

GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes - Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2025

The Board of Education met on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at Rosy Mound Elementary. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Nichol Stack. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Kristal Boyd, Cyndi Casemier, Marc Eickholt, Heather Herrygers, Seth Holt, and Nichol Stack

ABSENT: Carl Treutler

ALSO PRESENT: Kristin Perkowski, Jason Reinecke, Mary Jane Evink, Kevin Blanding, Anna Lehnert, Jennifer Taylor, Rachel Poel, Sean West, Nate Hunt, Sara VanderZee and approximately 17 audience members.

17-727 Trustee Eickholt moved that the meeting agenda be approved as presented.

Trustee Casemier seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

17-728 Trustee Holt moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Minutes of the April 18, 2025 Board Retreat
- Payment of Bills for April

Accounts Payable-	\$1,754,892.74
Expenditures Previously	
Approved by Board Treasurer	
Payroll	\$3,623,391.95
2020 Building & Site Bond	\$ 51,869.28
Ref Pay April, 2025	\$ 16,592.50
Edustaff, contracted staff and subs	\$ 120,016.75
PNC credit card (credit on account)	\$ 26,600.03

Trustee Eickholt seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The following announcements were shared by Superintendent Perkowski:

- Recognition was given to the Girls Wrestling Team for becoming the first ever MHSAA Girls Wrestling State Champions. Certificates and congratulations were given to members of the team in attendance.
- Superintendent Perkowski introduced the May Grand Partner of the Month: the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation. Representing the organization was Hadley Streng, President, and Keith Konarska, Board Chair. Mrs. Streng and Mr. Konarska gave a brief presentation about the many ways the foundation supports northwest Ottawa County including GHAPS students. Over the years, the GHACF has granted millions of dollars to students throughout the District either directly to GHAPS, to others providing programs in partnership with GHAPS, or in scholarships for continued education.
- Congratulations to several Board members for completing courses through the Michigan Association of School Boards and for their commitment to continuous improvement. Certificates were presented to Kristal Boyd, Certified Board Member Award and level two Award of Merit, and Marc Eickholt, level three Award of Distinction.

- A reminder of upcoming commencement celebrations: GHHS will be on the field, weather permitting, and Central High School & Cyber School on June 4th.
- In the Policy Committee's recent review, they will be recommending that we have a policy allowing up to (2) students serving on the Board as non-voting members for a 2-year term. The Superintendent provided a summary of her conversation with the Superintendent of Mona Shores regarding their student Board members and the application process. The Cabinet Team will be working on details of our application process to hopefully inform students before the end of this school year.
- A strategic plan update video was shared in preparation for the presentation of the plan at the June Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following audience members spoke during Public Comment:

Jessica Hamlet

Kim Damaska

Robyn Cook

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES:

Kevin Blanding, Principal, and staff from Rosy Mound Elementary provided a school update surrounding the successes they are seeing from the District's change of math curriculum to Bridges. A large component of the success was the time allotted for teachers to prepare for the new curriculum in the spring of 2024, at the August staff development days, and at PLC and staff meetings. Also appreciated were the assistance from District staff in preparing materials, focus on budget funds to support the implementation, and building Premier Subs assisting with preparation when they weren't in a classroom. Upon reflection, the staff at Rosy Mound feel that teachers are seeing the benefits of Bridges; kids are engaged and they have math knowledge; it requires a lot of tools but it's worth it; and this curriculum excites students as well as teachers.

- 17-729** Trustee Casemier moved to approve the purchase of Decodable Books as presented. The proposed purchase is \$41,928.10 for Heggerty Literacy Resources, \$40,580.70 for Curriculum Associates, \$27,660.00 for Daffodil Hill Press. No general fund dollars will be used.

Trustee Boyd seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

- 17-730** Trustee Casemier moved to approve the curriculum adoption of CommonLit as presented. This is a free, open source software.

Trustee Eickholt seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

BUSINESS SERVICES:

- 17-731** Trustee Eickholt moved to adopt a resolution, which calls for a public hearing to be held at 6:30 p.m. on June 16, 2025.

Trustee Holt seconded the motion. By a **ROLL CALL** vote, the **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

- 17-732** Trustee Holt moved to approve the resolution endorsing the 2025-2026 Budget of the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District.

Trustee Boyd seconded the motion. By a **ROLL CALL** vote, the **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

- 17-733** Trustee Eickholt moved to approve the contract with Chartwells for the 2025-26 school year.

Trustee Holt seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

- 17-734** Trustee Herrygers moved to approve the purchase of Dell 3110 Chromebooks from Presidio at a total cost not to exceed \$105,520.50. This will be purchased with bond funds.

Trustee Holt seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

17-735 Trustee Boyd moved to approve the contract with WMAAA for the 2025-26 school year.

Trustee Eickholt seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

HUMAN SERVICES:

Jason Reinecke provided a personnel update including the selection of Brad Cusumano as the Principal of Lakeshore Middle School followed by two additional changes that became apparent: Keegan Ferris as the new Assistant Principal at GHHS and Aaron Dean as the new Assistant Athletic Director. Many applications have already been received for the assistant principal position at Lakeshore Middle School. Sixteen certified staff are retiring or resigning, twelve of which will be absorbed leading to a projected annual savings of over \$1.5 million.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES:

Nate Hunt, Director of Communications, provided an update on the Mary A. White transition including plans for a community picnic where historical photos and documents will be shared. He recognized the MAW PTO for their work planning the school's End-of-Year Bash. He will be working to get more MAW families to complete the transportation survey.

Superintendent Perkowski explained that after a community survey of nearly 100 name suggestions for the early learning center, the cabinet team narrowed the list to three, and the leadership team voted from the top three with 65% selecting the recommended name. Perkowski announced that the recommended name is *Duneside Discovery Center at Mary A. White*.

17-736 Trustee Holt moved to approve the name as recommended.

Trustee Casemier seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

PRESIDENT:

17-737 Trustee Eickholt moved to place into a resolution the names of the two 6-year term seats for the OAISD Board of Education election as Rick Dernberger and Jennifer Cymbola; for the partial 2-year term seat as John Siemion; Nichol Stack as the primary representative elector; and Heather Herrygers as the alternate representative.

Trustee Boyd seconded the motion. By a **ROLL CALL** vote, the **MOTION CARRIED 6 - 0**

President Stack provided an update on the Board's goals with action steps completed and those that are in progress. The MASB Diamond Anniversary Achievement class idea is closed as the timeline is too tight. Costs are being researched for Board meeting recordings. President Stack is compiling a list of guiding topics for Board Listening Sessions and Board members may provide her with suggestions for topics, location, times. Information has been gathered by Mary Jane Evink for the Loutit Library Representative application and a plan is underway.

Trustees Eickholt and Holt reported on their attendance at the MASB Spring Institute conference and provided a summary of information learned. President Stack reported on a free Board President workshop that she attended virtually.

There being no further agenda items, President Stack adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "Kristal Boyd", is written over the typed name.

Kristal Boyd, Secretary
GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
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