

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes - Regular Board Meeting**  
**February 16, 2021**

The Board of Education of the Garfield Heights City School District met in regular session on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with Mrs. Nichelle Daniels, President of the Board, presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mrs. Daniels, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas  
Absent: Mr. Juby

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve of the minutes from the Organizational Board Meeting of January 11, 2021, Special Board Meeting of January 11, 2021 and Regular Board Meeting of January 19, 2021.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Thank you. I'd like to first begin my report by welcoming incoming Board Member, Heather Morrison, who joins the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education after filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Christine Kitson within the last several weeks. After publicly posting the position and following the appropriate protocols, Ms. Morrison was selected, and we are confident that she will do a fine job. Thank you to Mrs. Kitson for your time on the Board, and welcome to Ms. Morrison.

Teachers and staff members returned to the buildings last week to begin the formal process of preparing their classrooms and spaces for scholars' arrival on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Teachers and staff members also received their vaccinations as a preparatory measure to keep themselves, and those around them, as safe as possible. Thank you to our devoted and hard-working staff for all of your efforts.

In my capacity as Board President, I attended the National School Board Association's Equity Symposium along with 1,000 of my fellow Board Members and administrators from across the country. An equitable **education** system helps all students develop the knowledge and skills they need to be engaged and become productive members of society. My participation in this symposium equipped me with knowledge and tools to support the governance of our district's commitment to Equity.

This evening Mr. Hanke will discuss the Strategic Plan at great length, and we have a presentation on it this evening. On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to thank Superintendent Hanke for first introducing this idea to the Board more than a year ago, and then persevering through the COVID pandemic to keep us on-task to complete this process. I also thank with sincere gratitude the many community members who participated on the Steering Committee and focus groups for their input. This Strategic Plan will guide our District over the next five years and is truly a community-based and collaborative effort. Thank you to everyone who played a role in making the completion of this plan possible.

Finally, while every month is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements of African Americans, the Month of February is a special occasion where we as a community can truly join together and share in the pride, accomplishments and achievements of Black History in our nation. I even sit here tonight as a part of Black History for our school district as the first African American to serve as Garfield Heights City School District Board of Education President. I share that humbly but with pride because representation is the lens in which we dream and I sit here as a representation of our future leaders dreams.

I am also extremely proud of the Garfield Heights City Schools, and our efforts to create meaningful activities and opportunities for fun experiences for our entire community to truly commemorate Black History Month. Special thank you to Ms. Hamilton and Mrs. Wilson for their efforts to make Black History month so special this year in our District.

Tonight, I would like to leave our students with this quote from Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." I say to our students, your education is the most powerful thing you will ever possess and the Board of Education is committed to assuring that our students will have equal access and opportunity to change the world.

Please remain safe and healthy in the days ahead as we prepare for the return of staff and students to the buildings. With that, I conclude my report. Thank you very much.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Cuyahoga Valley Career Center – Christine A. Kitson**

### **Student Activities - Ashley M. Thomas, M. Ed.**

The winter sports season is almost complete for all of our teams. Both our boys and our girls bowling teams recently won the LEL tournament. Our girls team qualified as a team for districts next weekend and Joe Lenart qualified for our boys team. Major recent purchases: Hudl which stores and shares all of our game films.

### **Legislative Liaison – Nichelle N. Daniels**

On Thursday, February 18, 2021, Superintendent Chris Hanke will be testifying in front of the Ohio House education committee on behalf of the First Ring. His testimony is advocating for the state to waive all testing requirements for this school year due to the impact of the pandemic on student learning.

The argument is that we have substantial internal data through MAP, and we will need to focus on the social-emotional well-being of the students.

### **City Liaison – Millette King, M. Ed. L.S.W.**

- Interim Mayor Matt Burke was sworn in on Monday February 1, 2021.
- The legislative committee will meet tonight February 16, 2021 at 6:30pm to review applications submitted to fill the vacant Ward 6 City Council seat due to Matt Burke's assuming the Interim Mayor position.
- Interviews will occur Wednesday February 17th and February 19th (if needed) at 6:30pm. All meetings can be viewed via Zoom. The meeting ID is 893 1547 4985.
- The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday February 22, 2021 via Zoom at meeting ID 983 1547 4985 at 7:00pm.

### **Policy Liaison – Joseph Juby & Nichelle N. Daniels**

The policies that were changed:

BDC-Executive Sessions: New language was added to include the following “the Board may enter into executive sessions for consideration of the follow matters: and added and changed a few other words in the policy.

EDE- EDE-R Computer/Online Services: New language was also added: “ the district reserves the right to amend policies and regulations as necessary throughout the school year.”

DH-Bonded Employees and Officers: The policy committee adopted the second paragraph, based on the recommendations from Mr. Sluka. This policy also added new language “Under the District liability insurance policy”. The District also provides for appropriate bonding or insurance for non-employees collecting money on behalf of the District.

