

Minutes

277.24 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Gray

Navy Watson and Daisy Watson
Schweitzer Elementary School, Emily Fa’asoa, Principal

278.24 ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE – Hines

Board members present: LeWanna Abney-Mitchell, David R. Cox, Bradley Gray, Melandie Hines, Kimberly R. May, Mark F. Neal, Frederick L. Weaver, Th.D.

279.24 RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS – Dignan

I. Extended COVID Learning Plan and Continuity of Services Plan Review – Pawlukiewicz

Kim Pawlukiewicz, Executive Director of HS Curriculum and Instruction and State and Federal Programs, shared a PowerPoint outlining the eCOL (Extended COVID Learning Plan) and Continuity of Services Plan Review.

ESSER Requirements:

- Review of the eCOL was adopted in August 2020, and the Continuity of Services was adopted in February 2022.
 - There have been no major changes to either plan.
 - ESSER III Projects
 - Updating middle and high school band instruments
 - Summer programming
 - Building and grounds
 - HVAC
 - Generators
 - Technology updates
 - Intervention programs for students
 - Amira
 - Read and Math 180
 - Additional
 - Elementary staffing

Additional Grants:

- Michigan Kids Back on Track (23g Grant)
 - A minimum of \$300 per student to promote programming for at-risk students
 - Supports students who were not proficient in ELA and Math on state assessments in 3rd, 8th, and 11th grades.

- Funds can be used for:
 - Addressing unfinished learning
 - Bringing students to grade-level
 - Additional academic assistance
 - Preparing high school students for postsecondary education
- Wayne-Westland was awarded \$1.5 million, and it is being used for:
 - Summer programming
 - 2024-2025 MTSS Interventionist salaries and benefits
 - Decodable reader supplies
- Reporting requirements:
 - Similar to ESSER
 - Plan must be posted to the district website
 - Updates on the transparency page
- Possible Future Grants:
 - 35j: Early Literacy Professional Development, Curriculum, and Supports Grant
 - Improve literacy instructional practices
 - Professional learning and materials
 - 99b: Computer Science Professional Learning Grant
 - To develop and implement teacher professional development programs for computer science courses.
 - Computer Science Coach and for other job-embedded professional learning

II. Identified Schools 2023-2024 – Schulz

Nancy Schulz, Director of School Improvement and Professional Development, shared information regarding Identified Schools.

The identified schools for the 2023-2024 school year are based on the 2022-2023 school year data.

- There are three ways of identifying schools at the state level for support:
 - Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)
 - Frequency: every three years
 - Criteria:
 - In the bottom 5% of schools in Michigan
 - Or, a high school with a four-year graduation rate of 67% or less
 - Or, was in a CSI cohort but did not meet CSI exit criteria
 - Or, was in an ATS cohort but did not meet ATS exit criteria
 - Additional Targeted Support (ATS)
 - Frequency: every six years

- Criteria:
 - One or more subgroups in the bottom 25% of each applicable component
 - One or more subgroups overall performing like a bottom 5% school
 - Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)
 - Frequency: annually
 - Criteria
 - If they have one or more subgroups in the bottom 25% for each applicable component
- Identified Schools
 - 2022-2023
 - TSI
 - Edison Elementary
 - Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary
 - Adams Middle School
 - Stevenson Middle School
 - ATS
 - Hicks Elementary
 - CSI
 - Franklin Middle School
 - Wayne-Westland Innovative Academy
 - 2023-2024
 - TSI
 - Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary
 - Adams Middle School
 - Stevenson Middle School
 - John Glenn High School
 - Wayne Memorial High School
 - ATS
 - Hicks Elementary
 - CSI
 - Franklin Middle School
 - Wayne-Westland Innovative Academy
- Edison was removed from the TSI list, and John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High Schools were added.
- Qualifications of TSI
 - Must rank in each of the seven key categories:
 - Student Growth
 - Student Proficiency
 - School Quality/Student Success
 - Graduation Rate
 - English Learner Progress
 - Test Participation (M-STEP, MI-ACCESS, PSAT, and SAT) (95% threshold)
 - English Learner Test Participation (WIDA ACCESS)

- The easiest way to ensure that a school does not end up identified as TSI is to test all students.
 - Proposal to ensure all students are tested:
 - Students on suspension will be tested at the board office
 - Homebound students will be tested on paper at home with their homebound teacher
 - Attempt to test all students in the first two weeks
 - Reevaluate how many absences constitute a student to be dropped
 - If virtual students do not show up for testing, they will be placed back into in-person learning
 - Offer transportation to virtual families in need
- Strategic Plan Progress
 - Pre-K Literacy Alignment
 - Fall Foundation Skills Data:
 - 12% of 5th-grade students could not accurately identify all 26 lowercase letters of the alphabet
 - 68.7% of 5th-grade students could not accurately produce the sound of every single letter consonant sound and basic digraphs
 - 38.4% of 5th grade students could not accurately read all K-3 level high frequency words
 - NWEA K-5 growth compared to last year
 - Growth Performance Bands
 - Reading
 - 9.06% of students showed above-average growth
 - Math
 - Bottom 25th percentile growth decreased by 13.85%, while the above 50th percentile growth grew by 16.71%
 - Science
 - Above 50th percentile growth grew by 8.42%
 - Growth Percentiles
 - Reading
 - Above 50th percentile growth grew by 8.78%
 - Math
 - Above 50th percentile growth grew by 16.71%
 - Meeting Growth Target
 - Reading
 - 9.47% more students hit their growth target
 - Math
 - 26.4% more students met their growth target
 - Really Great Reading Teacher Perception Data
 - 98% satisfaction of teachers enjoyed using Really Great Reading

- 98% of their students made academic gains because of the use of Really Great Reading
 - 98% of teachers said that it was easy to use
- The teachers have done a fantastic job of making this happen for our students.

K. May asked if there is a plan to address the subgroups in the bottom 25%.

N. Schultz explained that the fastest and easiest way to get the schools off the TSI list is to ensure we test all students. If all students were tested, the subgroups would not be identified, and there would be no identified status.

K. May disagreed and mentioned that it could be a conversation for later.

N. Schultz shared that you must qualify in all categories to be identified. So, if all students were to test, the school would not be identified. The district also offers tier-one instruction that impacts all groups, including the subgroups.

K. May questioned how the goal statement using classroom observation and data conversations will impact student achievement.

N. Schultz clarified that many districts are shifting to focusing their measures on teacher implementation instead of student results. The idea is that you cannot measure what is impacting student results if you don't know the input. We obtained alignment and then measured teacher implementation to compare how that impacts student results.

