

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMBINED BOARD MEETINGS (COMMITTEE & REGULAR)  
Yale Junior High Central Office Board Room  
Thursday May 8, 2025– 7:00 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Bullard called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

President Bullard lead the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a Moment of Silence.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Bullard, Hurlburt, French, Butler, McClelland, Johnson, Brancaccio

Members Absent: None

Also Participating: Superintendent Kurt Sutton

Business Services Director Beky Silkworth

Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe

Yale Expositor Reporter Sherrie Kleitch, RESA Superintendent Brenda Tenniswood,

Joann Faille, Tara Jordan, Brenda Krzak, Youth for Understanding Representative Christi

Hubbard, several foreign exchange students and Humberto Telleria from Chili.

**4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by French to adopt the agenda as amended.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – April 1, 2025

2. Regular Meeting Minutes – April 3, 2025

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Johnson to adopt the consent agenda as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

Superintendent Sutton read/shared the following correspondence.

- The “cell phone bill” is working its way through the Michigan legislature. As the law is enacted the district's policies and procedures may need to be updated.

**7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A. Special Guests

- St. Clair County RESA Budget Report – RESA Superintendent Brenda Tenniswood
  - Superintendent Tenniswood distributed a RESA Services and Impact Snapshot and reviewed the three major “funds” and highlighted their current and future programs.
- Foreign Exchange Students - YFU Representative Christi Hubbard
  - The students introduced themselves and identified their home country and spoke about life in Yale.

Break: 7:12

Back in Session: 7:17 PM

B. Agenda Items – None

C. Non-Agenda Items – None

## 8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Sutton reviewed the Superintendent's report (attached) which contained the following items:

- We are extremely grateful for the support of the community with the renewal of the sinking fund on Tuesday, May 6.
- Yale Junior High students in Ms. Morgan's class have taken a break from coding in their computer science classes to begin drone programming and flying over the last few weeks.
- L & L Products will be visiting our elementary schools on May 19 to see how each of the schools are implementing the new STEM grants they received totaling \$15,000 this school year. Our elementary schools have purchased Makedo kits, podcasting equipment, and 3D printers.
- The Yale Education Foundation will be asking for support of the community through financial donations on Wednesday, May 14. During this 24-hour fundraising event, the goal is to raise more funds that can be used to support a grant cycle in the fall of 2025 for district staff. Grant proposals will be reviewed by the Yale Education Foundation committee
- On May 8 Superintendent Sutton was able to attend the skilled trade expo in Goodells. Students from across the Blue Water Area had the opportunity to explore various careers in the skilled trades expo during this hands-on event.
- The district's annual Board of Education Academic Dinner was a huge success and a special thanks goes out to Mrs. Faille, Chartwell staff, parents and businesses that donate to support this event, students, parents, secretaries, and administrators for making this a great showcase for our Bulldogs.
- Yale Junior High and Yale High School students did an outstanding job with Into the Woods Jr. which was presented last weekend by our Drama Club. The Yale High School choir and band completed that busy weekend by performing their spring concert to a large audience in the cafetorium. We have incredibly talented students and we received many compliments from those in attendance on how our students performed.

## 9. **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT** – Logan Winters

Student representative Logan Winters presented his report which contained the following:

- Alfred Schwehofer was introduced as the 2025-2026 Student Representative.
- Prom was held on April 26.
- The Yale High School Science Club and Mrs. Setera's class recently took a trip to the Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills.
- Seniors Decision Day.
- The Geometry in Construction class finished building deer blinds which are for sale.
- Kerrigan McEvoy's art was selected for display next year in the 31<sup>st</sup> Circuit Court.
- Mia Stade was appointed to the Board of Delegates.
- Keira Taube, Kerrigan McEvoy, William Quain, Jack Nicol, Danica McGranahan, Lauren Fowler and Logan Winters earned Blue Water Area Conference All-Academic honors.
- The Yale High School Theater Class recently presented the play, That's Not How I Remember It.
- Yale High School and Yale Junior High students combined to present a play called Into the Woods Jr.
- Mr. Barr's class completed building and assembling fishing rods and hopes to try them out soon.
- The FBI was invited to speak with high school students on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Blood Drive was held recently.
- The band and choir presented their final concert of the season.

After Logan's report, Superintendent Sutton presented him with a plaque in recognition for his service this past year on the Board of Education.

## 10. **REPORTS**

### A. Buildings and Grounds

Superintendent Sutton read the Buildings and Grounds report which contained the following:

- We recently received permission from EGLE to discharge from the Farrell Elementary lagoon. Avoca's lagoon was approved and discharged in April.
- Brenner Electric finished the light pole repair in the student parking lot at the high school. We feel that there was damage from the frost heaving the existing conduit.
- ABC Home & Commercial Services was contracted to manage areas of concern with the wasps throughout the district.
- The junior high parking lot project is scheduled to begin after the first of July and last about three weeks. Gardner contracting was able to repair the sinkhole in the student parking lot. During the summer, new concrete will still need to be poured around the catch basin.

B. Finance

Beky Silkworth shared her report which contained the following:

- Reviewed and recommended approving SCCRESA budgets as presented.
- Recommended budget hearing to be scheduled for Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 PM.
- Reviewed and recommended approval of the Food Service Contract Renewal.
- Distributed and reviewed the Trends Expenditure report for the third quarter.

C. Instruction and Personnel

Superintendent Sutton reviewed the Instruction and Personnel report.

