

**BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**May 12, 2026**

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 7 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 7:01 p.m. in the Boardroom.

Present: Members Ahmed, Christenson, Kehoe\*, Picard, Vos, and Westra

Absent: Member Sidhu

District Staff: Dr. Monica Merritt, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Liz Vartanian-Gibbs, Assistant Superintendent - Student & Family Engagement  
Kurt Tyszkiewicz, Assistant Superintendent - Student Services  
Jill Minnick, Chief Finance and Operations Officer  
Abdul Madyun, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Jen Curry, Chief Academic Officer  
Diane Robertson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board  
Cathie Williams, Curriculum Coordinator - K-12 Electives & Specials  
Matthew Lents, Director of Facilities and Capital Projects

Others Present: Josh Patterson, SVA Student Co-Chair  
Arjan Swaminathan, SVA Student Co-Chair  
Daniel Sheehy, EPC Managing Partner  
Natalie Miller, TMP Architecture, Inc., Interior Designer

Josh Patterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Action Item #26-05-63:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to adopt the agenda and the consent agenda as presented.

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

**Leaves**

|                   |                                                   |                                                                |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Diciuccio, Kellie | Elementary Classroom<br>Hulsing Elementary School | Childcare Leave of Absence<br>Effective 4-24-26 through 6-9-27 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|

**Resignations**

|              |                                                   |                               |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| King, Ronald | Elementary Classroom<br>Hulsing Elementary School | Resignation Effective 6-10-26 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|

**Retirements**

|                |                                   |                              |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Groh, Kimberly | ELL Teacher<br>East Middle School | Retirement Effective 6-10-26 |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|

**Minutes**

The Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Education from April 28, 2026, and the Special Meeting Minutes from April 28, 2026, were approved as presented.

**Action Items**

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) Membership for the year 8-1-26 through 7-31-27 (First and Final Reading)

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Cooperative Agreement with Livonia Public Schools - Career Technical Education Program for the 12026-2027 School Year (First and Final Reading)
- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Cooperative Agreement with Novi Community School District Virtual for the 2026-2027 School Year (First and Final Reading)

## **B. Celebrating Success**

Member Kehoe presented the Mary Beth Carroll Extra Miler Award to Ash Maginnis, Allen Early Learning Academy Plant Engineer, in recognition of her outstanding dedication to her school community. Ash was honored for her positive and compassionate demeanor, her ability to build meaningful relationships, and her commitment to fostering a warm and welcoming environment for all students and staff.

## **C. Board Committee Reports/Action**

### *President's Report – Lauren Christenson*

President Christenson acknowledged Mother's Day by expressing appreciation for the mothers, grandmothers, and caregivers whose love, patience, and dedication provide invaluable support to the children of our district. She also congratulated Member Vos on earning the MASB Level 2 Award of Merit Certification.

### *Student Performance and Achievement Committee (SPA) – Judy Westra*

Member Westra shared that the SPA Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next SPA committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Boardroom, and everyone is welcome to attend.

### *Policy Advisory Committee (F&O) – Anupam Sidhu*

Member Ahmed shared that the Policy Committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. The next policy meeting will be held as a Meeting of the Whole to allow all Board members an opportunity to ask questions regarding the new policy provider. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 5 p.m. in the Boardroom, and the public is welcome to attend.

### *Finance and Operations Committee - Patrick Kehoe*

Member Kehoe shared that the Finance & Operations Committee met on May 7, 2026, and reviewed the purchase of Discovery Middle School equipment and furniture, the renewal of the ABM custodial services contract, and the March financial reports. The next Finance and Operations Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 4 p.m. at Salem High School to accommodate Board members' attendance at Honors Night. The public is welcome to attend this meeting.

### *Student Voice in Action Committee (SVA) - Lauren Christenson*

Josh Patterson and Arjan Swaminathan, SVA Student Co-chairs, shared that the SVA Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next SVA Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## **D. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Merritt invited the community to attend the annual P-CCS K-12 Art Show at Salem High School this Saturday, which showcases the exceptional creativity of district students. She also encouraged the community to tune in to 88.1 The Park's annual radio auction, which helps fund student programming and the completion of the new studios.

She congratulated and celebrated the following student groups:

- P-CCS students who earned outstanding results at the 2026 Regional Civics Bee. East Middle School student Madhu Regunathan earned first place and will advance to the Michigan Civics Bee Finals in Lansing.
- East Middle School's Infinity Tech Robotics team for its historic season and participation in the FIRST World Championship in Houston. The team became the first middle school team in P-CCS history to advance to the global competition and finished the qualification rounds with a 9-1 record, earning a top-three divisional ranking.
- Two groups of P-CEP seniors who received national recognition at the Courageous Persuaders Awards Ceremony for public service videos promoting safe driving. Students earned first-place honors in both the Impaired Driving and Speeding categories.

