

**CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING  
Administration Building  
December 10, 2024**

President Pearl called the SPECIAL meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Present: Members Gura, Mahome, Pearl and Sobah  
Absent: Member Wojtowicz (Excused)  
Also, Present: Mr. Roberts, Mr. Sederlund, Dr. Blanchard, Dr. Brosky, Mr. Kava, Mr. Sibley,  
Ms. Licari, Dr. Langlands, Ms. Blain, Mr. Atkins, Ms. Monnier-White and Ms. Adlam

**MOTION #12/25/24** – Moved by Member Sobah and supported by Member Mahome to appoint an Acting Secretary for tonight’s meeting. **Yes all, motion carried.**

Mr. Christopher Gura appointed Acting Secretary, Board of Education

Roll Call taken.

**MOTION #12/26/24** – Moved by Member Mahome and supported by Member Sobah to approve the agenda. **Yes all, motion carried.**

From the Community

- Public Comments/audience participation

Attorney John Kava discussed the law of the State of Michigan which requires appointing an interim Board Member within 30 days of a sitting board member’s resignation.

**Board of Education Vacancy (2) – Board Vacancy Interviews**

- Board President Pearl welcomed all the candidates for interim board vacancy (2) and explained the interviewing process.
- Mr. Pearl explained the process regarding the oath of office.
- All six candidates were interviewed by the Board of Education.

## **Board of Education Vacancy (2) – Board of Education Appointment**

- The Board of Education discussed amongst each other and came to the consensus that they were ready to appoint one of the six candidates to the interim Board of Education Vacancy (2).
- Board of Education members commented on the following:
  - Member Mahome supported Ms. Denise Aquino to fill the vacancy. She thought her longevity and experience as a board member would be valuable.
  - Member Sobah thanked everyone who applied and felt there were great candidates. With this being a situation of turning over half the board of education with all new members, could be detrimental to the community. Mr. Sobah supported the appointment of Ms. Denise Aquino to the vacancy.
  - Member Gura thanked all the applicants and felt the candidates interviewed were very well qualified and appreciated them coming to speak with the board. Mr. Gura looked at the board of education and emphasized its need for longevity and having some long-term knowledge of the district. Believes Ms. Denise Aquino would be best to appoint.
  - Member Pearl supported Ms. Denise Aquino to fill the vacancy. He noted the value of the experience of Ms. Aquino. This would be best for the continuity of the board. Mr. Pearl encouraged any interested people to get involved with their community and run for office.

Discussion related to the appointment of Ms. Denise Aquino ensued.

**MOTION #12/27/24** – Moved by Member Pearl and supported by Member Sobah that the Chippewa Valley Schools Board of Education approve the appointment of Ms. Denise Aquino to fill this Board of Education vacancy until the November 3, 2026, election has been held and certified, and a newly elected individual has been sworn in to fill the remainder of the position term.

Roll Call taken.

**A roll call vote was taken. Member Mahome, yes; Member Sobah, yes; Member Gura, yes and Member Pearl, yes.**

**Motion carried.**

Of and By Board Members

- Member Gura encouraged candidates to stay involved and indicated the Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation (CVEF) is always looking for good board members.
- Member Pearl indicated that with three new board members he was concerned because there is a lot of work to be done by the Board of Education. He thanked all the candidates for taking the time to come and interview.

**MOTION #12/27/24** – Moved by Member Gura and supported by Member Mahome to adjourn the meeting. **Yes all, motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Gura, Acting Secretary  
Chippewa Valley Schools

Unofficial