K. May asked what the timeline is for seeing the student's results.

N. Schultz informed that the results were displayed in the presentation.

K. May asked if there were parent and student perception data.

N. Schultz shared that we have last year's parent and student perception data and will collect it for this year during April and May.

M. Hines would like a copy of the presentation with the highlighted areas.

N. Schultz said she would provide the board with a copy.

F. Weaver asked how this would impact student retention.

N. Schultz shared that she does not believe this would impact student retention.

F. Weaver mentioned that it can be agreed that a child who graduates and can't read is on all of us.

M. Hines shared that the district has many families that move in and out due to rental homes. She asked if these families might impact the scores.

N. Schultz shared that she could not say specifically, but the district does have a high transient rate. That is why the standard of care that the literacy task force is working on is urgent.

L. Abney-Mitchell asked how we can support the subgroups in the bottom 25% moving forward.

N. Schultz expressed that all students, including those in the subgroups, receive support by having the standard of care built around what is best practice for all students.

L. Abney-Mitchell was concerned that the students in the bottom 25% needed more support than those who scored above them. The standard of care does not meet their needs.

N. Schultz shared that part of the standard of care is that K-5 teachers implement small group instruction within their classroom for students identified with the greatest need. Some students may also receive outside intervention in addition to the small group instruction.

L. Abney-Mitchell asked if the district identified why these students are in the bottom 25%. Is it behavior, attendance, or do they not understand?

N. Schultz shared that many factors may have contributed. This question could not be answered at this time.

M. Neal mentioned that, to his understanding, the new curriculum and the teacher's applications have raised the district's growth higher than has been reported in the past.

N. Schultz confirmed that Mr. Neal was correct. The growth is larger than the growth pre-COVID.

K. May requested that the board be provided the NWEA data broken down by subgroups.

280.24 CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS – Gray

Heather Martinez – Safe schools, mental health supports and budget cuts.

Jerry White – Budget shortfall and employee layoffs.

Jennifer Owens – Budget crisis, plans other than layoffs, and staffing concerns.

Michele Sample – Traffic is better at Wildwood, cancelation of the ASD Program at the Middle Schools, and would like answers to questions asked at the board meetings.

Jessica West – Requested the board not to adopt the budget this evening.

281.24 CONSENT AGENDA

I. MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2024
- b. Special Board Meeting – February 27, 2024
- c. Special Board Meeting – March 13, 2024

II. HUMAN RESOURCE ITEMS

- a. Resignations: Administrative, Instructional, Non-Instructional and Non-Affiliated Personnel

Charles Hallman
Julie Mytych
Kathleen Bell
William Davis
Lisa Farkas
Sandra Koelzer
Stephanie Mazzon
Jennifer Weaver
Jacob Brozek
Tammy Carmella
Patricia DiMaria
Brenda Douglas
Denise Hinch
Justin Monit
Deborah Pluff
Johnathan Prevost
Deborah Stevens
Arlene Ursem
Luke Tracy
Melissa Tracy

- b. Placements: Instructional, Non-Instructional, Non-Affiliated Personnel

Constance Wendecker
Alix Allen
Mary Coleman
Roomi Feroz
Dalynggia Fuqua
Steven Jaynes

Marilyn Minas
Catherine Tondreau
John Garrett
Jamel Griffin
Nancy Kelly
Cynthia Mitchell
Robert Nutt
Lori Porter
Keisha Robinson
Amber Williams

III. BUSINESS & FINANCE ITEMS

- a. Payment of Invoices [under separate cover]
- b. Investment Report [under separate cover]

IV. DONATIONS

The following donations were made to Wayne-Westland Community Schools Family Resource Center for students and families in need:

- a. Kimberly Pawlukiewicz – Purses and wallets
- b. Tiffany Harshfield – Diapers

The following donations were made to Wayne Memorial High School to help support the Poetry Contest Entrants:

- a. Snazzy Treats and Eats – Gift cards

The following donations were made to Wayne-Westland Community Schools to help support Elementary Athletics:

- a. Westland-Inkster Urgent Care – Monetary donation

The following donations were made to Wayne Memorial High School to help support the Wall of Honor:

- a. Deborah Harvey – Monetary donation
- b. Jeanne Roland – Monetary donation
- c. Darleen Miller – Monetary donation

The following donations were made to Wayne-Westland Community Schools to help support STEM in Elementary Schools:

- a. Sphero, Inc. – littleBits Electronic Music Inventor Kit

I. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

a. Field Trips

- i. John Glenn High School 9th-12th Grade DECA Field Trip [under separate cover]
- ii. John Glenn High School 10th-12th Grade Bowling Field Trip [under separate cover]
- iii. John Glenn High School 9th-12th Grade Wrestling State Tournament [under separate cover]
- iv. Franklin Middle School 8th Grade Field Trip [under separate cover]
- v. John Glenn High School 11th-12th Grade DECA Field Trip [under separate cover]

b. Wayne RESA Parent Advisory Committee Nomination

Resolved, that the board approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion by F. Weaver, support by B. Gray.

L. Abney-Mitchell asked if field trips were for information only.

J. Dignan shared that this is for information only, and many are competitions that we would not have time to present in advance.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

282.24 BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Gray

I. Finance Committee Report – May

Ms. May shared the following comments from a prepared statement:

The Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wayne-Westland Community Schools met Thursday, March 7, 2024, beginning at 4:34 pm via Zoom Platform.

Mrs. Abney-Mitchell, Mr. Neal, and Ms. May were present.

Dr. Dignan shared information regarding the Student Driver grant.

Ms. Campbell reviewed both the investment report and check register. Ms. Campbell also shared an updated version of district subscriptions and renewals.

Dr. Dignan shared closing comments.

Board members asked follow-up questions and shared closing comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on April 11, 2024 at 4:30 pm via Zoom.

283.24 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BUSINESS SERVICE & FINANCE – Campbell

I. 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment Presentation

Motion Motion for recess to display presentation at 7:56 p.m.

Resolved that the board approve recess to display presentation. Motion by B. Gray, support by M. Hines.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Motion Motion to resume meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Resolved that the board approves to resume meeting. Motion by D. Cox, support by M. Hines.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Julie Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of Business, Finance and Operations, shared a PowerPoint presentation on the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment.

The presentation aims to provide the board and the community with a more accurate picture of the district's current position in the general fund.

The public schools follow a fiscal year from July 1 – June 30; the current year is 2023-2024 or Fiscal Year (FY) 24.

