

**JOINT MEETING MINUTES
FARMINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL
FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2017
6:30 pm**

**Forest Elementary School
34545 Old Timber, Farmington Hills**

The Special Joint meeting of the Farmington and Farmington Hills City Councils and Farmington Board of Education was called to order by President Cummings at 6:32 pm.

President Cummings welcomed everyone to the meeting and each of the respective entities introduced the Board members, Council members and administrators present.

Present at the meeting:

Farmington Board of Education Members: President Jessica Cummings, Vice President Terry Johnson, Secretary David Turner, Treasurer Terri Weems, Trustees Przeslawski, Smith and Stark

Absent: None.

Farmington Public Schools Representatives: George Heitsch, Superintendent; Aaron Johnson, Assistant Superintendent; Jon Riebe, Director of Facilities Management; Kathy Smith, Executive Director of Human Resources; Jennifer Kaminski, Chief Financial Officer, Diane Bauman, Director of School/Community Relations; and Debbie McCracken, Executive Assistant

Farmington Hills City Council: Mayor Ken Massey, Mayor Pro-Tem Samantha Steckloff, Councilmembers Michael Bridges, Randy Bruce, Valerie Knol, Richard Lerner, and Theresa Rich

Absent: None

Farmington Hills City Representatives: Dave Boyer, City Manager, Gary Mekjian, Assistant City Manager, and Pam Smith, City Clerk

City of Farmington Council: Mayor William Galvin, Mayor Pro Tem Steven Schneemann; Councilmembers Sara Bowman, Greg Cowley, Jeffery Scott

Absent: None

City of Farmington Representatives: David Murphy, City Manager and Sue Halberstadt, City Clerk

FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS UPDATE

Bond/Property Updates: Dr. Heitsch gave a District report which included Bond projects and property updates. He reported on Phase I bond work at Lanigan and Gill elementary schools, East Middle School and Farmington High School and Phase II work which will take place this summer 2017 at Wood Creek, Longacre, Hillside, the Dunkel building and North Farmington High School. Work continues at Farmington High School as the high school projects take 18-24 months to complete. Also part of the Phase I and II bond work was the purchase of 20 buses and technology updates. Phase III work continues to be monitored to determine need based on building usage/closures. Decisions will be made regarding relocation and/or closures at the administration office, Maxfield Education Center, transportation department, and early childhood program and repurposing of Harrison High School. Highmeadow will be relocated to the Dunkel building and open as a K-7 STEAM School in the fall and grow to K-8.

Academic Updates: Dr. Heitsch reported that, thanks to a collaboration with the cities and Beaumont Hospital, a CPR certification is now part of all 9th grade health classes. In addition, all school staff will be trained in AED awareness by the end of March. He also reported on vocational training opportunities for students and gave further details on the STEAM School enrollment process that was underway. Dr. Heitsch shared information on initiatives and interventions in place to address achievement gaps.

Dr. Heitsch closed his report by noting that the District has worked with the Farmington and Farmington Hills economic development offices to schedule a Realtor breakfast on February 28 to share city and school district information with area realtors. The breakfast will take place at Lanigan Elementary, which was newly renovated as part of the Phase I bond work.

JOINT INTER-GOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE UPDATE

Councilmember Sara Bowman reported on the Joint Task Force. The three representatives on the committee are Ms. Bowman for the Farmington City Council; Terry Johnson, Board of Education; and Michael Bridges; Farmington Hills City Council. She stated that the Task Force Mission Statement is to identify opportunities that provide long-term benefits to the community. Recent topics of discussion have included a medical health consortium, grounds maintenance, cable access (TV10, etc.) and property sales. The Councils and School Board expressed a desire to expand the scope of the Task Force to assist and support each other, in addition to shared service opportunities. It was requested that the Task Force reconvene to consider this expansion, as well as the potential to add a second representative from each entity.

Mrs. Cummings suggested that another Joint Meeting be scheduled this year, possibly in August. Potential dates will be identified.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: President Cummings opened the meeting up for public comment. The following individuals spoke:

Leland Bassett congratulated and thanked the cities and schools for the collaborative work they are doing and commented that the newly renovated Forest school looked great.

Kyle Anderson, Farmington YMCA, shared information about programs that the Y offers and their desire to support/assist the cities and schools for the benefit of the community.

Christine Roberts requested that the cities and school district make a statement of support of the diversity and inclusiveness of the community and make a commitment to be a safe and welcoming community for everyone.

Becky Burns also requested that the cities and school district make a statement, similar to area communities and universities, in support of diversity and being a welcoming community for all.

Kelly Carpenter-Crawford read excerpts from letters that principals Jim Anderson and Allyson Robinson sent to their school communities regarding being welcoming for all students and families. She was looking to the city councils and school board to make similar statements.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David N. Turner", written over a horizontal line.

Respectfully submitted by:
David N. Turner
Secretary, Board of Education