

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Yale Junior High Central Office Board Room
Tuesday, February 3, 2026 – 6:00 PM**

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Bullard, Butler, French, Hurlburt, Johnson, McClelland, Brancaccio (Arrived at 6:04 PM)

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Kurt Sutton

Assistant Superintendent Bill Kryscynski

Director of Business Services Beky Silkworth

Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe, Kathleen Hooper, Joanne Faille, Andy and Dru Runnals.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion by Butler 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 – January 6, 2026

B. Regular Board meeting minutes – January 8, 2026

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

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

Motion Carried

5. Correspondence

Superintendent Sutton read/shared the following:

- Mr. Sutton discussed a special book, Case Files Unsolved, that contains stories published from some of our high school students.
- Reminded the Board that St. Clair County TEC is hosting the open house for 10th Grade students and families on Thursday, February 19 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM at the school, located on the St. Clair County RESA campus on Range Road in Marysville. RSVP by this Friday, February 6 to Lesley Murphy.

6. Superintendent's Report

- Nine female students from YHS attended the MHSAA Women in Leadership Conference this past weekend, reflecting our ongoing commitment to developing student leadership and fostering statewide peer connections.
- Farrell-Emmett Elementary's PTO hosted a Science Exploration Night in partnership with St. Clair County 4-H. The event received strong positive feedback, with students engaged in hands-on activities throughout the evening. The PTO will also host a movie night on Friday, February 6.
- We are collaborating with engineers from Greenpath to complete boiler drawings and bid documents for Avoca and Farrell Emmett Elementary Schools, with the goal of replacing both boilers this summer. Upon completion, Yale High School will be the remaining building needing boiler replacement and HVAC updates, which we intend to address through the bond proposal.
- The district has used the six state-allowed inclement weather days. A flex day is scheduled for Monday, April 6, which we will convert to a regular school day if another snow day occurs before spring break. If there is more than one additional closure, we will apply to the State of Michigan for forgiveness of up to three additional days.

- Over the past month, Mr. Sutton has presented information at each school and to several PTO and booster groups. Township presentations are scheduled to provide information and answer questions about the bond proposal.

Following mid-winter break (February 13–16), students will be off on Tuesday, February 17, for a county-wide professional development

7. Public Participation

A. Agenda Items: None

B. Non-Agenda Items:

- An audience member, Mrs. Dru Runnals, mentioned the snow near the high school handicap parking spots, by the athletic entrance doors, has not been removed. Buildings and Grounds Director Jared Shutko will investigate.

8. Reports

A. Buildings and Grounds

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

- Multiple contractors already field measured for the elementary flooring bid replacement. Bids are due February 23, 2026.
- DJ Conley is currently conducting all of our 2026 CSD-1 Boiler inspections. They should be finished by the end of the week.
- Brenner Electric was out earlier this month to replace some underground wiring for our side walk lights along the cafeteria and athletic entrances of the high school.
- We had Goyette Mechanical at Yale Elementary School this past month to install a new bladder in our pressure tank for the boilers. The bladder was just past warranty and a significant cost to fix. When the repair was made they discovered that the wrong part had been installed from the factory. Goyette immediately contacted RL Deppmann to explain the situation to them. RL Deppmann contacted the manufacturer but the manufacturer said that bladder installed from the factory would have still worked. Long story short, with a little pushback, RL Deppmann assumed the cost of the new bladder.

B. Finance

Mrs. Silkworth presented/discussed the financial report which contained the following:

- Pupil Count Day. The second pupil count day of this fiscal year is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11. The FTE's on this day are counted at 10% of the district's blended count and will be blended with the fall 2026 count for next year's funding. As of this writing, this blend is the same percentage as last year.
- Scholarship CD's moved: The CD's for Stewart and Graham matured this month. After comparing interest rates, the funds will now be earning 3.75% this year by moving to another bank, a little paperwork on our end will earn the scholarships about \$3,500 more in 2026 than if they had been allowed to automatically renew.
- Government Forms: W-2's and 1099's were handed out and/or mailed this week. This year we disseminated W-2 forms electronically, allowing participants to "Opt Out" and receive a paper copy as in the past.
- 27L(2) Funds: In December 2025 the district received \$241,000.00 of state aid funds specifically to increase educator compensation. After clarification from Office of Retirement Services, Michigan Department of Education and Thrun Law Firm, the district paid out the funds with the January 23 payroll. Payments were made based on number of hours worked versus full time equivalent by each position.
- Bid Docs:
 - Athletic Field Lighting
Two bids were received and opened 1/28/26.

