurer Gottlieb, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 18, 2025, as presented by the Administration. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

- c) Approval of Pre-Travel Requests of the Regular Board Meeting of April 1, 2025 – It was moved by Board Vice President Williams, with the support of Board Treasurer Gottlieb, to approve the pre-travel requests of April 1, 2025, as presented by the Administration. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

B. Educational Services

1. Reports – A Special Populations report was presented.
2. Discussion – None

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3. Action:

- a) Acceptance of Donations: Student Services – It was moved by Board Treasurer Gottlieb, with the support of Board Vice President Williams, to accept the donation requests submitted by Student Services on April 1, 2025, as presented by the Administration. The item(s) donated include a monetary donation in the amount of \$2,500, a vacuum sealer machine with a value of \$1029.00, and packaging pouches for the sealer machine with a value of \$ 62.49.

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

Motion carried 5/0

- b) Approval of Overnight Field Trip Requests: Student Services - Oakland Schools Technical Campuses – It was moved by Board Trustee Ehlert, with the support of Board Secretary Finkelstein, to approve the Overnight Field Trip Requests from Student Services on April 1, 2025, as presented by the Administration. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

C. Human Resources

1. Reports - None
2. Discussion - None
3. Action:

- a) Approval of Personnel List of April 1, 2025 – It was moved by Board Secretary Finkelstein, with the support of Board Vice President Williams, to approve the personnel report of April 1, 2025, as presented by the Administration. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

D. Finance, Operations & Shared Services

1. Reports - None
2. Discussion: The proposed draft budgets for Fiscal year 2026 were presented for a First Reading and discussed.
3. Action:
 - a) Approval of Contract Award (RFP award): Plante & Moran, PLLC – It was moved by Board Secretary Finkelstein, with the support of Board Treasurer Gottlieb, to authorize the Administration to execute a contract award in an amount not to exceed \$235,610 to Plante & Moran, PLLC for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028, as presented by the Administration. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

- b) Approval of Contract Award: Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. (SME) – It was moved by Board Secretary Finkelstein, with the support of Board Vice President Williams, to authorize the Administration to execute a contract award in an amount not to exceed \$152,000 to Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. (SME) for the period June 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, as presented by the Administration. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

- c) Approval to Rescind Contract Award (bid award): Praise Sign Co. – It was moved by Board Trustee Ehlert, with the support of Board Treasurer Gottlieb, to rescind its recommendation to award a contract to Praise Sign Company in an amount not to exceed \$84,286 and authorize administration to terminate the existing contracts dated November 27, 2024. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

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- d) Approval of Contract Award (bid award): Gardner Signs – It was moved by Board Treasurer Gottlieb, with the support of Board Vice President Williams, to authorize the Administration to execute a contract in an amount not to exceed \$108,894.63 to Gardner Signs, as presented. The Board Secretary called the roll for the vote.

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

Motion carried 5/0

E. Technology Services

1. Report – None
2. Discussion – None
3. Action – None

VI. Board Member Comments/Announcements

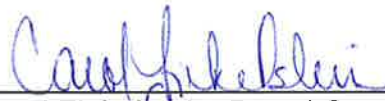
Board Trustee Ehlert mentioned that he plans to attend the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau Annual Dinner Meeting on May 9, 2025.

Board President Katz reminded everyone that the Oakland County School Board Association dinner meeting and campus tours will be held on April 2, 2025. He mentioned that a photo session for Board Trustees will take place at 5:30 pm on April 15, 2025. He also mentioned that Superintendent Ken Gutman will be presenting to the Oakland County League of Women Voters event on April 14, along with Lisa Hansknecht.

VII. Additional Items – There were no additional items.

VIII. Adjournment – Board President Katz adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Approved on April 15, 2025



Carol Finkelstein, Board Secretary