

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMBINED BOARD MEETINGS (COMMITTEE & REGULAR)
Yale Junior High Central Office Board Room
Thursday May 7, 2026– 6:00 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Bullard invited the Board Student Representative Alfred Schweihofer to lead the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a Moment of Silence.

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bullard, Hurlburt, French, Butler, McClelland, Johnson, Brancaccio

Members Absent: None

Also Participating: Superintendent Kurt Sutton

Assistant Superintendent Bill Kryscynski

Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe, Dave Frederick, Brenda Tenniswood,

Joanne Faille, Tara Jordan, Brenda Krzak, Betty Keeley, Coleeta Vesper, several foreign exchange students, host families and parents.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Butler seconded by Johnson to adopt the agenda as amended.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Committee of the Whole meeting minutes – April 7, 2026

2. Executive meeting minutes – April 7, 2026

3. Regular meeting minutes – April 9, 2026

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

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Sutton read/shared the following correspondence.

- Read a thank you note from Central Office Staff in appreciation for the snacks for Staff Appreciation Week.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Special Guests

- Foreign Exchange Students

- The students introduced themselves and identified their home country, their host family, what they enjoyed about going to school here and their favorite local foods to eat.
- Mr. Bullard thanked the parents for hosting the students and introducing them to the cultural differences.

Break 6:09 PM

- St. Clair County RESA Budget Report – RESA Superintendent Brenda Tenniswood
 - Superintendent Tenniswood distributed a RESA Services and Impact Snapshot and reviewed the three major “funds” and highlighted their current and future programs.
 - In addition, Mrs. Tenniswood told the Board that she had the privilege of taking part in the recent Mock Interviews held at Yale High School and praised the district for this well-organized event.

Back in Session: 6:25 PM

B. Agenda Items – None

C. Non-Agenda Items – None

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Sutton reviewed the Superintendent's report (attached) which contained the following items:

- We are disappointed with the results of Tuesday's bond election. Moving forward, we are committed to aligning the district's needs with the level of support the community is willing to provide. I will be distributing a survey in the coming days to gather feedback and better understand what future proposals the community would support.
- The Board of Education Dinner was a tremendous success, honoring 192 students who achieved a GPA of 3.6 or higher. I extend my sincere thanks to the sponsors in the Yale community and surrounding area for their generous donations, as well as our food service staff for preparing an excellent meal.
- Next week marks several key milestones for our seniors. Baccalaureate will take place on Wednesday, followed by Senior Honors Night on Thursday. The Graduate Walk is scheduled for Thursday or Friday, depending on the weather. These events will culminate with Commencement on Sunday, May 17 at 2:00 PM in the Yale City Park. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Yale High School Gymnasium.
- The calendar for the 2026-2027 school year has been finalized. The first day of school will be Tuesday, August 25, 2026, and the last day will be Friday, June 4, 2027. This information was shared with parents and will be posted to the website shortly.
- We are currently awaiting the completion of the state budgeting process regarding the School Aid Budget. As you may recall, last year's budget was not received until mid-October, despite the statutory requirement of July 1st. Mrs. Silkworth and I will continue monitoring the consensus revenue estimating conference as we prepare the budget for Board approval in June.
- We have partnered with the YMCA of Port Huron to offer free summer meals to students and families. This service provides seven days' worth of meals, available for pickup every Tuesday from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Yale Junior High parking lot near the main office. A flyer with a QR code for pre-ordering will be distributed soon to ensure adequate preparation.
- All staff will participate in training on the "I Love You Guys" Standard Response Protocol on the afternoon of Friday, May 15. This training ensures clear, consistent language for students, staff, and the community during emergency situations.

9. **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Student representative Alfred Schwehofer presented his report which contained several happenings around the high school, highlighting the many senior activities and sports updates.

- Mr. Schwehofer announced that Kamryn Kolesar will be the Board Student Representative for the 2026-2027 school year. She was unable to attend this evening's meeting.
- Senior All-Night Party is this weekend at the YMCA.
- Graduation is May 17 and three seniors were selected to give speeches: Annika Hughes, Ian Korolden and Lauren Zink.
- Recent high school play, Wonka, had a successful turnout.
- Spring sports are finishing up their seasons with boys track finishing their season undefeated taking the BWAC championship. Their regionals are on May 16. The girls track team co-won the BWAC with North Branch and regionals are also on May 16.

After Alfred's report, Superintendent Sutton presented him with a plaque in recognition for his service this past year on the Board of Education.

10. **REPORTS**

A. Buildings and Grounds

Superintendent Sutton read the Buildings and Grounds report which contained the following:

- We recently received permission from EGLE to discharge from the Farrell Elementary and Avoca Elementary lagoons. After all the samples were approved by EGLE, a total of 120,000 gallons of effluent was discharged over a three-day period at Farrell and a total of 150,000 gallons of effluent was discharged over a three-day period at Avoca.
- Boss Engineering has finally heard back from EGLE regarding the water filtration system in Avoca. EGLE is wanting more information on the equipment that we are looking to install, as well as some changes to that said equipment. Boss has reached out to the supplier already and hopefully they are able to provide the needed information quickly. Unfortunately, I feel like there's still a way to go before we are able to complete the installation.

- The Junior High cafeteria floor was replaced again for a third time under warranty. This time there was a liquid vapor barrier applied to the floor before installation. They believe that there was moisture coming through the concrete allowing the adhesive to not bond with the tile.
- I've currently only had two contractors schedule site visits for our concrete replacement bid package. The bid opening is scheduled for May 13.

B. Finance

Superintendent Sutton shared the financial report which contained the following:

- 2026-2027 RESA Budget.
- Budget Projections. Recommend Thursday, June 11 at 6:30 PM for our budget hearing.
- Food Service Management Contract Renewal will be on the June Board agenda.
- The State has issued the hard cap increases for calendar year 2027.
- Arbitrage coming due.
- Trends report was sent in the May Board Packet.

