Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District

Meeting Location: LPS Admin Bldg., 15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48154

6:30pm meeting / Board Room

Minutes of Regular Meeting / February 23, 2026

ROLL CALL: Colleen Burton, President / Crystal Frank, Vice President / Madeline Acosta, Secretary / Karen Bradford, Trustee / Liz Jarvis, Trustee / Mark Johnson, Trustee / Dave MacFarland, Trustee

President Burton Commenced the meeting at: 6:34pm

AGENDA:

III. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. **Recognition of Educational Administrator's Week 2026:** It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution establishing the week of February 23, 2026 as Educational Administrator's Week in Livonia Public Schools.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nayes: None

B. **Recognition of Career and Technical Education Month:** Mrs. Jenkins introduced LCTC Principal Lindsay Gray, who, with her team, shared points of pride and highlights across the programs and offerings of the Career Center.

C. **Superintendent's Update:** Superintendent Oquist shared highlights of activities and events happening around the District as well as many District points of pride. These highlights can be found each month on our District website under "District News".

D. **Audience Communications:** None

IV. CONSENT AGENDA:

It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following Consent agenda items:

*Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2026

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nayes: None

VI. BUSINESS MATTERS:

A. **Approval of District Door Access Purchase**: It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approves the recommendation of its Owner's Representative, Plante Moran Realpoint and its Technology Consultant, IDS, to purchase new door access and security upgrades equipment from Sequoia Technologies, Rochester Hills, MI in an amount not to exceed $2,371,994, including contingency.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

B. **Approval of Purchase and Installation of CHS and FHS Pool Systems**: It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the replacement of pool filtration systems at CHS and FHS by Baruzzini Contracting, LLC, Brighton, MI for a total amount of $892,000, which includes contingency.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

C. **Approval of Marshall Razing Project**: It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approves the recommendation of the Superintendent, or her designee, to award the contract for demolition of Marshall School to Adamo Group, Detroit, MI for a total cost not to exceed $386,507.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

D. **Approval of Resolution for Refunding of Prior Bonds**: It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve a resolution to ratify and affirm the sale of the 2026 Refunding Bonds to refinance a portion of the District's outstanding 2016 bonds.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

VII. INSTRUCTION MATTERS:

A. **Approval of Limited Schools of Choice 105/105c - 2026-2027**: It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to participate in Limited Schools of Choice under Section 105/105c for the 2026-2027 school year, offering at least 1 seat for grades K-6 with a maximum of 125 seats, including Niji-Iro and Webster ACAT.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

B. **Approval of Purchase of K-4 Math Textbook and Materials**: It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of the selected textbook, *Bridges in Mathematics, Third Edition,* which includes teacher digital and print material, manipulatives, PD and 2 years of student journals from the Math Learning Center in Salem, OR for $442, 306.80.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

VIII. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

A. **Teachers for Approval**: It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported byMrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and offer employment to the following:

Michelle Karr / 1.0 FTE / Social Worker / Student Services
Rivka Zwiebel / 1.0 FTE / MARP Teacher / Grant Elementary

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

B. **Teachers for Tenure**: It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and acknowledge that tenure status has been granted to the following teachers:

Kimberly Venable / February 9, 2026
Jaclyn Walker / February 10, 2026

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

C. **Resignations**: As authorized in the Board of Education motion of June 23, 2025, the following resignations have been accepted by the Superintendent. Resignations do not require a Board vote:

Ellen Anderson / Effective February 27, 2026
Tylee Hunter / Effective January 30, 2026

D. **Retirements**: It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and adopt resolutions of appreciation for services rendered by:

Laurie Christenson / Retirement on June 10, 2026
Sherrie Coon / Retirement on June 5, 2026
Charles Lehman / Retirement on February 27, 2026
Kathryn Peterson / Retirement on March 31, 2026
Meshelle Wagner / Retirement on March 13, 2026

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

IX. HEARING FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

A. **Second Reading Board Policy DFL - Investments**: It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language:

BOARD POLICY **DFL**
FISCAL MANAGEMENT
INVESTMENTS **FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the objectives, standards, and parameters for investing public funds of the District. The District's investment objectives, in priority order, are to safeguard public funds and preserve principal, to maintain sufficient liquidity to meet operational and capital needs, and to achieve a reasonable rate of return given market conditions.

The Board shall appoint a Treasurer/Investment Officer to oversee the day-to-day management of District's investments. The Treasurer/Investment Officer shall be responsible for the transferring of appropriate funds to affect investment transactions, for the investment of operating funds, operating reserves funds, and bond proceeds, consistent with this policy and action of the Board. Unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Education, District funds shall be invested through the Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus (MILAF+).

