

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 11, 2025

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

President Christenson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the boardroom.

Present: Members Ahmed, Christenson, Kehoe, Sidhu, Vos, and Westra
Absent: Member Picard

Administrators Dr. Monica Merritt, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Liz Vartanian-Gibbs, Assistant Superintendent of Student & Family Engagement
Kurt Tyszkiewicz, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Jill Minnick, Chief Finance and Operations Officer
Jen Curry, Chief Academic Officer
Abdul Madyun, Chief Human Resource Officer
Chrystelle Rasolonjatovo, Curriculum Coordinator-Science, STEM, and PE
Catherine Williams, Curriculum Coordinator-Visual & Performing Arts

Others Present: Diane Robertson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board
Josh Patterson, SVA Student Co-Chair

Josh Patterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Adoption of the Agenda/Approval of the Consent Agenda

Action Item #26-11-18: It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member Westra to Adopt the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda consisted of Leaves, Resignations, and Retirements, as well as the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 28, 2025, and the Special Meeting Minutes from October 30, 2025.

Ayes: Members Ahmed, Christenson, Kehoe, Sidhu, Vos, and Westra
Nays: None
The motion was carried 6-0

Leaves

Braumuller, Paige	Clinical Behavior Specialist Bentley Elementary School	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 10-31-25 through 2-12-26
Lange, Kristyn	Elementary Classroom Eriksson Elementary	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 10-20-25 through the 2026-27 school year
West, Sarah	Pre-K (GSRP) Dodson Elementary School	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 10-28-25 through 1-30-26

Resignations

Durocher, Patrick	P-CEP Master Scheduler Salem High School	Resignation Effective 11-14-25
Hopp-Lee, Taylor	Elementary Classroom Bentley Elementary School	Resignation Effective 11-14-25

Retirements

Terry, Rebecca	Teacher on Special Assignment Bentley Elementary School	Retirement Effective 11-30-25
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Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2025, and the Special Meeting Minutes of October 30, 2025, were approved as presented.

B. Celebrating Success

Member Kehoe presented the Mary Beth Carroll Extra Miler Award to Plymouth High School Teacher, Evin Green, who is being honored for his exceptional compassion, creativity, and commitment to student well-being. Students describe his classroom as one of the highlights of their high school experience. Beyond teaching, Evin leads the P-CEP Improv Club and actively participates in school events, creating meaningful student connections. Evin's dedication and positive impact make him a deserving recipient of this award.

C. Board Committee Reports/ActionPresident's Report – Lauren Christenson

President Christenson shared highlights from the October 30 Board Governance Workshop, facilitated by MASB, during which the Board and Superintendent Merritt focused on revising the Board Operating Principles. She noted that the Board will also work later in this meeting to develop action items aligned to its goals. In closing, she reminded the community that tickets are still available for the upcoming PCEF Uncorked fundraiser on Friday, November 14, which provides valuable grants and scholarships to educators. She thanked her Board colleagues and CORE team members for coming together as Gold Level Sponsors for the event.

Student Performance and Achievement Committee (SPA) – Judy Westra

Member Westra shared that the SPA Committee met on November 5, 2025, where members reviewed a new course proposal, a course revision, and the Fall Data presentation. These items are also included on tonight's agenda. The next SPA committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 5 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend.

Policy Advisory Committee (F&O) – Anupam Sidhu

Member Sidhu shared that the Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next Policy committee meeting is scheduled for November 25, at 5:30 p.m., in the boardroom, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Finance and Operations Committee - Patrick Kehoe

Member Kehoe shared that the F&O committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next F&O committee meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 5 p.m. in the boardroom, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Student Voice in Action Committee (SVA) - Lauren Christenson

SVA Co-Chair Josh Patterson shared that the SVA committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next SVA committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School, and everyone is welcome to attend.

D. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Merritt shared that Gallimore Elementary School was recently named the top elementary school in Michigan by *U.S. News & World Report* for the third consecutive year, recognizing its exceptional performance in math, reading, and language arts. She congratulated Principal Aimee Bell and the Gallimore staff for their continued dedication to student success.

She also highlighted the newest edition of the *P-CCS Press*, which was recently delivered to district homes and is also available to view on the district's website.

Superintendent Merritt also invited families to attend the upcoming Parent Council meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Educational Support Center. She noted that the event provides an opportunity for open communication between parents, students, and schools.

She thanked the community for attending the recent P-CEP Community Open House, which showcased the programs, learning experiences, and people that make the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park a special place for students.

In closing, Superintendent Merritt introduced the district's newest video feature, highlighting how P-CEP offers a personalized, supportive student experience on a large campus while providing unmatched opportunities.

