

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Farrell-Emmett Elementary School Media Center  
Thursday, April 13, 2017 – 7:00 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Zabor called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

President Zabor invited the Foreign Exchange Students in attendance to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a Moment of Silence.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Zabor, Bullard, Charney, French, Sokacz, Monaco, Hoppe

Members Absent:

Also Present:

Superintendent Ken Nicholl  
Assistant Superintendent Joe Haynes  
Director of Business Services Beky Silkworth  
Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe

Also Present:

Yale Expositor Reporter Jim Brown, Farrell Emmett Elementary Principal Bob Watson and FES Staff Members, Yale High School Teacher Courtney Sklba, Mr. Sklba and sons, Mr. & Mrs. Dazer, Mr. & Mrs. Todd Kaatz and Emily Kaatz, Kathleen Hooper, Yale Junior High Teacher Jack Hennesey, Mr. Jim Kavanagh and daughters, Yale High School Principal Paul Flynn, Youth for Understanding Representative Colleen Leibler and Christy Hubbard ,YFU students, host families and several audience members.

**4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Charney seconded by Hoppe to adopt the agenda as amended.

Ayes: 7            Nays: 0            Absent: 0            Motion Carried

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was presented/read by Superintendent Nicholl:

- Superintendent Nicholl shared information on the 2017-2018 School Aid Budget Summary.
- Yale Junior High and Yale High School girls will be participating in Women in Aviation on April 28 at the St. Clair County Airport. The students will be welcomed by Misty Blues which is an all female parachute team.
- Shared a thank you note from Yale Public Schools social workers and counselors thanking the Board for the opportunity to attend a workshop on Trauma.
- Received an invitation to attend the 2017 Spring Conference in Novi which features special guests Lt. Governor Brian Calley and President, Modern Day Teacher Dr. Shawn K. Smith. We will be going to Lansing in May where Senator Phil Pavlov and State Representative Dan Lauwers will speak to the Appropriations Committee.
- To gain the perspective of the Modern Day Teacher.
- Ms. Silkworth and Superintendent Nicholl are currently working on the 2017-2018 Budget. The Legislative Budget is due in October and ours in June.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**A. Special Guests**

- Superintendent Nicholl introduced Farrell-Emmett Elementary Principal Bob Watson and thanked Mr. Watson and staff for hosting the Board meeting. Mr. Watson informed the Board that March was Reading Month and invited them to explore the hallways to view the many camping sites that were still on display.

Principal Watson gave a very heartfelt memorial dedication to Farrell-Emmett Elementary Aide Linda Kavanagh and presented her family with a \$430 check for "Team Celtic Courage" (Relay for Life) and a keepsake signature inscribed photo frame in her honor.

- Superintendent Nicholl introduced YFU Representative Christi Hubbard who introduced the foreign exchange students Vanessa Bertsche - Germany, Zeynep Erzeybek – Turkey, Janos Holtze – Germany, Arthur Jean-Claude Julien Lemoine - France, Marie Fernanda Moretty Rojas – Venezuela, Josephine Christine Voetmann – Denmark, Sabina Timurovna Zakirova - Kazakhstan who thanked the Board for allowing them the opportunity to attend Yale High School and added how much they enjoyed the school year. Mr. Nicholl indicated how wonderful it is to bring cultural diversity to Yale and how good it is for our students to see the different perspective in cultures. President Zabor thanked the host families for accomodating the students and the YFU Representatives Christi Hubbard and Colleen Leibler for their placement of students in the district.
- Superintendent Nicholl presented the MASB (Michigan Association of Schools Boards) Master Board Member Award to Board Trustee Veronica Monaco and thanked Ms. Monaco for her continued dedication and for the countless hours given to the community, kids and Board of Education. President Zabor presented Ms. Monaco with a pin and certificate of completion.
- Superintendent Nicholl read a heartfelt letter that this year's SCCASB (St. Clair County Association of School Boards) scholarship recipient Emily Kaatz submitted on behalf of her mentor teacher, Mrs. Courtney Sklba. President Zabor presented Emily with a check to St. Clair County Community College, in the amount of \$600.00, and presented her mentor teacher Mrs. Sklba with the Crystal Apple Award, which was inscribed with "To teach is to teach a life forever".