- General Fund Trends & Assumptions
 - Explained how the per-pupil allowance and student enrollment affect the general fund
- Major General Fund Revenue Components
 - Per Pupil Allocation (State Aid Foundation Allowance)
 - Student Enrollment
 - Property Taxes (currently levy only 17.4798 of 18 mills due to Headlee Rollback)
 - Property taxes increase faster than the rate of inflation which causes the rollback
 - Special Education Reimbursements
 - State Categoryals
 - Local Revenue (donations, sale of assets, etc.)
- WWCS D General Fund Revenue
 - Compared the FY23 Final Budget, FY23 Final Actual, FY24 Original Budget and FY24 Mid-Year General Fund Revenues
- Major General Fund Expenditure Components
 - Staffing
 - Wages
 - Medical Benefits
 - Retirement
 - FICA
 - Contracted Services
 - Ancillary Insurances
 - Professional Development
 - Facilities
 - Utilities
 - Daily Building Maintenance
 - Repairs
 - Liability Insurance
 - Equipment Updates
 - Supplies/Materials
 - Curriculum
 - Instructional Materials
 - Program Resources
 - Classroom Supplies
 - Software Licenses
 - Fuel Costs
 - Administrative Supplies

- Preliminary General Fund Expenditures before reclassifications
 - Where the district is heading without ESSER, Service Learning, Bond, 31a, and 31aa reclassifications
 - Comparison of the FY23 Final Budget, FY23 Final Actual, FY24 Original Budget and FY24 Mid-Year Expenditures before reclassifications
 - Two oversites stood out
 - A flow-through transaction of 8.4 million dollars was budgeted in the revenue section and not the expenditure section.
 - The 15 million dollars of increased wages that were not included in the budget.
- WWCS D General Fund Expenditures
 - Comparison of the FY23 Final Budget, FY23 Final Actual, FY24 Original Budget and FY24 Mid-Year Expenditures after reclassifications.
 - The ESSER, Service Learning, Bond, 31a, and 31aa were reclassified to free up 25.5 million.
 - If significant changes are not made by July 1, 2024, the outcome will be devastating. All of the reclassified funds will return to the general budget.

M. Hines shared that the district experienced a shortfall years ago, and legislation was written with the state to help with the shortfall.

J. Campbell mentioned that maybe this could be discussed at the upcoming legislative breakfast that is being held in Wayne-Westland.

D. Cox asked for an explanation of the support services category.

J. Campbell explained that support services include non-instructional staff, such as pupil support services, transportation, human resources, and business.

M. Hines asked, with the grant funds ending, are there other grants that the district can apply for?

J. Campbell stated that the budget could change as the district acquires additional federal and state funding.

M. Hines mentioned that a 26 million-dollar math grant would be available soon.

K. May asked for clarification on how the Net Gain/Loss was calculated on the General Fund Trends & Assumptions.

J. Campbell explained that the first number is a direct calculation, and the rest are the difference from the prior year.

II. Recommendation to Adopt the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment - [under separate cover]

Resolved, that the board approve Business Service & Finance Item II. as presented. Motion by M. Neal, support by F. Weaver.

The recommendation failed as no vote took place.

K. May asked if a first and second read would occur, as the bylaws call for.

M. Neal shared that he disagreed and that the board has never done it.

K. May asked if they were planning to follow the bylaws.

B. Gray shared that he believes the board should not vote on an item as it is introduced except in an emergency. But that has not always been the practice.

M. Neal asked that they pause to get the bylaws to review exactly what they state.

K. May expressed that she did not wish to share her copy of the bylaws and that, as board members, they are expected to know them.

Motion Motion to table to the Recommendation to Adopt the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment until the next meeting. Motion by K. May, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

The motion failed as no vote took place.

M. Hines asked if tabling the budget amendment until the next meeting will affect the final budget presentation in June.

J. Campbell explained that it would not; the mid-year budget amendment is not required; it is best practice.

M. Hines asked if there would be any financial issues if the board did not approve the amendment today.

J. Campbell shared that there would not be any issues with postponing the approval.

D. Cox asked for clarification on why the bylaws cannot be shared so that the item can be voted on at this meeting.

B. Gray shared that an item can be tabled regardless of what the bylaws state.

Motion Motion to recess to get a hard copy of the bylaws at 8:24 p.m.

Resolved, that the board recess to get a hard copy of the bylaws. Motion by B. Gray, support by M. Hines.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Motion Motion to resume meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Resolved that the board approve to resume meeting. Motion by M. Hines, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

B. Gray shared that the item referred to is listed in the Board Operating Procedures 1.3.1 Board Meeting Protocol number 17. Always attempt to have dialogue on issues from multiple perspectives rather than casting issues as requiring only a simple yes or no decision.

M. Neal shared that now that we know that it is not accurate to have a second read, what basis is there for tabling this item?

B. Gray commented that it was being tabled because no one in the room had had an opportunity to review and comment on the budget amendment. The first time he saw the budget amendment was when he sat down this evening.

M. Neal shared that the first read of the budget amendment should be at the Finance Committee.

K. May expressed that it was not presented at the Finance Committee.

M. Neal asked if a second read is wanted?

K. May shared that she would like a second read.

Motion Motion to table the Recommendation to Adopt the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment until the next meeting. Motion by K. May, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

D. Cox asked if the board was expecting something more from finance, or was it being tabled to give the public an opportunity to speak on it or ask for more information?

K. May answered that she could not answer that at this time because she had not had time to review it.

L. Abney-Mitchell shared that an informed decision could not be made on the budget today. Mistakes were made in the past and the board needs to take time to look at it.

M. Neal asked if the board will need two reads on the budget in June as well? Because that cannot wait a month for an approval.

B. Gray shared that the Board Operating Procedure states that, except in emergency situations. Therefore, he believes that the board would need two reads to follow procedure.

L. Abney-Mitchell commented that if there is a financial issue, it should have been presented at the Finance Committee before being presented at the board meeting.

M. Neal shared that he looks at the budget differently than making purchases. Ms. Campbell spent hours and hours putting this together, she is the expert in this situation and no one in this room has the background to contest this.

L. Abney-Mitchell commented that the board is not saying that they do not believe her. But that they have a shared responsibility to make sure they are being thorough.

K. May shared that the district had a CFO that you all have said made a mistake, we trusted what was presented and rubber-stamped it. This time, we just want an opportunity to look it over. We are supposed to ask questions and we need a chance to do so.

M. Neal shared that even if the board had taken the time to review the last budget presentation presented by the former CFO the error would not have been caught.

K. May disagrees because they did not take that opportunity.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 4
NAYS: 3 (Weaver, Cox, Neal)
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

284.24 CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: NON-AGENDA ITEMS (GENERAL) – Gray

Jennifer Owens – Forensic Audit status, contract negotiations, and government funded meals for athletes at Wayne Memorial being cut.