This investment policy applies to all cash and investments held or controlled by the District that are not required to meet day-to-day operational needs. This policy does not apply to funds related to the issuance of debt where there are other governing documents in effect for such funds. Additionally, any future revenues, which have statutory investment requirements conflicting with this Investment Policy and funds held or controlled by Federal or State agencies are not subject to the provisions of this policy.

Investments and Depositories are restricted to those in compliance with MCL 380.622, 380.1221, 380.1223, and 141.2705

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

B. **Second Reading Board Policy JDA - Corporal Punishment Prohibition**: It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language:

BOARD POLICY **JDA**
STUDENTS
CORPORAL PUNISHMENT PROHIBITION **FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

The use of corporal punishment is prohibited. Corporal punishment means the deliberate infliction of physical pain by hitting, paddling, spanking, slapping, or any other physical force used as a means of discipline.

Corporal punishment does not include physical pain caused by reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training.

A person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the District shall not inflict or cause to be inflicted corporal punishment upon any pupil under any circumstances.

A person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the District may use reasonable physical intervention upon a pupil as necessary to maintain order and control in a school or school-related setting for the purpose of providing an environment conducive to safety and learning. In maintaining that order and control, the person may use physical intervention upon a pupil as may be necessary:

1. To restrain or remove a pupil whose behavior is interfering with the orderly exercise and performance of school District functions within a school or at a school-related activity, if that pupil has refused to comply with a request to refrain from further disruptive acts.

2. For self-defense or the defense of another.

3. To prevent a pupil from inflicting harm on himself or herself.

4. To quell a disturbance that threatens physical injury to any person.

5. To obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object upon or within the control of a pupil. The District makes available to each employee, volunteer, and contractor a list of alternatives to the use of corporal punishment, which shall be consistent with a crisis prevention and intervention framework, outlined in the following: JDA-Exhibit

CROSS REF.: JDAAA-Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint LEGAL REF.: MCL, 380.1312
JDA- Exhibit

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

C. **Second Reading Board Policy JDAAA - Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint**: It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia

Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language:

BOARD POLICY **JDAAA**
STUDENTS
EMERGENCY USE OF SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT **FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

The Livonia Public Schools' Board of Education, administration, and instructional staff recognize the importance of supporting student conduct to maintain an atmosphere of quality instruction in order to promote school achievement. It is the policy of the District to provide a safe educational environment for all of its students.

Student behavior, at times, may necessitate the use of Emergency Seclusion and Restraint in order to maintain the safety of the student or others. Seclusion and/or physical restraint interventions are intended as a last resort for use in emergency situations only, in which a pupil's behavior poses an imminent risk to the safety of self or others. Each emergency intervention use should provide an opportunity for the pupil to regain self-control while the staff member is maintaining safety. Diligent situation assessment, monitoring, documentation, and reporting by trained personnel are required.

The administration will utilize: (1) proper procedure for seclusion as outlined in the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint; (2) proper procedure for restraint as outlined in the MDE Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint; (3) annual awareness training for all staff; and (4) proper training for Key Identified Personnel in all schools. The School District shall adhere to the policies and procedure in accordance with the MDE Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint.

CROSS REF.: JDA-Corporal Punishment LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1307c(h)(v) MCL 380.1307(1)b

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

D. **Second Reading Board Policy JQE - Pregnant and Parenting Students**: It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language:

BOARD POLICY **JQE**
STUDENTS
PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS **FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

In accordance with Title IX, the District shall provide reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant or parenting, ensuring equal access to educational programs and activities without discrimination. A pregnant or parenting student retains all rights, privileges, and responsibilities afforded to all students. Decisions regarding a student's continued participation in coursework and school activities shall be informed by the recommendations of the student's licensed healthcare provider.

The District may request appropriate medical documentation to support the student's ability to safely participate in their educational program.

A student who wishes to continue their education but seeks an alternative to the traditional school setting is encouraged to contact the building principal or school counselor to discuss available options and supports that best meet their individual needs.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1301

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

E. **Second Reading Board Policy JR - Student Records**: It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt the following Board Policy language:

BOARD POLICY **JR**
STUDENTS
STUDENT RECORDS **FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

Livonia Public Schools School District will compile, maintain, disclose, delete, or provide access to student records in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 and other applicable laws.

