



SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

MEETING: Special Board Meeting/Student Hearing		DATE: May 19, 2026	TIME: 5:15 p.m.	LOCATION: John W. English Administrative Center			
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talisha Belk, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie Love Smith-Thomas Vice President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yvette Ware- DeVaul, Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Denson, Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amani Johnson, Trustee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jillian Holloway, Trustee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenae' Anderson, Trustee	
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Green, Ed.D. Superintendent	<input type="checkbox"/> Sommer Caldwell- Carruthers, Associate Superintendent of Instruction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Jackson, Chief of Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Devaughn Stephens, Chief of Talent Mtg	<input type="checkbox"/> Marc Ingram, Chief Financial Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Paula Lightsey, Executive Director of Academic Advisement & SEL	<input type="checkbox"/> Angela Smith, Director of Intense Student Support Network	<input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Corace, Chief Operations Officer
<input type="checkbox"/> April Rogers, Director of State and Federal Programs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minutes: Carolyn Foster, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board of Education				Student Board Representatives: <input type="checkbox"/> Paris Whitman, SA&T <input type="checkbox"/> Chidi Nnaji, UK12	

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Board President Belk at 5:19 p.m. Board President Belk read the opening statement and Trustee roll call was taken. All Trustees were present. Trustee Johnson arrived at 5:23 p.m. Trustee Denson left at 5:45 p.m.

2. Report 64-52 Resolution in Support of Open Enrollment

- Southfield Public Schools Board of Education will participate in open enrollment (Section 105 Choice) for the 2026 – 2027 academic year by inviting residents of Oakland County to apply for unlimited positions in grades kindergarten through twelve. Southfield Public Schools Board of Education will participate in open enrollment (Section 105c Choice) for the 2026 – 2027 academic year by inviting residents of counties contiguous to Oakland County to apply for unlimited positions in kindergarten through grade twelve district-wide, except for University K-12 Academy, which will have unlimited positions in kindergarten through grade ten.
- Trustee Johnson introduced and motion to open and approve the amended Report 64-52 Resolution in Support of Open Enrollment and it was supported by Vice President Smith-Thomas.
- There was discussion as to what would constitute a denial of enrollment and it was stated that it would be on a case by case basis.
- The information will be posted on the Oakland Schools website.
- For the University K12 students that left last year and who would like to return, they will not have to test to return.
- We are looking to return to a D1 athletic status for next year by building up our numbers with this strategy.
- The open enrollment window will end on Friday, August 28, 2026, before school starts.
- We have started reaching out to those students with the assistance of community members.
- Ms. Luddington will let Dr. Green know of any interest to attend UK12. We would have to pay to open another testing window to support that initiative. The testing is handled by a company in California. The company sends us the test, we return the test and they score it and return the scores to us.
- We will bus the students to and from their current campus to transport the scholars to our campus.

- We should be marketing this information.

President Belk asked Secretary Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Anderson, Trustee Belk, Trustee Denson, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Hearing

a. 05-2026-27

- President Belk and the other Trustees introduced themselves.
- Chief Jackson introduced himself and Ms. Foster.
- Principal Reese, A.P. Denham and Mr. McKenzie introduced themselves.
- The parent and student introduced themselves.
- The parent states that they did receive the letter from the district regarding the suspension and the violations to the Southfield Public School's Student Code of Conduct.
- The parent understood the right to have legal counsel and waived that right.
- The parent wished to hold the meeting in public.
- The student does not receive special education services.
- The student pled not guilty to the violation and after the explanation of the violation the student held to the plea of not guilty.
- All hands were sworn in.
- The student gave an overview of the situation.
- The student's parent answered the questions that were asked of them.
- The student answered the questions the Trustees asked them.
- The administrators provided information on the incident.
- President Belk asked the parent, student and administrators to step out for deliberations.
- After deliberations, the parent, student and administrators were asked back in.
- Secretary Ware-DeVaul introduced a motion to expel student 05-2026-27 and it was supported by Trustee Johnson.

President Belk asked Secretary Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Johnson, Trustee Ware-DeVaul, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Belk, Trustee Anderson

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

6 yes: 0 no

4. Public Participation

- There was no public participation.

5. Adjournment

- President Belk adjourned the Special Board Meeting/Study Session at 6:28 p.m.

Approved on: June 30, 2026

Yvette Ware-DeVaul, Board Secretary

Proposed for Adoption