Kevin Marchi – ESSER Funds reclassification, background information on budget, and requests that the board allow the teacher's union to help.

Ed McGovern – Thanked Ms. Campbell this is the first time that he can remember there being an amended budget and he requested a breakdown of spending. He also suggested to increase the focus on college.

Laura DeMarco – Concerns about the board's intent.

Jessica West – Budget issues, communication, accountability, and forensic audit.

Kiersten West – Read the mission statement.

John Ross – Employee contract agreement concern.

Michelle Sample – Thanked Ms. Campbell for the Mid-Year Amendment, remarked on the board behavior and reminded them that they should be one voice.

Andrew Ambrus – Finance Committee practices.

Jerry White – Budget cuts are happening in many districts.

Anne Hineke – Recognized the retirement of Julie Mytych

285.24 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/COMMENTS – Dignan

Dr. Dignan shared the following comments from a prepared statement:

Thanked Julie Mytych for her years of service and the impact she left on the district.

I would like to express my deepest condolences to the family, staff and community of our Roosevelt student who passed away last week. Our district has a school support team made up of teachers, social workers, psychologists, counselors and

other staff members that will continue to be available to help students and families work through this tragic loss. Additionally, we have provided resources through SandCastles, New Hope Center for Grief Support, Angela Hospice and Care Solace.

The RFP for the Forensic audit has been completed and our team will be conducting a public bid opening on Friday, April 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm. We will update the board and community once the bids have been opened and reviewed.

The Corrective Action Plan that was requested by the Department of Treasury was submitted on March 15, 2024 regarding the district finances. Once the Treasury completes their review of our plan, we will post the plan on our district website and provide updates during the monthly board meetings as appropriate.

On March 12, 2024, we held the Sophomore College Fair at Wayne Memorial High School. This event continues to build momentum and we are grateful for the colleges that were able to come out and work with our students.

On March 20, 2024, all 8th grade students participated in a Discover Your Path event at Hype Athletics in Wayne. This event provided all 8th graders a hands on career day to experience exposure to various career pathways. Thank you to Ali Sayed and the HYPE staff for always being an amazing partner with our district.

Thank you to Schweitzer for doing the pledge.

I would like to thank Ms. Pawlukiewicz and Ms. Schulz for their presentations this evening. Also, thank you to Ms. Campbell and the Business Office team. They have been burning the midnight oil creating the budget amendment, creating processes and populating the RFP for the forensic audit.

Please remember as we are coming into the final months of the school year to watch the school calendars. There are many amazing events coming up to highlight our amazing students. With that I would like to wish each of you an amazing Spring break. I hope everyone has the opportunity to rest, rejuvenate and enjoy your families.

286.24 REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS, BOARD OF EDUCATION – Gray

M. Neal shared the following comments:

- People need to occasionally re-read contract or bylaw language to be reminded exactly what it states.
- The money negotiated was not an error on the unions part; it was due to an accounting issue that was made by not budgeting for the increases negotiated.
- The information for the Finance Committee is provided ahead of time. Ms. May, Ms. Abney-Mitchell, and himself ask detailed questions and are well-informed.

- Budgets constantly change; everything that can be done will be done, and the district will devise a solution.
- Thanked Ms. Campbell for her presentation.

D. Cox shared the following comments:

- Thanked Ms. Shultz for sharing the tremendous amount of improvement.
- The board approved the contracts that were created because they want teachers to come to our district and for them to stay.
- Decisions need to be made; teachers left due to uncertainty.
- The board did not decide to lay off or to outsource transportation. When an RFP for transportation was requested, transportation improved until Christmas break. Since the first of the year, about 2000 students have not been transported to school.
- The district is now in a corrective action plan with the State of Michigan because the board is not making decisions.
- To run a school district responsibly the board needs to have priorities.
- Shared that he felt that this meeting was ineffective.

L. Abney-Mitchell shared the following comments:

- Shared that the community elected her to work with the board. The board needs to work together and stop letting emotions get in the way.
- Thanked Ms. Campbell for the presentation and for always taking the time to answer all her questions.
- Thanked everyone for coming and letting the board know how the board can support them.
- Offered her prayers and thoughts to the family of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.
- Thanked Dr. Dignan for organizing the support for the staff and students at Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary.
- The board is allowed to disagree and have differences.
- March is reading month and thanked all the celebrity readers.
- April is poetry month.
- Career and College Fair had more than 70 vendors.
- Students from the community expressed that they enjoyed the Pathway Event at Hype.
- The City of Inkster is trying to connect with high school seniors.

K. May shared the following comments:

- Thanked pledge students.
- Congratulated Ms. Mytych on her retirement and her remarkable career in education.
- Shared her condolences to the family, students, and staff of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.

- Thanked the presenters.
- The student growth presented this evening is worth celebrating.
- Shared that her questions are to make sure the district is looking at the next steps.
- Ms. Sample has brought up the board retreat. One thing that the board learned at the board retreat is that as a board member their super power is to ask questions.
- The board needs to be respectful of each other's prospective and questions.
- Have a great Spring Break

M. Hines shared the following comments:

- Thanked the pledge students.
- Offered her condolences to the family, students, and staff of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.
- Free programs offered to the community:
 - Adventures in Literacy
 - Future Doctors of Tomorrow
 - Ace Aviation Career Education
 - Resource Fair
- Shared that she feels the district must talk to the legislators.
- Thanked the community for allowing her to serve.

F. Weaver shared the following comments:

- Thanked Ms. Campbell for the Mid-Year Amendment.
- Congratulated Ms. Mytych for her years of service.
- As long as the board is here, the board needs to act like statesmen, not only the board but in the community as well. The community is provided with a designated time to speak and speaking out of order is disgraceful.

B. Gray shared the following comments:

- Commented on the community's designated time to speak and shared that the community is always welcome to email questions as well. Dr. Dignan has always been responsive to questions.
- Thanked the pledge students.
- Expressed his condolences for the family, students and staff of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.
- Clarified that the millage is not on residential property.
- Requested that there be a presentation on how the ESSER funds were distributed.
- Apologized for losing his cool. He did not apologize for standing up against business as usual, that is not what the community wants. The board needs to support decisions that are made.

- Congratulated Ms. Mytych on her retirement.
- Enjoy Spring Break

287.24 ADJOURNMENT

Resolved, that the board adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. Motion by M. Hines, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Melandie Hines
Board of Education Secretary
Wayne-Westland Community Schools

Minutes

277.24 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Gray

Navy Watson and Daisy Watson
Schweitzer Elementary School, Emily Fa’asoa, Principal

278.24 ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE – Hines

Board members present: LeWanna Abney-Mitchell, David R. Cox, Bradley Gray, Melandie Hines, Kimberly R. May, Mark F. Neal, Frederick L. Weaver, Th.D.