- Park Street Facility Renovation
Restrooms for GSRP building – posted 1/13 on State site, Expositor – opening scheduled 2/23/26 at 2:00 PM.
- Elementary Flooring Replacement
YES 5 rooms, AV 7 rooms, FES 5 rooms – posted 1/16 on State site, Expositor – opening scheduled 2/23/26 at 2:30 PM.
- Boiler Replacement – Avoca and Emmett Elementary Schools
District is working with a vendor to develop bid documents. Expect to be posted by mid-February. Opening tentatively scheduled for March 6.

C. Instruction and Personnel

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

1. Hiring
 - A. Megan Salmon, Avoca & Farrell Emmett Elementary Custodian
 - B. Lindsey Arneil, Yale Elementary Instructional/Non-Instructional Aide
 - C. Amanda Baird, Bus Driver
 - D. Forest Simpson, Bus Driver
2. Recommendation to the Substitute Lists

Curriculum/Instruction:

- The Martin Luther King Day of Professional Development went very well. The sessions led by our own staff were the highlight for many.
- Next professional development day is February 17.
- Mr. Kryscynski will be working with Mrs. Silkworth to adjust our budgets for Federal Funding, Title I-IV
- Mid-year testing results will be ready for March.

D. Transportation:

Staffing:

We have two new drivers, Amanda Baird and Forest Simpson. Amanda & Forest finished the training and passed their road tests last week. Amanda is driving JrHs 4/ YES 2 and Forest is driving JrHs 1/FAR 3. We also have two new substitutes, Sarah Prieskorn and Joe Menkovitch. Sarah is driving AM only and is filling in JrHs 2/AVO 1 AM. Joe is driving PM only and will fill in for coverage and trips when needed.

We still have one open 6.5 hour/day package. If anyone knows someone that may be interested, please tell them to contact Transportation and they will be given the information.

- Kindergarten Round-up Parent Meetings:
Transportation staff is planning on attending all the Elementary Schools again this year to give information to the new students that will be joining our district.
- New Bus Update:
International bus has been ordered and we have an estimated date for delivery of August 1, 2026.
- Other News:
Winter weather has been a challenge with the roads! I wanted to say thank you to Jared, Tim & Jim for doing everything needed to assist in helping buses either get out of being stuck on a road or plowing/salting so we could make it to our stops safely. Much Appreciated!!

Also, a shout out to the Principals, Teachers, and Parents for being so patient with Transportation while being shorthanded, late to schools picking up or dropping off and having to cancel/split routes on short notice. I know it was frustrating so THANK YOU for understating and being patient! It is greatly appreciated

E. Other: None

9. Items for Board Discussion

A. Board Buildings & Grounds

- Mrs. Butler spoke about the meeting that was held this afternoon. The committee overviewed and discussed a spreadsheet distributed by Mr. Sutton which listed potential projects from each of the buildings, estimated cost, priority and possible funding source.

B. Board Governance Committee

- The committee has not met recently.

C. SCCASB Representative

- Mr. Hurlburt reminded everyone of the General Membership meeting on February 19.

D. MASB Legislative Liaison

- Dr. Brancaccio discussed news from the capitol which included:
 - Cell Phone Bill heads to the Governor for signature.
 - House workforce and education focus on Schools of Choice
 - Senate education takes up bills removing the essay portion of SAT

E. 2026 Bond Authorization

- Board action at Thursday's Regular Board meeting being held in the Yale High School Media Center at 7:00 PM.

F. 2026 MASB Board of Directors – Region 5

- Mr. Bullard announced that two People are running for the two open positions.
 - James Johnson, Incumbent, Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools, Genesee County
 - Richard Hill, Kearsley Community Schools, Genesee County
- Board Action at Thursday's Regular Board meeting.

G. Friend of Youth - 2026

- President Bullard will announce the 2026 Friend of Youth at Thursday's Regular Board meeting.

10. New Business: None

11. Comments from Board Members, Administration

- Mr. Bullard and Board members thanked Superintendent Sutton, administration and staff for handling the recent school incident with calmness and professionalism which was transferred to all staff. Mr. Sutton responded that it was a team effort that was handled with expertise.
- Mr. Sutton thanked Business Services Director Beky Silkworth for recently moving scholarship money to a new bank allowing maximum interest earnings in a higher-yield account which will amount to thousands of additional dollars for our student scholarships.
- Mr. Bullard and Mr. Sutton thanked Yale Transportation Mechanic Andy Runnals for his proactive maintenance in handling the extreme cold and keeping the Yale buses running.

12. Adjournment by Consensus: 6:33 PM

MARK HURLBURT, SECRETARY
YALE BOARD OF EDUCATION