C. Instruction and Personnel

Assistant Superintendent Kryscynski reviewed the Instruction and Personnel report.

1. Hiring

- A. Catherine (Katie) Jedrzejczak, Yale Elementary Instructional/Non-Instructional Aide
- B. Jenni McFadden, Avoca Elementary Special Education Teacher

2. Resignation

- A. Donna Verbeke, Bus Driver
- B. Brian Nicol, Junior High Special Education Teacher
- C. Dale Carless, Geometry in Construction Teacher
- D. Lindsey Arneil, Yale Elementary Paraprofessional Aide
- E. Forest Simpson, Bus Driver
- F. Steve McIntyre, Yale High School Teacher

3. Probationary Teachers Recommended for Tenure

- A. Logan Clare
- B. Sarah Ridley
- C. Suzanne Wood
- D. Laura Woodard

4. Recommendations to the Substitute List.

Curriculum/Instruction

- State testing is almost complete.
- The May 15 half-day professional development day will be a training session of school safety for all staff.
- Credit recovery will be offered for those students in need at the junior high and high school this summer. Dates and times are still being determined.

D. Transportation: No report this evening as Director Roffe has been driving school buses.

E. Technology: Director Harmer will report to the Board at the June meeting.

F. Other: None

11. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

A. 2026-2027 RESA Proposed Budget Resolution

- Discussed and explained in Mrs. Tenniswood's presentation to the Board.

B. Set Budget Hearing Date and Time

- Mrs. Silkworth recommended June 11, 2025 at 6:30 PM for the Budget Hearing.

C. Board Organizational Date

- The Board Organizational meeting date was set for Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 6:30 PM

D. Board Governance Committee

- The committee has not met recently but plans are to meet in the future to discuss Michigan Virtual and follow up discussion on the Top Scholar award.

E. Board Buildings & Grounds Committee

- Addressing roofline design on the dugouts. Architect Bill Vogan will stop in next week with revised plans. Mr. Bullard suggested considering a motion to give Mr. Sutton permission to proceed with the project.
- It was the consensus of the committee to hold a Special Board Meeting, to include all Board members, which will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:05 PM to discuss bond vote and plans for November.

- F. SCCASB Representative
 - Mr. Hurlburt reported that SCCASB will be wrapping up in June and that the committee had given five scholarships to graduates this year. One student from Yale, Kendall Hollon.
- G. MASB Legislative Liaison
 - Mrs. Brancaccio reported that legislation is currently working on the budget.
- H. Bond Proposal Discussion
 - A Board Workshop meeting to discuss and prioritize our district needs will be held on Tuesday, May 18 at 6:05 PM
- I. Concrete Bid
 - The Board will ask for a motion to allow Superintendent Sutton to chose the lowest qualified concrete bid.
- J. Other Items: None

12. **OLD BUSINESS** - None

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Approval of Financial Reports

Approval of Treasurer's Report and monthly bills in the amount of **\$2,632,112.46.**

Motion by French seconded by Butler to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurers Report and approve monthly bills in the amount of **\$2,632,112.46.**

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

B. Approval of Personnel Report

1. Hiring

A. Catherine (Katie) Jedrzejczak, Yale Elementary Instructional/Non-Instructional Aide

2. Resignation

A. Donna Verbeke, Bus Driver

B. Brian Nicol, Junior High Special Education Teacher

C. Dale Carless, Geometry in Construction Teacher

D. Lindsey Arneil, Yale Elementary Paraprofessional Aide

E. Steve McIntyre, Yale High School Teacher

3. Probationary Teachers Recommended for Tenure

A. Logan Clare

B. Sarah Ridley

C. Suzanne Wood

D. Laura Woodard

4. Recommendations to the Substitute List

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Butler to approve the Personnel Report as amended.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

C. 2025-2026 RESA Proposed Budget Resolution

Motion by Bullard seconded by Butler to approve the Resolution in support of the 2026-2027 proposed RESA Budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

D. Budget Hearing Date (June 11, 2026 – 6:30 PM)

Motion by Johnson seconded by French to set the 2026-2027 Budget Hearing on June 11, 2026 at 6:30 PM as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Motion Carried

E. Board Organizational Date

- The Board set their Organizational Board Meeting date for Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

F. 2026-2027 Yale School Calendar

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Brancaccio to adopt the 2026-2027 Yale School Calendar as presented.
Roll Call Vote

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes
Ayes: 0 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

G. Concrete Bid

Motion by Butler seconded by Hurlburt to allow Superintendent Sutton to select the lowest qualified concrete bid not to exceed a total of \$95,000.

Roll Call Vote

Bullard- Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio- Yes
Ayes: 0 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

14. **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS, ADMINISTRATION**

- Superintendent Sutton, President Bullard and Board members thanked Alfred Schwehofer for his service on the Board this past year and wished him well after graduation. They also gave kudos to Food Service Director Joann Faille and her staff for the outstanding Board of Education Dinner and for serving five-hundred people in an hour. A job well done!
- Mrs. Butler thanked her fellow Board members for all they do for students and for fostering a collaborative culture.

15. **Executive Session – Closed Session: personnel issue in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Section 8, Paragraph (a)**

The Board took a short recess at 7:54 PM

The Board entered into Closed Session at 8:03 PM

Motion by Butler seconded by Johnson to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel Issue in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Section 8, paragraph (a) as requested by Superintendent Sutton.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 7 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

The Board returned into Open Session at: 8:23 PM

16. **ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS:** 8:23PM.

Mark Hurlburt, Secretary
Yale Board of Education