279.24 RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS – Dignan

I. Extended COVID Learning Plan and Continuity of Services Plan Review – Pawlukiewicz

Kim Pawlukiewicz, Executive Director of HS Curriculum and Instruction and State and Federal Programs, shared a PowerPoint outlining the eCOL (Extended COVID Learning Plan) and Continuity of Services Plan Review.

ESSER Requirements:

- Review of the eCOL was adopted in August 2020, and the Continuity of Services was adopted in February 2022.
 - There have been no major changes to either plan.
 - ESSER III Projects
 - Updating middle and high school band instruments
 - Summer programming
 - Building and grounds
 - HVAC
 - Generators
 - Technology updates
 - Intervention programs for students
 - Amira
 - Read and Math 180
 - Additional
 - Elementary staffing

Additional Grants:

- Michigan Kids Back on Track (23g Grant)
 - A minimum of \$300 per student to promote programming for at-risk students
 - Supports students who were not proficient in ELA and Math on state assessments in 3rd, 8th, and 11th grades.

- Funds can be used for:
 - Addressing unfinished learning
 - Bringing students to grade-level
 - Additional academic assistance
 - Preparing high school students for postsecondary education
- Wayne-Westland was awarded \$1.5 million, and it is being used for:
 - Summer programming
 - 2024-2025 MTSS Interventionist salaries and benefits
 - Decodable reader supplies
- Reporting requirements:
 - Similar to ESSER
 - Plan must be posted to the district website
 - Updates on the transparency page
- Possible Future Grants:
 - 35j: Early Literacy Professional Development, Curriculum, and Supports Grant
 - Improve literacy instructional practices
 - Professional learning and materials
 - 99b: Computer Science Professional Learning Grant
 - To develop and implement teacher professional development programs for computer science courses.
 - Computer Science Coach and for other job-embedded professional learning

II. Identified Schools 2023-2024 – Schulz

Nancy Schulz, Director of School Improvement and Professional Development, shared information regarding Identified Schools.

The identified schools for the 2023-2024 school year are based on the 2022-2023 school year data.

- There are three ways of identifying schools at the state level for support:
 - Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)
 - Frequency: every three years
 - Criteria:
 - In the bottom 5% of schools in Michigan
 - Or, a high school with a four-year graduation rate of 67% or less
 - Or, was in a CSI cohort but did not meet CSI exit criteria
 - Or, was in an ATS cohort but did not meet ATS exit criteria
 - Additional Targeted Support (ATS)
 - Frequency: every six years

- Criteria:
 - One or more subgroups in the bottom 25% of each applicable component
 - One or more subgroups overall performing like a bottom 5% school
 - Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)
 - Frequency: annually
 - Criteria
 - If they have one or more subgroups in the bottom 25% for each applicable component
- Identified Schools
 - 2022-2023
 - TSI
 - Edison Elementary
 - Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary
 - Adams Middle School
 - Stevenson Middle School
 - ATS
 - Hicks Elementary
 - CSI
 - Franklin Middle School
 - Wayne-Westland Innovative Academy
 - 2023-2024
 - TSI
 - Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary
 - Adams Middle School
 - Stevenson Middle School
 - John Glenn High School
 - Wayne Memorial High School
 - ATS
 - Hicks Elementary
 - CSI
 - Franklin Middle School
 - Wayne-Westland Innovative Academy
- Edison was removed from the TSI list, and John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High Schools were added.
- Qualifications of TSI
 - Must rank in each of the seven key categories:
 - Student Growth
 - Student Proficiency
 - School Quality/Student Success
 - Graduation Rate
 - English Learner Progress
 - Test Participation (M-STEP, MI-ACCESS, PSAT, and SAT) (95% threshold)
 - English Learner Test Participation (WIDA ACCESS)

- The easiest way to ensure that a school does not end up identified as TSI is to test all students.
 - Proposal to ensure all students are tested:
 - Students on suspension will be tested at the board office
 - Homebound students will be tested on paper at home with their homebound teacher
 - Attempt to test all students in the first two weeks
 - Reevaluate how many absences constitute a student to be dropped
 - If virtual students do not show up for testing, they will be placed back into in-person learning
 - Offer transportation to virtual families in need
- Strategic Plan Progress
 - Pre-K Literacy Alignment
 - Fall Foundation Skills Data:
 - 12% of 5th-grade students could not accurately identify all 26 lowercase letters of the alphabet
 - 68.7% of 5th-grade students could not accurately produce the sound of every single letter consonant sound and basic digraphs
 - 38.4% of 5th grade students could not accurately read all K-3 level high frequency words
 - NWEA K-5 growth compared to last year
 - Growth Performance Bands
 - Reading
 - 9.06% of students showed above-average growth
 - Math
 - Bottom 25th percentile growth decreased by 13.85%, while the above 50th percentile growth grew by 16.71%
 - Science
 - Above 50th percentile growth grew by 8.42%
 - Growth Percentiles
 - Reading
 - Above 50th percentile growth grew by 8.78%
 - Math
 - Above 50th percentile growth grew by 16.71%
 - Meeting Growth Target
 - Reading
 - 9.47% more students hit their growth target
 - Math
 - 26.4% more students met their growth target
 - Really Great Reading Teacher Perception Data
 - 98% satisfaction of teachers enjoyed using Really Great Reading

- 98% of their students made academic gains because of the use of Really Great Reading
 - 98% of teachers said that it was easy to use
- The teachers have done a fantastic job of making this happen for our students.

K. May asked if there is a plan to address the subgroups in the bottom 25%.

N. Schultz explained that the fastest and easiest way to get the schools off the TSI list is to ensure we test all students. If all students were tested, the subgroups would not be identified, and there would be no identified status.

K. May disagreed and mentioned that it could be a conversation for later.

N. Schultz shared that you must qualify in all categories to be identified. So, if all students were to test, the school would not be identified. The district also offers tier-one instruction that impacts all groups, including the subgroups.

K. May questioned how the goal statement using classroom observation and data conversations will impact student achievement.

N. Schultz clarified that many districts are shifting to focusing their measures on teacher implementation instead of student results. The idea is that you cannot measure what is impacting student results if you don't know the input. We obtained alignment and then measured teacher implementation to compare how that impacts student results.

