

**School District of the City of Highland Park  
HPRA Henry Ford Campus  
131 Pilgrim Street  
Highland Park, MI 48203**

# **Schedule**

**Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 10, 2015  
7:00 p.m.**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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HPRA Henry Ford School Campus  
131 Pilgrim Street  
Highland Park, Michigan 48203  
Tuesday, March 10, 2015  
7:00 p.m.

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**MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Highland Park was called to order by President McDonald in the Henry Ford Renaissance Academy, 131 Pilgrim Street, Highland Park, Michigan 48203, Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at approximately 7:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present Members: Morquet Ash- Shafii, Evette Burke, Jamille Edwards, John Holloway, Glenda McDonald , Linda Wheeler and Soyini Williams

A quorum was present.

Also present was Mr. Gregory Weatherspoon, Emergency Manager, Barbara Oliver, Charter School Manager, Steve Schiller, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, Charles Gordon, Superintendent, George Washington Carver Academy, and Michael Jackson, HPRA Building Administrator.

3. Communications

None

4. Student Representative Comments/Report

None

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Approval of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2015 Regular Meeting

Suggested Motion

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the February 10, 2015 Regular Meeting.

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**MINUTES**

Moved by: Member Edwards

Supported by: Member Burke

**Motion: Carried**

7. Committee Updates

None

8. Emergency Manager Comments/Updates

EM Exit Plans: Library books, Yearbooks, Student files

Mr. Weatherspoon explained his plans for the library books, the yearbooks and the student files.

**Library books-** Are to be ready to put into students hands, or put some place to allow public access.

**Yearbooks-** There has been two meetings discussing yearbooks, a fair access plan is needed. We will make sure that the Burton Collection, (Detroit Public Library) has a copy or two of every yearbook. I need ideas on how to distribute the yearbooks.

**Student files-** The high school, career academy, and special education files will be moved to the ISD, Wayne RESA. The Highland Park Community College transcripts will be moved to the State of Michigan. The information will be available on our web page.

**Mr. Weatherspoon** introduced Mr. Michael Curis, potential buyer for the 20-32 Bartlett Property. Mr. Curis answered the Board member's questions?

**Vice President Williams:** What are your plans for the Bartlett property?

**Mr. Curis:** We own the shopping center next to the Bartlett property and the housing behind it. The property will be tore down, to create retail space. We do not know exactly what stores.

**President McDonald:** How did you hear about the property being for sale?

**Mr. Curis:** We contacted Steve Schiller.

**Mr. Holloway:** Mr. Weatherspoon can you explain the sale of this property, the purchase price, adjustments and the real dollars that will be accrued to the district .

**Mr. Weatherspoon:** The building will be sold as is. The appraisal price was \$75,000, the offer is \$90,000. The water bill is \$72,000 a survey \$2,000-\$3,000,

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**MINUTES**

and a \$5,000 commission fee will be deducted from the \$90,000. The district will profit \$15,000-\$18,000 from the sale of this property.

**President McDonald:** I added the figures and approximately \$10,000 is what the school district will receive for the sale of this property.

**Mr. Weatherspoon:** That is correct.

**McDonald:** How did we get a \$72,000 water bill on this building, is this an accurate bill? There has to be some way of finding out if this bill is correct. If this bill is not correct we will lose money that can be applied to the school district's debt. We do not want to give away money on a bill that we don't know whether or not it is correct.

**Steve Schiller:** I have contacted the water department and received itemized bills for the years that were not paid. I have additional verification that this bill is correct.

**Member Edwards:** When did the school district have a zero balance for the water bill?

**Steve Schiller:** In 2010

**Member Edwards:** From 2010-2015 we have accumulated a \$72,000 water bill?

**Steve Schiller:** Running water and broken pipes has been a problem.

**Member Edwards:** From 2010-2012 we have a \$72,000 water bill.

**Steve Schiller:** The water was shut off in 2013.

**Member Edwards:** I have walked the building from basement to rooftop and I did not see any water leakage.

**Member Burke:** I need a clear understanding, the water was turned off in 2013. Are you saying from 2012-2012 of occupied usage, a \$72,000 bill was accumulated, with no reported leakage?

**Steve Schiller:** A final reading was done and those readings correspond with the water bill.

**Member McDonald:** My biggest problem with selling this property is, the district is not making any profit. I don't think we should enter into an agreement to sale this property without knowing if this water bill is legitimate.

**Mr. Weatherspoon:** What you asking is, for me to validate a \$72,000 water bill, how do I do that?

Discuss Early Termination of the Lease for the 15900 Woodward Property.

Mr. Weatherspoon introduced Mr. Dennis Pollard, Attorney, who explained the process for early termination of the lease for the 15900 Woodward Property. (see attached)

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**President McDonald:** What will the School District get for allowing the city to tear down the school? How is this helping the debt?

**Attorney Pollard:** The quarter of a million dollars that is being spent on the building now will no longer exist. You will get the relief of this debt.

9. Board Member Comments

Vote on the Selling of 20-32 Bartlett Property

Suggested Motion

That the Board of Education approves the Selling of the 20-32 Bartlett Property

Moved by: Member Holloway    Supported by: Member Edwards

Dissent by: President McDonald

**Motion: Carried**

Discuss establishing Board Attendance Policies and Procedures.

Member Edwards made a motion for two members to review Board Policies and Procedures.

Supported by: Burke

**Motion: Carried**

10. Public Commentary

**Ms. Bernice Mia:** Can we dissolve the district? I am disappointed in the state of this district.

**Hubert Yopp:** In 2010 the Highland Park School District owed the city a half of a million dollars in water bills. Highland Park is in bad shape, where is the half million dollars that is owed to the city?.

**Loren McGhee:** Is the deficit more since emergency management? Do you view your time here as a success?

**Mr. Weatherspoon:** Loans were taken out to pay bills, the loans were taken out before I got here.

**Charlene Turner –Johnson:** I am here as a representative of the 48023 HP Collaborative. Our goal is that every child in Highland Park be successful from cradle to crib. We want to keep a high school in Highland Park.

**Ms. Beaom:** Let's do something different . We need to look at something simple.

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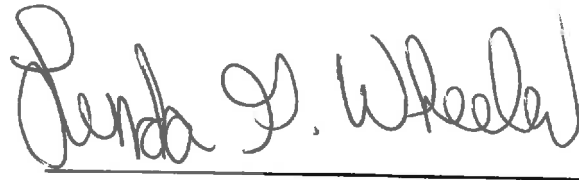
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**MINUTES**

**Dakota Leonard:** I have a suggestion for storage of the books. An organization, named Little Free Library, will create a library free of charge, to keep your books.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by Member Edwards and supported by Member Burke to adjourn the Board of Education Meeting. Following proper procedure, President McDonald adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:33 p.m.



Linda Wheeler, Secretary  
Board of Education

Minutes Adopted: 06/9/2015