DM-Deposit of Public Funds New language was changed to reflect Deposit of Public Funds

DJB-Petty Cash Accounts – This policy added a great deal of new language including: The Board directs the Treasurer to develop, distribute and implement procedures for cash collection points in the District. Currently identified cash collection points include admission fees to athletic events, lunchroom sales, classroom fees, student activities/fundraisers, and miscellaneous money received by the Treasurer’s Office. The second procedure was stricken based on the recommendation from Mr. Sluka.

## **PRESENTATION**

Dale Krzynowek, Athletic Director talked about allowing parents to attend senior night and remaining home district games. Tickets would be sold online through Hometown Tickets which also provides all of the necessary contact tracing information. Ticket distribution would consist of 15 sets of two tickets for away players, 15 sets of two tickets for home players and 10 sets of two tickets for home cheerleaders. The 40 total sets of tickets will all be located on the home side of the gym. Temperatures will be taken as fans enter the athletic complex.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION**

Suzanne Miklos and Superintendent Hanke gave the Board a Power Point presentation that detailed the different elements of the strategic plan including the new vision and mission statement for the district.

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH VIDEO**

A video was presented with staff and students celebrating Black History Month. This was part of a month long series of videos, events, and programming. President Daniels thanked the students and staff who participated and put this presentation together.

## **RECOGNITIONS/COMMENDATIONS**

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Students will return to the classroom on Monday, March 8th in a Hybrid Learning Model whereby students in grades K-12 whose last names begin with the letters A - L will attend in-person learning Mondays and Tuesdays, while students with last names beginning with the letters M-Z will attend in-person learning Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesdays for all students will be an Asynchronous Remote Learning day while the buildings are deeply sanitized. Students choosing to learn from a remote environment can do so by logging into classrooms via Zoom Technology.

To prepare for students’ return on March 8th, District officials have regularly walked through buildings preparing with a variety of safety measures and deep cleaning protocols, including: thermal imaging, ionization and cleansing protocols for all shared and frequently touched surfaces. The District is also finalizing a variety of resources to remind parents, students and families of

things to keep in mind. Our *Together Safely* videos will be posted in the very near future on our respective building pages and on social media for your information.

A Key Reminders document will also be available for download that you may reference, as well, on the website. Please take a moment to use these resources that the District has assembled for everyone's safe return. More information will be forthcoming from your buildings.

The District is proud to present its strategic plan tonight, a foundational document that will serve as our roadmap for the next 3 to 5 years. With community input and leadership from the Board of Education, the Garfield Heights School family can now begin the process of forging ahead together and linked with a common purpose: Our mission: As the heart of the community, Garfield Heights City Schools fully prepares students to pursue their dreams and give back as engaged citizens and future leaders. Our vision: Garfield Heights City Schools, a premier educational institution, will be recognized throughout Ohio as fully preparing students to be leaders equipped with real world skills to contribute to a global society. In expressing my gratitude to those involved in making this process successful, I ask us all to re-focus our efforts to now fulfilling this mission and vision and the goals contained within. The community can see the full Strategic Plan online and learn more about it through our various communications channels.

February is Black History Month, and the levels to which the Garfield Heights City Schools has elevated its importance is quite impressive. Thanks to the hard work of Yolanda Hamilton and Gina Wilson and others, our school family has developed a list of activities that have been designed to honor and recognize the accomplishments and milestones of African Americans in our nation's history. I encourage you to take a tour of Stax Recording Studio virtually or listen to a message from an impassioned member of the Cleveland Black Story Tellers organization. You can also play Black History Month bingo. Just go to our website and social media for more details about all of these activities designed to celebrate Black History Month.

Finally, the GHCS thanks Mrs. Christine Kitson for her service to the Board of Education, and formally welcomes Ms. Heather Morrison. Stay safe and warm.

**GO BULLDOGS!**

## **REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS**

No remarks

## **REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TREASURER**

### **APPROVE THE FINANCIALS FOR JANUARY 2021**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the financials for January 2021, as presented.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

## **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

### **DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN TASK FORCE**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Morrison to establishment a District Strategic Plan Task Force with the following members appointed to represent the Board on the Task Force:

Ms. Millette King and Mrs. Nichelle Daniels

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Morrison to establish a Legislative Committee and to appoint the following Board members to that committee:

Ms. Ashley Thomas and Mrs. Nichelle Daniels

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to establish a Finance Committee and to appoint the following Board members to that committee:

Ms. Heather Morrison and Mrs. Nichelle Daniels

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Morrison to name Ms. Thomas as the Legislative Liaison for the District

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the proposal from The Write 2 Consulting Keys, LLC to conduct a Virtual School Board Governance: Equity Leadership Professional Learning Workshop for the board members at a cost of \$10,000.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

**SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS - PERSONNEL:**

**CERTIFIED STAFF**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the following Certified Staff items as presented:

**APPROVE CERTIFIED CONTRACT(S) AS PRESENTED BELOW:**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>BLDG.</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>DEGREE</b>	<b>STEP</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>
Gray, Holly	High School	Special Ed Teacher	B+0	1	February 1, 2021