K. May asked what the timeline is for seeing the student's results.

N. Schultz informed that the results were displayed in the presentation.

K. May asked if there were parent and student perception data.

N. Schultz shared that we have last year's parent and student perception data and will collect it for this year during April and May.

M. Hines would like a copy of the presentation with the highlighted areas.

N. Schultz said she would provide the board with a copy.

F. Weaver asked how this would impact student retention.

N. Schultz shared that she does not believe this would impact student retention.

F. Weaver mentioned that it can be agreed that a child who graduates and can't read is on all of us.

M. Hines shared that the district has many families that move in and out due to rental homes. She asked if these families might impact the scores.

N. Schultz shared that she could not say specifically, but the district does have a high transient rate. That is why the standard of care that the literacy task force is working on is urgent.

L. Abney-Mitchell asked how we can support the subgroups in the bottom 25% moving forward.

N. Schultz expressed that all students, including those in the subgroups, receive support by having the standard of care built around what is best practice for all students.

L. Abney-Mitchell was concerned that the students in the bottom 25% needed more support than those who scored above them. The standard of care does not meet their needs.

N. Schultz shared that part of the standard of care is that K-5 teachers implement small group instruction within their classroom for students identified with the greatest need. Some students may also receive outside intervention in addition to the small group instruction.

L. Abney-Mitchell asked if the district identified why these students are in the bottom 25%. Is it behavior, attendance, or do they not understand?

N. Schultz shared that many factors may have contributed. This question could not be answered at this time.

M. Neal mentioned that, to his understanding, the new curriculum and the teacher's applications have raised the district's growth higher than has been reported in the past.

N. Schultz confirmed that Mr. Neal was correct. The growth is larger than the growth pre-COVID.

K. May requested that the board be provided the NWEA data broken down by subgroups.

280.24 CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS – Gray

Heather Martinez – Safe schools, mental health supports and budget cuts.

Jerry White – Budget shortfall and employee layoffs.

Jennifer Owens – Budget crisis, plans other than layoffs, and staffing concerns.

Michele Sample – Traffic is better at Wildwood, cancelation of the ASD Program at the Middle Schools, and would like answers to questions asked at the board meetings.

Jessica West – Requested the board not to adopt the budget this evening.

281.24 CONSENT AGENDA

I. MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2024
- b. Special Board Meeting – February 27, 2024
- c. Special Board Meeting – March 13, 2024

II. HUMAN RESOURCE ITEMS

- a. Resignations: Administrative, Instructional, Non-Instructional and Non-Affiliated Personnel

Charles Hallman
Julie Mytych
Kathleen Bell
William Davis
Lisa Farkas
Sandra Koelzer
Stephanie Mazzon
Jennifer Weaver
Jacob Brozek
Tammy Carmella
Patricia DiMaria
Brenda Douglas
Denise Hinch
Justin Monit
Deborah Pluff
Johnathan Prevost
Deborah Stevens
Arlene Ursem
Luke Tracy
Melissa Tracy

- b. Placements: Instructional, Non-Instructional, Non-Affiliated Personnel

Constance Wendecker
Alix Allen
Mary Coleman
Roomi Feroz
Dalyngia Fuqua
Steven Jaynes

Marilyn Minas
Catherine Tondreau
John Garrett
Jamel Griffin
Nancy Kelly
Cynthia Mitchell
Robert Nutt
Lori Porter
Keisha Robinson
Amber Williams

III. BUSINESS & FINANCE ITEMS

- a. Payment of Invoices [under separate cover]
- b. Investment Report [under separate cover]

IV. DONATIONS

The following donations were made to Wayne-Westland Community Schools Family Resource Center for students and families in need:

- a. Kimberly Pawlukiewicz – Purses and wallets
- b. Tiffany Harshfield – Diapers

The following donations were made to Wayne Memorial High School to help support the Poetry Contest Entrants:

- a. Snazzy Treats and Eats – Gift cards

The following donations were made to Wayne-Westland Community Schools to help support Elementary Athletics:

- a. Westland-Inkster Urgent Care – Monetary donation

The following donations were made to Wayne Memorial High School to help support the Wall of Honor:

- a. Deborah Harvey – Monetary donation
- b. Jeanne Roland – Monetary donation
- c. Darleen Miller – Monetary donation

The following donations were made to Wayne-Westland Community Schools to help support STEM in Elementary Schools:

- a. Sphero, Inc. – littleBits Electronic Music Inventor Kit

I. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

a. Field Trips

- i. John Glenn High School 9th-12th Grade DECA Field Trip [under separate cover]
- ii. John Glenn High School 10th-12th Grade Bowling Field Trip [under separate cover]
- iii. John Glenn High School 9th-12th Grade Wrestling State Tournament [under separate cover]
- iv. Franklin Middle School 8th Grade Field Trip [under separate cover]
- v. John Glenn High School 11th-12th Grade DECA Field Trip [under separate cover]

b. Wayne RESA Parent Advisory Committee Nomination

Resolved, that the board approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion by F. Weaver, support by B. Gray.

L. Abney-Mitchell asked if field trips were for information only.

J. Dignan shared that this is for information only, and many are competitions that we would not have time to present in advance.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

282.24 BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Gray

I. Finance Committee Report – May

Ms. May shared the following comments from a prepared statement:

The Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wayne-Westland Community Schools met Thursday, March 7, 2024, beginning at 4:34 pm via Zoom Platform.

Mrs. Abney-Mitchell, Mr. Neal, and Ms. May were present.

Dr. Dignan shared information regarding the Student Driver grant.

Ms. Campbell reviewed both the investment report and check register. Ms. Campbell also shared an updated version of district subscriptions and renewals.

Dr. Dignan shared closing comments.

Board members asked follow-up questions and shared closing comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on April 11, 2024 at 4:30 pm via Zoom.

283.24 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BUSINESS SERVICE & FINANCE – Campbell

I. 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment Presentation

Motion Motion for recess to display presentation at 7:56 p.m.

Resolved that the board approve recess to display presentation. Motion by B. Gray, support by M. Hines.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Motion Motion to resume meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Resolved that the board approves to resume meeting. Motion by D. Cox, support by M. Hines.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Julie Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of Business, Finance and Operations, shared a PowerPoint presentation on the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment.

The presentation aims to provide the board and the community with a more accurate picture of the district's current position in the general fund.

The public schools follow a fiscal year from July 1 – June 30; the current year is 2023-2024 or Fiscal Year (FY) 24.

