

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Yale Junior High Central Office Board Room
Tuesday, November 4, 2025 – 6:00 PM**

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Vice President Butler called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Butler, French, Hurlburt, Johnson, McClelland, Brancaccio (Arrived at 6:01PM)

Members Absent: Bullard

Also Present: Superintendent Kurt Sutton, Assistant Superintendent Bill Kryscynski
Business Services Director Beky Silkworth, Transportation Director Jolene Roffe
Buildings & Grounds Director Jared Shutko, Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe
Dru Runnals, Coleeta Vesper, JoAnne Faille, Yale Expositor Reporter Sherrie Kleitch

3. Adoption of the Agenda

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

4. Consent Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. Committee of the Whole meeting minutes – October 7, 2025

B. Regular Board meeting minutes – October 9, 2025

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 Motion Carried

5. Correspondence

- Superintendent Sutton reported that he has checked with several legal firms regarding MDE's 31aa grant criteria.

6. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Sutton reviewed the board the results of the bond survey (attached) and read his report which contained the following information:

- There was an additional question that was asked on the survey, but it is not tied to the bond proposal. This question asked what level of support there would be for moving football games from the city park to the practice football field on our campus. Response to the question indicates 64.6% are 'very supportive' and 16.1% are 'somewhat supportive' of moving the football field to campus and 15% are 'not supportive'.
- The District is moving forward with plans to move our present Yale Elementary Office to the current Children's Center room during the summer of 2026 so it is ready for the 2026-2027 school year and ensure that each building has a secure vestibule, which aligns with our priorities for increased safety and security.
- Our fall sports seasons have wrapped up after football and cross-country teams competed in the MHSAA tournaments over this past weekend. We are now moving into a very busy winter sports season.
- The Blue Water Athletic Conference (BWAC) is accepting applications for districts that are interested in applying. Algonac has received formal notification that they have been accepted into the Macomb Area Conference (MAC).

7. Public Participation

A. Special Guests: Jolene Roffe/Transportation Director presented the Transportation Report which contained the following:

- Staffing Update: Hired a licensed driver, Terry LaPlaunt, who drove for Peck Community Schools. She started shadowing on Monday and is going to be taking over Jr High 2/Avoca 1 route after her training is complete.
- Currently looking to hire another 6.5-hour route package driver.
- School Bus Inspection Report: (Attached Report) We had 17 Buses inspected and received 6 violations that have been corrected.
- Thank you to our Mechanic, Andy Runnals, for keeping our fleet in compliance with all the State Inspection regulations.
- Plans are to purchase a new bus this year and bids will be presented to Mr. Sutton and Mrs. Silkworth for further discussion. She thanked the Board for their continued support in ordering a new bus each year. She added that this maintains a modern fleet for traveling the 159 square miles each day in our district. She presented the Board bids and told them that prices have continued to increase with quotes fluctuating from \$154,000-\$159,000

B. Agenda Items: None

C. Non-Agenda Items:

- Audience member, Mrs. Dru Runnals, announced that Volleyball Districts begin this week.

8. Reports

A. Buildings and Grounds

Building & Grounds Director Jared Shutko presented/read the Buildings and Grounds report which contained the following:

- Received permission from EGLE to discharge from the Avoca Elementary lagoon. After all samples were sent to the lab for testing and approved. A total of 100,000 gallons of effluent was discharged over a two-day period.
- We've received our 50 ton of "early season order" road salt this past month. We'll still have another 50 ton on backup, if needed.
- Semco Energy recently replaced a bad relief valve at Yale Elementary.
- The new tile lines out at the softball fields were recently seeded.
- Boss Engineering continues to work on the design phase of the water filtration system for Avoca.

B. Finance

Director Silkworth presented/read her report which contained the following:

- The district received notice from Michigan's Department of Treasury additional information about the financial status of our district was requested (required). Mr. Sutton and Mrs. Silkworth responded to their questionnaire and explained the budget was created when substantially credible information was not available to estimate state revenue for Fiscal Year 26.
- The district will be increasing the employer contribution to health insurance costs beginning January 1, 2026. Overall the district's cost will have a small increase, but employee costs will again be significant as MESSA premium rates increased an average of over 10% effective with the January 1 renewal.
- The audited fall 2025 FTE count is not available as of yet.

C. Instruction and Personnel

Assistant Superintendent Kryscynski presented the Instruction and Personnel Report (attached) which contained the following:

1. Hiring

- A. Noelle Smith, Avoca Elementary Instructional/Non-Instructional Aide
- B. Megan Kacir – Special Education Aide (ECSE) at Avoca Elementary
- C. Cynthia Goodman, Avoca Elementary Children's Center Closer/GSRP Aide
- D. Terry LaPlaunt, Bus Driver

2. Resignation

3. Amy Sieb, Bus Driver

Curriculum/Instruction:

- The elementary schools had a great turnout for parent-teacher conferences. We saw an expansion of student-led conferences in our upper elementary grades this year, with students taking ownership of their learning and sharing with their parents.
 - We are wrapping up our first round of Grade and Department-level meetings. We continue to focus on updating the curriculum and planning to implement Meaning Making as part of our ALT LEARNING MODEL.
 - Second meeting on November 17 of 'I'm In (Improvement and Innovation Team)' where we will continue our discussion of Micro-Credentials, district goals, MLK PD day, planning and more.
- D. Other: None

9. Items for Board Discussion

A. Board Governance Committee

Nothing to report at this time.

B. Board Buildings & Grounds

- Bond Update

Mrs. Butler reviewed several building and property projects being considered over the next several years. A bond program was presented discussing timelines and possible use of funds for a no-mil and one-mil increase.

C. SCCASB Representative

- Mr. Hurlburt reported meeting last week and discussing scholarships. Four to five will again be offered this year to graduating seniors.

D. MASB Legislative Liaison

- Dr. Brancaccio reported several legislative actions that have happened over the past few weeks.

10. Comments from Board Members, Administration

- Superintendent Sutton reviewed the pros and cons of accepting Section 31aa grant funds. He has attended several presentations and received several legal opinions on the topic.

11. Adjournment by Consensus at 6:58 PM.

MARK HURLBURT, SECRETARY
YALE BOARD OF EDUCATION