LEGAL REF.: MCL, 600.2165; 15.231 et seq.; 20 USC 1232g

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

F. **First Reading Bylaws of The Board BHA - Code of Ethics**: The Board Policy Committee reviewed changes to the following Policy which the Board then recommended for a second reading:

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD **BHA**
BOARD OPERATIONS ~~**APRIL 21, 2025**~~
CODE OF ETHICS **MARCH 23, 2026**

As members of the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, we shall promote the best interests of the school District as a whole, and will make decisions that place student learning and the success of all students first by adhering to the following educational and ethical standards:

As a Board member,

• I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, height, weight, marital status, handicap, disability, sexual orientation, sexual identity, or transgender status.

• I will be a personal advocate for the good work of the District.

• I will focus Board action on policy making, strategic planning, and designating and evaluating the Superintendent.

• I recognize that the role of the Board is to govern and oversee the management of the District. I will delegate authority to the Superintendent for the day-to-day operations of the District and will not seek to participate in the day-to-day operations.

• I will review and evaluate all Board Policies, Bylaws of the Board, and procedures and processes of the Board,.and. I will work to make desired changes so they will be current, relevant, and in accordance with state and/or federal laws. When requested, I will review all Administrative Procedures brought forth and give input to the Superintendent; however, I recognize that the Board does not vote to approve Administrative Procedures.

• I will follow established Board Operating Procedures.

• I will come to Board meetings prepared to discuss and take action on all agenda items. I will read and study the Board meeting information and ~~will~~ seek~~ing~~ clarification, if needed, prior to each Board meeting.

• I will give the Superintendent and Board President notification of my concerns prior to the Board meetings, so that the concerns can be properly addressed.

• I understand that I have not only the right, but the duty, to express my views and opinions and ask questions at the Board table; and will make a good faith effort to understand the views of others.

• I recognize that the Board must make decisions as a whole in public. I will base all decisions on the available facts and my independent judgment, and I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to individuals or special interest groups.

• I will avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest, and, if such a conflict is unavoidable, I will disclose such interest and abstain from voting on such matters.

• I will work with my fellow Board members toward consensus when making decisions. Once a decision is made, I will support the decision and its implementation.

• I recognize that while I am free to express my personal views, the Board President is the spokesperson for the Board and the Superintendent is the spokesperson for the District. This includes all written and spoken communications, including social media.

• I will be respectful and listen to all ideas presented to the Board, be it from parents, staff, students, community members, other Board members, or other stakeholders. I will listen and then refer any person to appropriate personnel.

• I will communicate to other Board members and the Superintendent significant expression of public reaction to Board policies and school programs.

• I will exercise caution when communicating between and among Board members, including electronic communication, and will abide by the Open Meetings Act.

• I will hold confidential all matters that, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals, schools, or the District. I will keep confidential all information that is privileged under applicable law, including closed session discussions.

• I will stay informed about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information; for example, those sponsored by my state and national school board associations. I will share what I have learned with my Livonia Public Schools' colleagues, formally or informally, so as to keep our Board apprised of current issues and topics.

• I will take no private or public action that will compromise the Board, the Administration, or the District.

• I will refrain from using my Board position for personal or partisan gain.

• I will support the hiring of those persons being recommended by the administration as the best qualified to serve as District staff.

• I will support and protect District personnel in the proper performance of their duties.

• I will, ~~along with my follow Board members~~ participate in the~~, will~~ review, revise~~i~~on and signing of this Code of Ethics annually at the beginning of each calendar year.

As Board President,

• I will ensure that persons addressing the Board follow established guidelines as outlined in Board policy.

• I will advise persons addressing the Board to do so in a respectful manner and not allow rude, or indecent behavior, profane or indecent discourse, or otherwise willfully disruptive behavior to be directed to the Board, Superintendent, Cabinet members or others during Board meetings.

• I will not permit disruptive behavior and will advise attendees as such. If needed, I the President may order the ~~disorderly~~ disruptive person to ~~withdraw~~ be removed from the meeting.

• I will ensure that all Board members are given an opportunity to express their views. I will work toward building consensus among all Board members.

• I will follow parliamentary procedure, to the extent that it does not conflict with Board policy or state law.

MCL 380.1808

G. **Hearing From Board Members**: Mr. Johnson spoke about the Board's process of annually reviewing and refining its code of conduct as outlined in Board Bylaws. Mr. Johnson shared that the Board is committed and dedicated to this practice as an act of respect for one another and assurance that the Board is keeping best practice and commitments in front of them at all times. Mr. Johnson also thanked the Cabinet team who spends much time reviewing and refining Policies in their respective areas of responsibility. He acknowledged Cabinet members for this tedious and important work.

President Burton adjourned the meeting at 8:51PM

Off./Supt./MA/tg