- General Fund Trends & Assumptions
 - Explained how the per-pupil allowance and student enrollment affect the general fund
- Major General Fund Revenue Components
 - Per Pupil Allocation (State Aid Foundation Allowance)
 - Student Enrollment
 - Property Taxes (currently levy only 17.4798 of 18 mills due to Headlee Rollback)
 - Property taxes increase faster than the rate of inflation which causes the rollback
 - Special Education Reimbursements
 - State Categoricals
 - Local Revenue (donations, sale of assets, etc.)
- WWCS D General Fund Revenue
 - Compared the FY23 Final Budget, FY23 Final Actual, FY24 Original Budget and FY24 Mid-Year General Fund Revenues
- Major General Fund Expenditure Components
 - Staffing
 - Wages
 - Medical Benefits
 - Retirement
 - FICA
 - Contracted Services
 - Ancillary Insurances
 - Professional Development
 - Facilities
 - Utilities
 - Daily Building Maintenance
 - Repairs
 - Liability Insurance
 - Equipment Updates
 - Supplies/Materials
 - Curriculum
 - Instructional Materials
 - Program Resources
 - Classroom Supplies
 - Software Licenses
 - Fuel Costs
 - Administrative Supplies

- Preliminary General Fund Expenditures before reclassifications
 - Where the district is heading without ESSER, Service Learning, Bond, 31a, and 31aa reclassifications
 - Comparison of the FY23 Final Budget, FY23 Final Actual, FY24 Original Budget and FY24 Mid-Year Expenditures before reclassifications
 - Two oversites stood out
 - A flow-through transaction of 8.4 million dollars was budgeted in the revenue section and not the expenditure section.
 - The 15 million dollars of increased wages that were not included in the budget.
- WWCS D General Fund Expenditures
 - Comparison of the FY23 Final Budget, FY23 Final Actual, FY24 Original Budget and FY24 Mid-Year Expenditures after reclassifications.
 - The ESSER, Service Learning, Bond, 31a, and 31aa were reclassified to free up 25.5 million.
 - If significant changes are not made by July 1, 2024, the outcome will be devastating. All of the reclassified funds will return to the general budget.

M. Hines shared that the district experienced a shortfall years ago, and legislation was written with the state to help with the shortfall.

J. Campbell mentioned that maybe this could be discussed at the upcoming legislative breakfast that is being held in Wayne-Westland.

D. Cox asked for an explanation of the support services category.

J. Campbell explained that support services include non-instructional staff, such as pupil support services, transportation, human resources, and business.

M. Hines asked, with the grant funds ending, are there other grants that the district can apply for?

J. Campbell stated that the budget could change as the district acquires additional federal and state funding.

M. Hines mentioned that a 26 million-dollar math grant would be available soon.

K. May asked for clarification on how the Net Gain/Loss was calculated on the General Fund Trends & Assumptions.

J. Campbell explained that the first number is a direct calculation, and the rest are the difference from the prior year.

II. Recommendation to Adopt the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment - [under separate cover]

Resolved, that the board approve Business Service & Finance Item II. as presented. Motion by M. Neal, support by F. Weaver.

The recommendation failed as no vote took place.

K. May asked if a first and second read would occur, as the bylaws call for.

M. Neal shared that he disagreed and that the board has never done it.

K. May asked if they were planning to follow the bylaws.

B. Gray shared that he believes the board should not vote on an item as it is introduced except in an emergency. But that has not always been the practice.

M. Neal asked that they pause to get the bylaws to review exactly what they state.

K. May expressed that she did not wish to share her copy of the bylaws and that, as board members, they are expected to know them.

Motion Motion to table to the Recommendation to Adopt the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment until the next meeting. Motion by K. May, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

The motion failed as no vote took place.

M. Hines asked if tabling the budget amendment until the next meeting will affect the final budget presentation in June.

J. Campbell explained that it would not; the mid-year budget amendment is not required; it is best practice.

M. Hines asked if there would be any financial issues if the board did not approve the amendment today.

J. Campbell shared that there would not be any issues with postponing the approval.

D. Cox asked for clarification on why the bylaws cannot be shared so that the item can be voted on at this meeting.

B. Gray shared that an item can be tabled regardless of what the bylaws state.

Motion Motion to recess to get a hard copy of the bylaws at 8:24 p.m.

Resolved, that the board recess to get a hard copy of the bylaws. Motion by B. Gray, support by M. Hines.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

Motion Motion to resume meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Resolved that the board approve to resume meeting. Motion by M. Hines, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

B. Gray shared that the item referred to is listed in the Board Operating Procedures 1.3.1 Board Meeting Protocol number 17. Always attempt to have dialogue on issues from multiple perspectives rather than casting issues as requiring only a simple yes or no decision.

M. Neal shared that now that we know that it is not accurate to have a second read, what basis is there for tabling this item?

B. Gray commented that it was being tabled because no one in the room had had an opportunity to review and comment on the budget amendment. The first time he saw the budget amendment was when he sat down this evening.

M. Neal shared that the first read of the budget amendment should be at the Finance Committee.

K. May expressed that it was not presented at the Finance Committee.

M. Neal asked if a second read is wanted?

K. May shared that she would like a second read.

Motion Motion to table the Recommendation to Adopt the 2023-2024 Mid-Year General Fund Budget Amendment until the next meeting. Motion by K. May, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

D. Cox asked if the board was expecting something more from finance, or was it being tabled to give the public an opportunity to speak on it or ask for more information?

K. May answered that she could not answer that at this time because she had not had time to review it.

L. Abney-Mitchell shared that an informed decision could not be made on the budget today. Mistakes were made in the past and the board needs to take time to look at it.

M. Neal asked if the board will need two reads on the budget in June as well? Because that cannot wait a month for an approval.

B. Gray shared that the Board Operating Procedure states that, except in emergency situations. Therefore, he believes that the board would need two reads to follow procedure.

L. Abney-Mitchell commented that if there is a financial issue, it should have been presented at the Finance Committee before being presented at the board meeting.

M. Neal shared that he looks at the budget differently than making purchases. Ms. Campbell spent hours and hours putting this together, she is the expert in this situation and no one in this room has the background to contest this.

L. Abney-Mitchell commented that the board is not saying that they do not believe her. But that they have a shared responsibility to make sure they are being thorough.

K. May shared that the district had a CFO that you all have said made a mistake, we trusted what was presented and rubber-stamped it. This time, we just want an opportunity to look it over. We are supposed to ask questions and we need a chance to do so.

M. Neal shared that even if the board had taken the time to review the last budget presentation presented by the former CFO the error would not have been caught.

K. May disagrees because they did not take that opportunity.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 4
NAYS: 3 (Weaver, Cox, Neal)
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED

284.24 CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: NON-AGENDA ITEMS (GENERAL) – Gray

Jennifer Owens – Forensic Audit status, contract negotiations, and government funded meals for athletes at Wayne Memorial being cut.