The Board took a brief recess at 7:45 PM

The Board reconvened at 8:05 PM

- B. Agenda Items – None at this time.
- C. Non-Agenda Items – None at this time.

7. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Treasurer's Report and Monthly Bills in the amount of \$656,477.88

Motion by Charney seconded by Sokacz to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report and approve monthly bills in the amount of \$656,477.88

Roll Call Vote:

Zabor-Yes, Monaco- Yes, French- Yes, Sokacz- Yes , Hoppe- Yes, Bullard- Yes, Charney- Yes  
 Ayes: 0                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

8. **APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT**

Instruction and Personnel

A. Hiring

1. Rebecca Murtos, Building Grounds & Transportation Clerk
2. Sherry Goniwiecha, Latch Key Aide, Yale Elementary
3. Melissa Watkins, Latch Key Aide, Avoca Elementary
4. Kimberly Schott, Child Care Associate, Avoca Elementary
5. Jodi Schoenberg, Yale Elementary/Bus Garage Custodian

B. Recommended Additions to the Substitute Lists

Motion by Monaco seconded by Hoppe to approve the Personnel Report as presented.

Ayes: 7                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

9. **OLD BUSINESS** – None at this time.

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. 2016-2017 SCCASB Scholarship and Mentor Recognition (Awarded earlier in the agenda.)

B. Master Board Member Award - Veronica Monaco (Awarded earlier in the agenda.)

C. Superintendent's Evaluation Summary

Motion by Bullard seconded by Charney to approve Superintendent Kenneth Nicholl's Evaluation Summary of April 2017.

Roll Call Vote:

Zabor-Yes, Monaco- Yes, French- Yes, Sokacz- Yes, Hoppe- Yes, Bullard- Yes, Charney- Yes  
 Ayes: 0                      Nays: 0                      Absent: 0                      Motion Carried

Superintendent Nicholl gave a brief synopsis of the Severance Incentive Program. Treasurer Charney proposed a motion for the Severance Incentive Program. A short discussion followed.

The Board took a brief recess at 9:00 PM.

The Board returned to session at 9:08 PM.

**D. Yale Public Schools Severance Incentive Program**

Motion by Charney seconded by Monaco to approve the Yale Public Schools Severance Incentive Program as presented with minimums of 5 teachers - \$12,000, 6 teachers - \$15,000 and 7 plus teachers - \$18,000 with notification of their decision by June 2, 2017.

Roll Call Vote:

Zabor-Yes, Monaco- Yes, French- Abstain, Sokacz- Yes , Hoppe- Yes, Bullard- Yes, Charney- Yes

Ayes: 6 Abstain: 1 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

**E. E-Rate Contract**

Motion by Charney seconded by Bullard to award the contract for internet connectivity, to St. Clair County RESA for the 2017-2018 school year as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Zabor - Yes, Monaco - Yes, French - Yes, Sokacz - Yes, Hoppe - Yes, Bullard - Yes, Charney - Yes

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

**11. Comments from Board Members, Administration**

- President Zabor stated that she appreciates the exceptional Board of Education that we have and how much she enjoys working with all of them.
- Member Monaco wished everyone a Happy Holiday.
- Treasurer Charney thanked Principal Watson for the continued support and excellent attendance from the Farrell-Emmett Staff.
- Vice President Bullard reminded everyone of the upcoming Board of Education Academic Awards Dinner on May 3.
- Yale High School Principal Paul Flynn announced that he had received a \$500 check from Kars Driver's Training School for the Board of Education Academic Award Dinner. He also told the Board members that they would receive their gowns for the graduation ceremony by May 3.
- Superintendent Nicholl voiced his appreciation to the Board and all that they do. He added that he respects the difficult decisions that they have to make. In addition he gave kudos to the community for their generosity in believing in us and announced that to date the district had received over \$7500 in donations for the Board of Education dinner.

**12. Adjournment by Consensus: Time Being 9:19 PM.**

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**DENA FRENCH, Secretary  
Yale Board of Education**