1. Hiring

- A. Anthony Buss, Yale Elementary Custodian
- B. Jessica Beatty, Avoca CC-Opener/GSRP Aide
- C. Nicole Tucker, Avoca CC-Closer/GSRP Aide
- D. Christine LaMay, Yale High School Instructional/Non-Instructional Aide

2. Resignation

- A. Ashley Bauer, Yale High School BMA Teacher
- B. Kathryn Gordon, Yale High School Special Education Teacher
- C. Janet Kammer, High School Custodian
- D. Terry Kammer, High School Custodian

3. Probationary Teachers Recommended for Tenure

- A. Nicole Johnson, Avoca Elementary
- B. Rachel King, Yale Junior High School
- C. Julia Pung, Avoca, Farrell Emmett & Yale Elementaries

B. Recommendations to the Substitute List.

Curriculum/Instruction

- State testing is almost completed.
- May 16 will be a half-day professional development day.
- Improvement and Innovation team will meet on May 12.
- Plans have begun for our summer school activities.

D. Transportation

- Jolene Roffe will present her report at the June 10 Board meeting.

E. Technology

- Mr. Harmer's next report to the board will be in the fall.

F. Other: None

**11. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**

A. 2025-2026 RESA Proposed Budget Resolution

- Discussed in Mrs. Silkworth's report.

B. Food Service Management Contract Renewal

- Discussed in Mrs. Silkworth's report.

C. Set Budget Hearing Date and Time

- Mrs. Silkworth recommended June 12, 2025 at 6:30 PM for the Budget Hearing.

D. Board Organizational Date

- The Board Organizational meeting date will be set at the June 10, 2025 Committee of the Whole Board meeting.

E. Board Governance Committee

- Mrs. French stated that the committee had not recently met.

F. Board Buildings & Grounds Committee

- Mrs. Butler announced that the walkthrough with Site LogiQ will be Tuesday, May 13.

G. SCCASB Representative

- Mr. Hurlburt announced that the committee had selected winners for the district/BOE scholarships and Yale High School student Autumn Allen was a \$1000 Scholarship Award Winner.

H. MASB Legislative Liaison

- Mr. Johnson had nothing new to report at this time.

I. Other Items: None

**12. OLD BUSINESS - None**

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Approval of Financial Reports**

Approval of Treasurer's Report and monthly bills in the amount of \$1,089, 814.76.

Motion by French seconded by Hurlburt to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurers Report and approve monthly bills in the amount of \$1,089, 814.76.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes  
Ayes: 7                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

B. **Approval of Personnel Report**

1. Hiring

- A. Anthony Buss, Yale Elementary Custodian
- B. Jessica Beatty, Avoca CC-Opener/GSRP Aide
- C. Nicole Tucker, Avoca CC-Closer/GSRP Aide
- D. Christine LaMay, Yale High School Instructional/Non-Instructional Aide

2. Resignation

- A. Ashley Bauer, Yale High School BMA Teacher
- B. Kathryn Gordon, Yale High School Special Education Teacher
- C. Janet Kammer, High School Custodian
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3. Probationary Teachers Recommended for Tenure

- A. Nicole Johnson, Avoca Elementary
- B. Rachel King, Yale Junior High School
- C. Julia Pung, Avoca, Farrell-Emmett & Yale Elementary

4. Recommendations to the Substitute List

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Butler to approve the Personnel Report as amended.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Abstain, Brancaccio- Yes  
Ayes: 6                      Nays: 0                      Abstain: 1                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

C. **2025-2026 RESA Proposed Budget Resolution**

Motion by Bullard seconded by Hurlburt to approve the Resolution in support of the 2025-2026 proposed RESA Budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes  
Ayes: 7                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

*The Board will hold a Special Board meeting on May 18, 2025 at 1:30 PM in the Yale City Park for the RESA Resolution Biennial Election.*

D. **Food Service Management Contract Renewal**

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Butler to award the food service management contract renewal with Chartwells Food Service for the 2025-2026 school year as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes  
Ayes: 7                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

E. **Budget Hearing Date (June 12, 2025 – 6:30 PM)**

Motion by French seconded by Butler to set the 2025-2026 Budget Hearing on June 12, 2025 at 6:30 PM as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes  
Ayes: 7                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

F. **Board Organizational Date**

- The Board will set their Organizational Board Meeting date at the June 10 meeting.

14. **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS, ADMINISTRATION**

- President Bullard stated that there will be a Special Board meeting on Sunday, May 18 at 1:30 PM, prior to the graduation ceremony at Yale City Park, to officially appoint a representative (Michael Johnson) who will cast the vote at the biennial election of board members of the St. Clair County RESA Board of Education to be held on June 2, 2025.
- Board members thanked Logan Winters for serving as a student representative on the Board and welcomed Alfred Schwehofer as student representative for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Mr. Hurlburt, stated that he loves this time of year with all of the sports, theatre and music activities.
- Superintendent Sutton and Board members gave kudos to Joanne Faille and the Chartwells staff for their hard work in preparing the Board of Education dinner. In addition, Mr. Sutton thanked Nichole Green and Nancy Maplethorpe for all of their efforts to plan, organize and set up the certificates and awards for this event.
- RESA Superintendent Brenda Tenniswood stated that she was happy to attend the board meeting and was thrilled to see and hear all of the wonderful things happening in Yale Public Schools. Mr. Bullard then extended a personal invitation to Mrs. Tenniswood to attend next year's Academic Awards Banquet.
- Mr. Bullard echoed the same sentiments as Board members and added that the award dinner is funded through the generous donations given by our community. He added that even after the Board raised the bar a little higher for students to receive this award, our students stepped up and met those goals. Congratulations on a job well done.

15. **ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS**: 8:28 PM.

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Meghan Butler, Secretary  
Yale Board of Education