Information Study Session Thursday, February 22, 2024 6:00 PM Eastern Shirley M. Rodgers Administration Bldg. Georgia Brown Board Room 519 W. Kalamazoo Lansing, MI 48933

## IV.A. Board of Education's resolution

'The Lansing School District Board of Education hereby declares Juneteenth a recognized and observed holiday in the Lansing School District effective immediately'. This motion, made by Dr. Nino Rodriguez and seconded by Mrs. Robin Moore, Passed.

Dr. Farhan Bhatti: Absent, Mrs. Missy Lilje: Absent, Mr. Guillermo Lopez: Absent, Dr. Caitlin Cavanagh: Yea, Mrs. Robin Moore: Yea, Dr. Deyanira Nevarez Martinez: Yea, Dr. Nino Rodriguez: Yea, Ms. Rosalyn Williams: Yea, Mrs. Rachel Willis: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

The Lansing School District Board of Education may consider making "Juneteenth" (June 19th) an annual official school district holiday when the board meets at 6 p.m. on Thursday, February 22nd, in the Board of Education room of the Shirley M. Rodgers Administration Building, located at 519 W. Kalamazoo Street in Lansing.

While many other school districts end their academic year for the summer before June 19th every year, the Lansing School District has a robust summer school program of activities and educational opportunities for many students and staff.

Juneteenth is now celebrated as an official federal holiday in the United States and marks the true end of slavery when, in 1865 - a final order enforced the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas. For many years, June 19th was adopted as a shared commemoration of freedom for many African-American households. Juneteenth was first recognized as an official federal holiday in 2021 when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law.

Juneteenth falls on a Wednesday in 2024, and if the decision to have Juneteenth in the academic calendar passes with Board of Education approval, students and staff participating in the Lansing School District summer programs would have the day off to reflect, enjoy, and celebrate the holiday outside of a school setting.