

**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
*Board of Education***

Organizational Meeting – January 12, 2026

MINUTES

President DuFort called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Coban Holmes, Matt Oppenheim, Kali Stevens, Toni Glasscoe, Nicole Shannon, Ashley Kuykendoll and Denise DuFort. **Board Members Absent:** None. **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Adrienne Barna, Wendy Seida, Bill Albrecht, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Melissa Mazzola, Allyson McCann and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Board Secretary Nicole Shannon conducted the Election of President.

A. President

Mrs. DuFort nominated Ashley Kuykendoll for the 2026 President of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations.

The nomination of Ashley Kuykendoll as the 2026 President of the Board of Education carried unanimously.

President Kuykendoll conducted the election for Vice President and Secretary.

B. Vice President

Ms. Shannon nominated Dr. Glasscoe for the 2026 Vice President of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations.

The nomination of Toni Glasscoe as the 2026 Vice President of the Board of Education carried unanimously.

C. Secretary

Ms. Stevens nominated Coban Holmes for the 2026 Secretary of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations.

The nomination of Coban Holmes as the 2026 Secretary of the Board of Education carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the January 12, 2026 Organizational Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda was setting the Board Compensation Rate, the reaffirmation and adoption of the Legal Reference Note; approval of the depositories for school funds; designating the Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer of Grand Ledge Public Schools as the persons Authorized to Sign Checks, Contracts, Agreements, and Purchase Orders; naming the Lansing State Journal as the official newspaper for publication purposes and authorizing the Superintendent (or his designee) to be the designated person to post official business notices; designating the Chief Financial Officer of Grand Ledge Public School as the Electronic Transfer Officer; establishing the fee charged to individuals who request Notice of Board Meeting at the current US Postal Rate; delegating the district's election duties to the Superintendent (or his designee); reaffirming that all seven (7) members of the board of education will sign all ratified collective bargaining agreements and retaining The Thrun Law Firm as the district's legal counsel, Maner Costerisan & Ellis, PC as the district's financial auditors and the Michigan Association of School Boards as the district's labor relations consultant.

The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF STANDING BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Motion by Mr. Oppenheim, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Bond and Sinking Fund Committee, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, the Finance Committee and the Governance Committee as the Standing Board Advisory Committees of the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education.

A detailed discussion among the member considered a Curriculum Committee or an Academics and Technology Committee. Consensus of the members was to continue with the currently established committees.

The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTION OF BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

President Kuykendoll made the following appointments for 2026:

- Parliamentarian: John Ellsworth

- Legislation Liaison: Coban Holmes
- Board Representative to the GL Education Foundation: Nicole Shannon
- Members of the Board Bond & Sinking Fund Committee: Denise DuFort, Nicole Shannon and Kali Stevens
- Members of the Board Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee: Ashley Kuykendoll, Denise DuFort and Kali Stevens
- Members of the Board Finance Committee: Ashley Kuykendoll, Toni Glasscoe and Matt Oppenheim
- Members of the Governance Committee: Toni Glasscoe, Coban Holmes and Matt Oppenheim

SETTING OF 2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion by Ms. Shannon seconded by Ms. Stevens for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2026 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, as presented.

Following a detailed discussion among the members, it was noted that the date of the May Work Session should be May 11th not the 12th as noted on the Proposed Agenda, and the implementation of a Special Meeting on October 19th to conduct the Superintendent's Annual Evaluation. Dates for a possible retreat will be shared with members in the near future and that date will be posted on the website once established.

Ms. Shannon amended her motion for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2026 Board Meeting Schedule, as presented noting the correct date of May 11, 2026 for a Work Session Meeting and adding a Special Meeting on October 19th to conduct the Superintendent's Annual Evaluation. Ms. Stevens accepted the amended motion.

The amended motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Coban J. Holmes, Secretary

Ashley A. Kuykendoll, President