

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

**Pine River Nature Center – Goodells, MI 48027
Monday, August 10, 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 led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a Moment of Silence.

3. ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: McClelland, Hurlburt

Also Present: Superintendent Kurt Sutton, Assistant Superintendent Bill Kryscynski, Director of Business Services Beky Silkworth, Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe, Yale Expositor Reporter Dave Frederick and Tara Jordan.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 2

Motion Carried

5. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. Organizational Meeting Minutes - July 7, 2026

B. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - July 7, 2026

Motion by Butler seconded by Johnson to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 2

Motion Carried

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Sutton read/shared the following correspondence:

- No formal correspondence.
- Superintendent Sutton informed the Board that banners and social media are being used for the sale of the M-19 Road property.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Sutton read/presented his report which contained the following:

- The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) building and the Yale Elementary secure vestibule projects are progressing and after inspections we should be moving in soon.
- The district and all school districts across the county have moved to the standard response protocol 'I Love You Guys'. Michigan law requires all school districts to have a standard response protocol in place beginning this year.
- Yale Public Schools will be asking voters to consider a proposal to fund renovations and updates of HVAC at Yale High School, new driveways and parking lots at Farrell Emmett and Avoca Elementary, new playgrounds at the elementary schools, skilled trade space within the Yale High School Library, new gym bleachers at the high school and junior high, replace the gym flooring at the junior high, sound and lighting improvements for productions in the high school cafeteria, and new desks or 'furnishings' at Yale Junior High and Yale High School. These items address 'Needs not Wants', which was the feedback we received from stakeholders with the failed May Bond Proposal. The superintendent will be spending time with groups across the school district boundaries providing information about the proposal and why this is needed to address our needs.
- New staff orientation for teachers begins on Monday, August 17. All staff will report on August 19.
- Yale High School's Bulldog Day is Tuesday, August 18 from 1-6:00 PM. Freshmen orientation is 6:15 – 7:30 PM. The Junior High parent open house is August 19 from 5:00-7:30 PM. The elementary schools will hold their open houses on August 20 from 5:00 – 6:00 PM. Meet the Team night for our athletic programs is Wednesday, August 19 at 7:30 PM. The first day of school is Tuesday, August 25.
- The Fall sports season practices kicked off on August 10. Our participation numbers for sports are healthy once again this year. We also have strong participation with our band at the junior high and high school levels.

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

- McMillan's has completed all the flooring at all three elementary schools.
- Salski Construction finished all of the concrete replacement here on campus earlier this summer.
- Titan pavement completed the seal and stripe at the high school and at Yale and Farrell Emmett Elementary.
- The GSRP building is close to being finished.
- Currently waiting for permits and final inspections from the state for the secured entry vestibule at Yale Elementary.

8. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- A. Guest: None
- B. Agenda Items: None
- C. Non-Agenda Items:
 - Dave Frederick stated he was glad that we are not doing a superintendent search and also asked the board if they will consider broadcasting the board meetings.

9. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

- A. Treasurer's Report and Monthly Bills in the Amount of **\$1,037,493.05**
Motion by Butler seconded by French to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurers Report and approve the monthly bills in the amount of **\$1,037,493.05.**
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Abs, Butler-Yes, McClelland-Abs, Johnson-Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried

Mrs. Silkworth distributed a status of district funds report to the Board.

10. **APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT**

- A. Hiring
 - 1. Matthew Cavanagh, Maintenance Level I
 - 2. Carrie Fallowfield, Secondary Social Studies Teacher
 - 3. Chase Orzel, Avoca Elementary Custodian
 - 4. Sharon Shubring, Avoca/Farrell Elementary Teacher
- B. Resignation
 - 1. Megan Salmon, Maintenance Level I
 - 2. Andrea Sutton, Avoca Elementary Teacher
 - 3. Kaylee Long, Avoca Elementary CI Teacher
- C. Recommendations to the Substitute List
Motion by Johnson seconded by Butler to approve the Personnel Report as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Abs, Butler-Yes, McClelland-Abs, Johnson-Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried

Curriculum/Instruction

Mr. Kryscynski highlighted the following items:

- Busy conducting interviews for the various open positions.
- Title I budgets for this year took another hit.
- Elementary staff worked on our move towards competency-based math instruction.
- We are scheduled to update our building and district Comprehensive Needs Assessments this year.

11. **OLD BUSINESS** - None

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Transportation Director Program Renewal
Motion by Johnson seconded by Butler to approve the Transportation Director Program with Capac for the 2026/2027 school year as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Abs, Butler-Yes, McClelland-Abs, Johnson-Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried

- B. L-4029 Property Tax Levy 2026 form
(L-4029 provides authorization to direct taxing entities to levy millages on non-PRE for operating and all properties for two debt retirements and the sinking fund.)
Motion by Butler seconded by Johnson to approve the L-4029 Tax Levy millage rate for Operation, Debt and Sinking Fund Millages for the Tax Year 2026 as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Abs, Butler-Yes, McClelland-Abs, Johnson-Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried
- C. November 2026 Bond Authorization
Motion by Johnson seconded by Brancaccio to approve ballot language for a bond issue not to exceed \$20 million. The proceeds of the issue is to be used for remodeling, furnishing and refurnishing, and equipping and re-equipping school buildings; and equipping, developing and improving playgrounds, driveways, parking areas, and sites.
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Abs, Butler-Yes, McClelland-Abs, Johnson-Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried
- D. Sports Lighting Bid
Motion by Butler seconded by Johnson to award the Sports Lighting bid project to MHM Construction, LLC in Armada, MI in the amount of \$371,500.00 as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, Hurlburt- Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland-Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried
- E. Yale Education Association and Yale School Service Association Contact Approvals
Motion by Butler seconded by Brancaccio to approve the Yale Education Association economic reopener agreement as of August 11, 2026 as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, Hurlburt- Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland-Yes, Johnson- Abstain, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 4 Abstain: 1 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried
Motion by Butler seconded by Johnson to approve the YSSA Contract Renewal from August 11, 2026 to June 30, 2029 as presented.]
Roll Call Vote:
Bullard-Yes, Hurlburt- Yes, French- Yes, Butler- Yes, McClelland-Yes, Johnson- Yes, Brancaccio-Yes
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 2 Motion Carried
- F. Scholarship Granting Organization
Mr. Sutton distributed information on Leveraging the New Scholarship Tax Credit: Possibilities & Challenges for Districts through Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGO)
- G. Theme for the 2026-2027 School Year
Mr. Sutton announced that 'Growing Greatness' as the Theme for the 2026-2027 School Year.

13. Comments from Board Members, Administration

- Superintendent Sutton thanked Beky Silkworth and her staff for the hard work put forth in another successful end of year audit.

The Board took a brief recess. 6:57 PM

The Board reconvened at 7:12 PM.

- H. Board Self-Evaluation Compilation Discussion

14. Adjournment by Consensus: 8:07 PM.

**Dr. Abby Brancaccio, Secretary
Yale Board of Education**