

**YALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Avoca Elementary School Media Center
Thursday, March 7, 2024 – 7:00 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Bullard called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Bullard invited the Avoca Student Council members to lead the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bullard, French, Hurlburt, Hoppe, Butler, McClelland, Johnson

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Kurt Sutton
Assistant Superintendent Bill Kryscynski
Director of Business Services Beky Silkworth
Secretary to the Board Nancy Maplethorpe
Student Representative to the Board Madeline Stefanidis

Also Present: Avoca Elementary Principal Therese Damman, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Aguinaga, Avoca Elementary Student Council members, Ron Charney, several parents and students.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Johnson seconded by Hurlburt to adopt the agenda as amended.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE – None

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Special Guests – Avoca Elementary School Presentation

- Avoca Principal Therese Damman welcomed the Board and invited them to walk through the hallways and enjoy the excellent art projects decorating the school. She then introduced Avoca Elementary Student Council Advisors Jennifer Aguinaga and Jackie Harris. Mrs. Harris introduced the student council representatives who gave a synopsis of their service project. Mrs. Harris showed a video of the variety of sixteen tie blankets that the students made to donate to Blue Water Safe Horizons. She added that the students gave up recess two days per week to complete the projects.

B. Special Recognition

- Superintendent Sutton presented Ron Charney with a plaque for his dedication to the Yale School District for over seventeen years and also presented a plaque to the Yale Public Schools 2024 Friend of Youth, Avoca Elementary Principal Therese Damman.

The Board recessed at 7:14 PM

Returned to Open Session at 7:30 PM

C. Agenda Items: None

D. Non-Agenda Items: None

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Sutton presented his report which contained the following:

- March is reading month and our schools are celebrating with a variety of activities and reading challenges.
- We are getting some of the art pieces from BWAC schools in for the Art Expo next week at Yale High School. The BWAC kickoff is scheduled for Monday, March 11 at 6:00 PM.
- The girls basketball team will be competing in District finals tomorrow night in St. Clair at 7:00 vs Armada. If we win, we move on to Regionals in Goodrich next week.
- The choir and band festivals are on Tuesday, March 12 at Laker Schools.
- The St. Clair County Sheriff's Department has asked for our assistance with a training opportunity. On Thursday, March 21 we will have several officers training after hours at Yale Junior High. Communication will be sent out to parents when this event gets closer to let them know that this is training and not a response to an actual crisis.
- TEC shadowing, for sophomores interested in skilled trades programs, are happening over the next several weeks.

8. **Student Representative Report – Madeline Stefanides**

Ms. Stefanides gave her report which included the following happenings at the high school:

- Announced the senior meeting results for motto, song, flower and class colors.
- The senior all-night party is May 11 at Legacy 925 in Oxford.
- This week students are having a drive to collect personal care products.
- A writer from the Port Huron Times Herald will be meeting with students Madeline Stefanides and Brooklyn Shutko for information on the new health clinic.
- Mr. Barr's Michigan Natural Science classes are learning the entire process of tapping, collecting and boiling sap to make maple syrup. She added that it took 60 gallons of sap to produce 1.5 gallons of syrup.
- All schools of the BWAC will be displaying different forms of artwork down the main hall in the high school during the week of March 11 through March 19.
- The junior high play is next week and from what she seen at the practice, should be exciting.
- The drama class will be reviewing their production on April 4 and 5 of *Twenty-Six Guaranteed Ways To Get a Detention*.
- As a fundraiser for the Class of 2026, the sophomores will be hosting a men's powder puff volleyball game on Thursday, March 14 at 6:00 PM.
- Announced the preliminary estimate of twelve valedictorians for the class of 2024.
- Upcoming testing dates are:
 - April 9 – SAT/PSAT
 - April 10 – MSTEP Science and Social Studies
 - April 11 – ACT Workkeys

9. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

A. Treasurer's Report and Monthly Bills in the amount of \$1,004,682.64.

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Johnson to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report and approve monthly bills in the amount of \$1,004,682.64 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, Hoppe- Yes, Butler-Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

10. **APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT**

A. Hiring

1. Jennifer Verhelle, Yale Junior High attendance secretary

B. Resignation

1. April Sobol, Yale Junior High Instructional Aide

C. Recommendations to the substitute list

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Johnson to approve the personnel report as amended.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, Hoppe- Yes, Butler-Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes
Ayes: 0 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

11. **OLD BUSINESS** - None

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Purchase and Installation of fences for the YHS softball fields/backstop/baseline and the YHS baseball field dugouts

Motion by Hurlburt seconded by Hoppe to award the purchase and installation of fences for the YHS softball fields/backstop/baseline and the YHS baseball field dugouts in the amount of \$25,345 to Eagle One Fence & Service LLC from Allenton, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Bullard-Yes, French-Yes, Hurlburt-Yes, Hoppe- Yes, Butler-Yes, McClelland- Yes, Johnson- Yes
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried

13. **COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS, ADMINISTRATION**

- All of the Board members thanked Mrs. Damman for hosting the meeting and offered their congratulations for winning the 2024 Friend of Youth honor.
- Board members also thanked the teachers and students for an excellent presentation.
- Mr. Hurlburt wished the Lady Bulldogs success in Districts.
- Mr. Sutton expressed his appreciation to Food Service Director Joanne Faille for taking the student's lunches to another level by introducing them to food from other countries.
- Mr. Sutton congratulated Mrs. Damman on her award and for inspiring students and staff.
- Mrs. Silkworth brought the scholarship memo to the Board's attention.
- Mrs. Damman thanked the Board members for their support and kind words.

14. **ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS: 7:52 PM**

MEGHAN BUTLER, Secretary
Yale Board of Education