Kevin Marchi – ESSER Funds reclassification, background information on budget, and requests that the board allow the teacher's union to help.

Ed McGovern – Thanked Ms. Campbell this is the first time that he can remember there being an amended budget and he requested a breakdown of spending. He also suggested to increase the focus on college.

Laura DeMarco – Concerns about the board's intent.

Jessica West – Budget issues, communication, accountability, and forensic audit.

Kiersten West – Read the mission statement.

John Ross – Employee contract agreement concern.

Michelle Sample – Thanked Ms. Campbell for the Mid-Year Amendment, remarked on the board behavior and reminded them that they should be one voice.

Andrew Ambrus – Finance Committee practices.

Jerry White – Budget cuts are happening in many districts.

Anne Hineke – Recognized the retirement of Julie Mytych

285.24 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/COMMENTS – Dignan

Dr. Dignan shared the following comments from a prepared statement:

Thanked Julie Mytych for her years of service and the impact she left on the district.

I would like to express my deepest condolences to the family, staff and community of our Roosevelt student who passed away last week. Our district has a school support team made up of teachers, social workers, psychologists, counselors and

other staff members that will continue to be available to help students and families work through this tragic loss. Additionally, we have provided resources through SandCastles, New Hope Center for Grief Support, Angela Hospice and Care Solace.

The RFP for the Forensic audit has been completed and our team will be conducting a public bid opening on Friday, April 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm. We will update the board and community once the bids have been opened and reviewed.

The Corrective Action Plan that was requested by the Department of Treasury was submitted on March 15, 2024 regarding the district finances. Once the Treasury completes their review of our plan, we will post the plan on our district website and provide updates during the monthly board meetings as appropriate.

On March 12, 2024, we held the Sophomore College Fair at Wayne Memorial High School. This event continues to build momentum and we are grateful for the colleges that were able to come out and work with our students.

On March 20, 2024, all 8th grade students participated in a Discover Your Path event at Hype Athletics in Wayne. This event provided all 8th graders a hands on career day to experience exposure to various career pathways. Thank you to Ali Sayed and the HYPE staff for always being an amazing partner with our district.

Thank you to Schweitzer for doing the pledge.

I would like to thank Ms. Pawlukiewicz and Ms. Schulz for their presentations this evening. Also, thank you to Ms. Campbell and the Business Office team. They have been burning the midnight oil creating the budget amendment, creating processes and populating the RFP for the forensic audit.

Please remember as we are coming into the final months of the school year to watch the school calendars. There are many amazing events coming up to highlight our amazing students. With that I would like to wish each of you an amazing Spring break. I hope everyone has the opportunity to rest, rejuvenate and enjoy your families.

286.24 REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS, BOARD OF EDUCATION – Gray

M. Neal shared the following comments:

- People need to occasionally re-read contract or bylaw language to be reminded exactly what it states.
- The money negotiated was not an error on the unions part; it was due to an accounting issue that was made by not budgeting for the increases negotiated.
- The information for the Finance Committee is provided ahead of time. Ms. May, Ms. Abney-Mitchell, and himself ask detailed questions and are well-informed.

- Budgets constantly change; everything that can be done will be done, and the district will devise a solution.
- Thanked Ms. Campbell for her presentation.

D. Cox shared the following comments:

- Thanked Ms. Shultz for sharing the tremendous amount of improvement.
- The board approved the contracts that were created because they want teachers to come to our district and for them to stay.
- Decisions need to be made; teachers left due to uncertainty.
- The board did not decide to lay off or to outsource transportation. When an RFP for transportation was requested, transportation improved until Christmas break. Since the first of the year, about 2000 students have not been transported to school.
- The district is now in a corrective action plan with the State of Michigan because the board is not making decisions.
- To run a school district responsibly the board needs to have priorities.
- Shared that he felt that this meeting was ineffective.

L. Abney-Mitchell shared the following comments:

- Shared that the community elected her to work with the board. The board needs to work together and stop letting emotions get in the way.
- Thanked Ms. Campbell for the presentation and for always taking the time to answer all her questions.
- Thanked everyone for coming and letting the board know how the board can support them.
- Offered her prayers and thoughts to the family of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.
- Thanked Dr. Dignan for organizing the support for the staff and students at Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary.
- The board is allowed to disagree and have differences.
- March is reading month and thanked all the celebrity readers.
- April is poetry month.
- Career and College Fair had more than 70 vendors.
- Students from the community expressed that they enjoyed the Pathway Event at Hype.
- The City of Inkster is trying to connect with high school seniors.

K. May shared the following comments:

- Thanked pledge students.
- Congratulated Ms. Mytych on her retirement and her remarkable career in education.
- Shared her condolences to the family, students, and staff of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.

- Thanked the presenters.
- The student growth presented this evening is worth celebrating.
- Shared that her questions are to make sure the district is looking at the next steps.
- Ms. Sample has brought up the board retreat. One thing that the board learned at the board retreat is that as a board member their super power is to ask questions.
- The board needs to be respectful of each other's prospective and questions.
- Have a great Spring Break

M. Hines shared the following comments:

- Thanked the pledge students.
- Offered her condolences to the family, students, and staff of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.
- Free programs offered to the community:
 - Adventures in Literacy
 - Future Doctors of Tomorrow
 - Ace Aviation Career Education
 - Resource Fair
- Shared that she feels the district must talk to the legislators.
- Thanked the community for allowing her to serve.

F. Weaver shared the following comments:

- Thanked Ms. Campbell for the Mid-Year Amendment.
- Congratulated Ms. Mytych for her years of service.
- As long as the board is here, the board needs to act like statesmen, not only the board but in the community as well. The community is provided with a designated time to speak and speaking out of order is disgraceful.

B. Gray shared the following comments:

- Commented on the community's designated time to speak and shared that the community is always welcome to email questions as well. Dr. Dignan has always been responsive to questions.
- Thanked the pledge students.
- Expressed his condolences for the family, students and staff of the Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary student.
- Clarified that the millage is not on residential property.
- Requested that there be a presentation on how the ESSER funds were distributed.
- Apologized for losing his cool. He did not apologize for standing up against business as usual, that is not what the community wants. The board needs to support decisions that are made.

- Congratulated Ms. Mytych on her retirement.
- Enjoy Spring Break

287.24 ADJOURNMENT

Resolved, that the board adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. Motion by M. Hines, support by L. Abney-Mitchell.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

MOTION PASSED



Melandie Hines
Board of Education Secretary
Wayne-Westland Community Schools