E. Citizens' Comments

- Mary Martinez spoke about her Children's Book Series and Party Supply Company
- Rachel Hayes and Michelle Moustakas spoke in support of LGBTQ+ students
- Nancy Faerber and Joan Pence spoke on reproductive health guidelines
- Jason Mercado spoke about the accomplishments of the Salem Boys Cross Country Team
- Laurie Mayer and Heather Gatny spoke in support of LGBTQ+ students, anti-bullying training, and library curriculum materials
- Laura Bevier spoke about the Drama Kids Program
- Priti Kulkarni spoke on sustainability initiatives at P-CEP

F. Administrative Reports/Recommendations

Teaching and Learning – Jen Curry

2025-2026 P-CCS Fall Data Review (Goals A, B, and D) (Presentation)

Ms. Jen Curry, Chief Academic Officer, and Jonathan Flukes, Director of Data, Assessment, Research, and Evaluation, provided an overview of the district's 2025 fall data results. The presentation included an update on progress toward the district's Dynamic Plan's objectives and goals. The report included key findings related to student demographics, attendance, social-emotional well-being, and academic achievement. District attendance remains strong at 95%, with suspension levels consistent with last year, supported by restorative practices and an equity-based Multi-Tiered System of Support. Panorama survey data showed high participation and positive trends in engagement, social awareness, and supportive relationships, while growth mindset and emotion regulation continue to be areas of focus. Academic results show P-CCS students performing above state and national averages across multiple assessments, including M-STEP, PSAT/SAT, NWEA MAP, AP Exams, and DIBELS. Moving forward, the district will continue to emphasize early intervention, professional development, and data-driven instructional practices to ensure continued growth and success for all students.

Board members were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a New Course Proposal (Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics)
Jen Curry, Chief Academic Officer, provided an overview of this new course recommendation. AP Physics C: Mechanics is a calculus-based, college-level physics course designed for students who intend to pursue studies in the physical sciences or engineering fields. This course will be implemented beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and will be available to eligible students who have completed the required mathematics and science prerequisites. The total proposed cost of this course will be \$25,000, inclusive of textbooks and lab supplies, and would be paid from the Teaching and Learning Curriculum Account. (First Reading)
- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Course Revision (Peer-to-Peer)
Jen Curry, Chief Academic Officer, provided an overview of the recommended revision to introduce a one-semester Peer-to-Peer Music elective at the high school level. Peer-to-Peer courses have been offered at P-CEP since 2016, creating opportunities for students of diverse abilities to build relationships, collaborate, and learn from one another across a range of academic settings. Expanding the program to include a music-focused course would allow general education students to develop leadership skills while supporting students in the ASD and CI classrooms through shared musical experiences and curriculum-based activities. If approved, the course would be offered beginning in the second semester of the 2025–2026 school year. No additional costs are anticipated for implementing this course. (First Reading)

Board members were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Finance and Operations – Jill Minnick

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #26-11-19:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Ahmed to Approve a Resolution for an Agreement with Benchmark Transportation, LLC. This agreement will provide additional, flexible transportation services for students identified under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The agreement will expand the district's capacity to meet federal requirements by offering transportation for regular, after-school, and evening activities at a competitive rate of \$4.00 per mile. The cost of this service will

be paid with Title 1 and Section 31a funds, with 50% reimbursement from the district in which each student's temporary housing is located. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Ahmed, Christenson, Kehoe, Sidhu, Vos, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

G. Remaining Citizens' Comments

- None

H. Discussion

Board members reviewed and discussed ideas for developing action plans aligned with Objective #1 of their 2025–2026 goals. President Christenson will organize Board members into teams to continue this work. A spreadsheet will be created to track Board member attendance at community events. Superintendent Merritt also reminded Board members to complete their bios for inclusion on the district website.

I. Follow-up Board Questions

From the 2025-2026 Fall Data Review:

- The Board requested trend data on restorative practices and suspension rates compared to prior years.
- The Board requested data on the percentage of students enrolled in AP courses, the demographics of those students, and whether including comparable IB participation data would be beneficial.
- The Board requested information to help explain the downward trend in NWEA results for grades 2, 4, 5, and 6.
- The board inquired about how many students within the achievement gaps slides are represented in multiple categories.
- The Board inquired about the data's findings regarding predictors of future student success and whether a growth mindset is among those factors.
- The Board asked why restorative practices are not being utilized in every suspension case.
- The Board requested clarification on the district's use of PSAT 9 and 10 data and inquired whether, if the assessments are not being utilized, they could be offered on an optional basis
- The Board requested information to help explain the decline in 4th-grade M-STEP results.

J. Adjournment

President Christenson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Judy Westra
Secretary, Board of Education

*Approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on 11-25-25/dr