- P-CEP DECA students earned recognition at the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, where nearly 26,500 students competed in business, marketing, finance, & entrepreneurship events. Plymouth High School student Isabella Coughlin became P-CEP's first-ever glass winner, while several other students were also recognized for their achievements.

## **E. Citizens' Comments**

- Tina Jones, Melissa Byrne, and Alexa Heimburger spoke in support of media center paraprofessional positions
- Rachel Hayes, Heather Gatny, and Michelle Moustakas spoke in support of staff members in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week
- Debra Finkenbinder-Pepper spoke on the CAPES club candidate endorsement process
- Laurie Mayers spoke in support of LGBTQ+ students
- Kelly Klostemeyer spoke in support of school nurse positions
- Cassie Thierfelder spoke on online safety and content filtering on student devices

## **F. Administrative Reports/Recommendations**

### **Teaching and Learning – Jen Curry**

#### **First Reading Resolutions**

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Course Revision (Peer-to-Peer Physical Education, also known as Peer-to-Peer Team Games). Jen Curry, Chief Academic Officer, presented an overview of this one-semester course revision, which will provide learning opportunities that are aligned with the Physical Education curriculum. This course will offer students an inclusive collaborative environment where neurotypical and neurodivergent students work together as they explore elective subjects, build meaningful relationships, and develop lifelong skills for success. Recommended resources include five teacher curriculum development days to create course lessons at a cost of \$741.25. There are no textbooks or digital resources required for the course. No new FTE is required, as teachers from the ASD and CI classrooms, along with a current physical education teacher, will teach the course. The course is proposed for implementation beginning in the second semester of the 2026-2027 school year and continuing thereafter. (First Reading)

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

*\*Member Kehoe left at 8:06 p.m.*

### **Human Resources - Abdul Madyun**

#### **Employee Severance Plan Proposal (Presentation)**

Abdul Madyun, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Daniel Sheehy, EPC Managing Partner, presented an overview of the proposed one-time, voluntary Employee Severance Plan for eligible employee groups. The plan is intended to support long-term financial stability through reductions in salary and benefit costs and includes a June–July 2026 election window. Eligible employees must meet established service or retirement eligibility requirements. The Board would also authorize the Superintendent or designee to finalize and administer the plan and all related documents.

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

### **Finance and Operations – Jill Minnick**

#### **First Reading Resolutions**

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for Bid Packet #MS-3 Discovery Middle School Furniture and Equipment Purchase-Package 2, Natalie Miller, TMP Architecture, Inc., Interior Designer, provided an overview of this recommended purchase, which will furnish three repurposed, former computer lab spaces to support instructional and student needs, including a flexible learning classroom, a conference/meeting space, and a sensory lounge. The total cost of \$89,376.12 will be funded through the 2020 Bond Program. (First Reading)
- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a 2026-2027 Contract Renewal with ABM Education Services, LLC. Jill Minnick, Chief Finance and Operations Officer, provided an overview of this resolution for a one-year renewal of the existing service agreement with ABM Education Services, LLC for custodial services, extending the contract from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. The renewal reflects terms outlined in the sixth Memorandum of Understanding, including adjustments for wage increases and additional staffing needs. The total annual contract value is \$4,916,958. (First Reading)

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

## **G. Remaining Citizens' Comments**

None

## **H. Action Items / Discussion**

### **First Reading Resolutions**

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for Local District's Vote on Wayne RESA Budget. In accordance with Section 380.624 of the Revised School Code, Local School District Boards must adopt a resolution expressing their support or disapproval of the proposed Wayne RESA budget, prior to June 1, 2026. Supporting materials were made available for Board members' review. (First Reading)

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

### **Final Reading Resolutions**

- **Action Item #26-05-64:** It was moved by Member Westra and Seconded by Member Ahmed to Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Video Scoreboard Donation for the Canton Natatorium. The current scoreboard is 30 years old and is not fully operational. A Swimnerd 165" LCD scoreboard system is recommended at a cost of \$39,999, which will be fully funded by booster donations and sponsorships, with no cost to the district, with installation expected by August 2026. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Ahmed, Christenson, Picard, Vos, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 5-0

- **Action Item #26-05-65:** It was moved by Member Ahmed and Seconded by Member Westra to Consider Approval of a Resolution for an Employee Severance Plan Proposal for eligible employee groups to support long-term financial stability and reduce salary and benefits costs. Eligible employees must meet established service or retirement eligibility requirements. The plan includes eligibility requirements and a June–July 2026 election window. The Board would also authorize the Superintendent or designee to finalize and administer the plan and related documents (First and Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Ahmed, Christenson, Picard, Vos, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 5-0

## **I. Follow-up Board Questions**

None

## **J. Adjournment**

President Christenson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:21 p.m.

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Judy Westra  
Secretary, Board of Education

\*Approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on 5-26-26/dr