**LEAVE OF ABSENCES:**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>BLDG.</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>DATES</b>
Kusnerik, Robert	Maple Leaf	Intermittent Medical LOA	1/25/21 - 6/25/21
Rauschkolb, Kelly	High School	Intermittent Medical LOA	1/21/21 - 1/20/22
Soriano, Deanna	William Foster	Maternity LOA	2/17/21 - 5/17/21
Biltz, Joanne	William Foster	Medical LOA	2/4/21 - 4/30/21
Sizler, Amanda	High School	Medical LOA	2/2/21 - 5/2/21

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the following teachers participating in the McGraw Hill "Math Is..." professional development leadership series be paid at the Curriculum Rate of \$26.02/hour, not to exceed 4 hours, funded out of

**Title I:**

Jennifer Boucher

Debra Hrin

Krystal Parnin

Leigh Ann Pustai

Jamie Shaw

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

## CLASSIFIED STAFF

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the Classified Staff items as presented.

### CHANGE OF POSITIONS:

Name	Previous Position	New Position	Hours	Step	Effective Date
Cancelliere, Wendy	Building Asst. (1B) - WF	Attendance Clerk (1A) - MS	6	1	2/17/21

### APPROVE THE CLASSIFIED CONTRACT AS PRESENTED BELOW:

NAME	BLDG.	POSITION	STEP	Hours	EFFECTIVE DATE
Gatto, Sharon	St. Benedicts	Auxiliary Service Clerk (3A)	0	5.5 hrs. /2 days per week	2/17/21
Kogler, Susan	High School	Daytime Housekeeper (1D)	0	6	2/17/21

### ACCEPT RESIGNATION AS PRESENTED BELOW:

NAME	POSITION	BLDG.	EFFECTIVE DATE
Gray, Holly	Instructional Assistant (2B)	High School	January 29, 2021

### LEAVE OF ABSENCES:

NAME	BLDG.	TYPE	DATES
Murillo, Maria	Central Office	Maternity LOA	2/8/21-4/5/21
Peters, Melissa	William Foster	Medical LOA for Family Member	1/23/21-2/11/21
Caldwell, Wendy	Elmwood	Medical LOA	1/25/21-2/15/21
McCrary, Mary	Garage	Paid Admin. LOA	2/2/21-2/8/21
Cieplowski, Nora	Middle School	Medical LOA for Family Member	2/1/21-2/5/21
Cieplowski, Nora	Middle School	Unpaid LOA	2/10/21-2/19/21
Keen, Leonard	Middle School	Intermittent Medical LOA for Family Member	2/4/21-2/3/22
Kalnasy, Denise	Middle School	Medical LOA for Family Member	2/10/21-3/4/21

### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

Memorandum of Understanding between the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education and Ohio Association of Public School Employees Local #108 in consideration of the extra work provided by Robin Shamblin during the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 through May 2020.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None



**SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the Supplemental items as presented.

**ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS - SPRING SPORTS:**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ATHLETIC SUPPLEMENTAL</b>	<b>BLDG.</b>
Papesh, Jeff	Head Baseball Coach	High School
Osborne, Jason	Assistant Baseball Coach	High School
Banyasz, Mike	Assistant Baseball Coach	High School
Cole, Chris	JV Baseball Coach	High School
Mihalyov, Matt	Head Baseball Coach (7/8 grades)	Middle School
Nekl, Mackenzie	Head Softball Coach	High School
Jenkins, Jana	Head Softball Coach (7/8 grades)	Middle School
Jones, Turner	Head Track Coach	High School
Hultine, Jamison	Assistant Track Coach	High School
Burke, Andrew	Head Tennis Coach	High School

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD: POLICY:**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the following Policies:

- Board Policy BDC Executive Sessions
- Board Policy DH Bonded Employees and Officers
- Board Policy DJB Petty Cash Accounts
- Board Policy DM Deposit of Public Funds
- Board Policy EDE - E Computer Network Agreement Form
- Board Policy EDE - R Acceptable Use and Internet Safety
- Board Policy EDE Acceptable Use and Internet Safety

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD:  
CONTRACTS:**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Morrison to approve the service agreement between Garfield Heights City Schools and A+ Learning and Development Centers, LLC for the 2020-2021 school year for Remedial/Title I Teacher Services for non-public schools, to be paid from Title funds.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve a two-year Facilities Service Agreement with Brewer-Garrett to provide a Maintenance Technician two days per week and for HVAC preventative and predictive maintenance services.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD:  
MISCELLANEOUS:**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the Garfield Heights City Schools Strategic Plan as presented.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No remarks

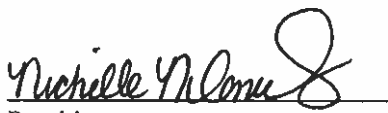
**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT BOARD MEETINGS**


**Special Board Meeting / Work Session - 6:00 P.M.  
March 8, 2021**

**Board of Education Regular Meeting – 6:00 P.M.  
March 15, 2021**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer