

# Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education



**JANUARY 12, 2026  
WORK SESSION**

**SAWDON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
BOARD ROOM  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

# **Grand Ledge Public Schools**

## **Work Session of the Board of Education**

Please take notice that the Board of Education will hold a Work Session on:

**Date:** Monday, January 12, 2026

**Place:** Sawdon Administration Building  
Board Room  
220 Lamson Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

***Once the meeting begins, it will be Live Streamed  
at: [youtube.com/@GLPS21](https://youtube.com/@GLPS21) (click on Live)***

**Time:** Immediately Following Organizational Meeting

**Purpose:** General Business

**Phone:** (517) 925-5400

Board minutes are located at the Board of Education office, 220 Lamson Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837



William A. Barnes, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

cc: Buildings  
Board Members  
Lansing State Journal  
Melissa Mazzola, President, GLEA  
Katie Grass, Vice-President, GLEA  
Blake Wegenke, Co-President, GLPEA  
Dave Kushman, Co-President, GLPEA  
Jim Gee, Co-President, GLPEA  
Sarah Hopper, President, MEA/NEA Unit I, Secretarial /Clerical  
Denise Truman, President, MEA/NEA Unit III, Food Service  
Allyson McCann, President, MEA/NEA Unit IV, Paraeducators, TA & Health Care Paraeducators  
Danis Peck, President, IUOE Local 547, A, B, C, E & H AFL-CIO, Bus Drivers  
Pat Malloy, Co-President, Building & Grounds Maintenance Association  
Dave Jolley, Co-President, Building & Grounds Maintenance Association  
Sarra Ruiz, President, IUOE Local 324, Custodial Association

Date of Posting: January 7, 2026

**NOTE:** Individuals may address the Board for up to three (3) minutes in the Public Comment segment of the meeting. Any person with a disability needing accommodations to attend a Board of Education meeting should contact Kim Manning at 925-5401 at least three (3) days prior to the date of the meeting he/she plans to attend.

**Grand Ledge Public Schools**  
**Board of Education**  
**MEETING AGENDA**  
**Monday, January 12, 2026**  
**Immediately Following Organizational Meeting**

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- I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance ..... President
- II. Roll Call.....Dr. Bill Barnes, Superintendent
- III. Public Comment
- IV. School Board Recognition
- V. Administrative Professional Learning Update
- VI. Action Items
  - A. Approval of December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes
  - B. Approval of Teacher Hiring
    - a. Sara Gooley – ASD – Beagle
    - b. Jenna Fish – Counselor - Beagle
  - C. Approval of Comet Academy Student Handbook
  - D. Approval of School Resource Officer (SRO) Agreement
  - E. Approval of Architectural Firm
  - F. Approval of Construction Management Firm
  - G. Approval of 2025-2026 Budget Amendment
  - H. Approval of the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices
    - a. Boynton Fire Safety Services
    - b. Myers Plumbing
  - I. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices
    - a. Clark Construction – December 2025
    - b. Trades – December 2025 – Eagle Enterprises
  - J. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices
    - a. Clark Construction – December 2025
    - b. DBI
    - c. Hamilton Design
    - d. Moss
    - e. Trades – December 2025
      - Architectural Systems Group
      - Eagle Enterprise
      - Ewing Electric
    - Flairwood Industries
    - Verlinde Construction
    - William Reichenbach
- VII. Comments from Staff and Board
- VIII. Future Topics
  - Based on Approved 2026 Board Meeting Schedule
- IX. Adjournment

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## CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Elect

"I pledge allegiance  
to the Flag  
of the United States of America,  
and to the republic  
for which it stands,  
one Nation under God,  
indivisible,  
with liberty and justice for all."



## ROLL CALL

Superintendent Dr. Bill Barnes



## PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons may address the board for up to three (3) minutes in the Public Comment segment of the meeting by providing your name and jurisdiction (City, Township / County) on one of the Public Comment forms provided at the sign in table and turning it in to the Superintendent's Assistant.

The meeting chair will use the Public Comment forms submitted to invite persons to come forward to make their public comment at the appropriate time.

Board Meetings are constructed to conduct necessary business of the board, while allowing time for the public to express concerns and opinions.

Out of respect for board members, students and staff, you will be interrupted if you:

- Personally attack a board member or district employee on issues unrelated to their job performance.
- Mention a student's name when discussing behavior or other incidents.
- Engage in discussion with other members of the audience.

You will be reminded when you are approaching the end of your three-minute limit so you can conclude with your strongest points.

The board will not respond to questions or comments during public comment but the Superintendent will do his best to answer questions at the end of the meeting. If immediate answers are not available, arrangements will be made to provide you with the information requested.



## SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION

January is School Board Recognition Month in Michigan. We will take a moment to recognize the dedication and commitment of our Board of Education members.



## ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UPDATE



## ACTION ITEM A

### A. Approval of December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes\*

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the December 8, 2025 Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes, as presented.

*\*NOTE: Closed Session Minutes will be at each member's place for review prior to the vote. Please return copies to Kim.*

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

**Regular Meeting – December 8, 2025**  
**MINUTES**

President DuFort called the meeting to order at 6:02p.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, Nicole Shannon, Toni Glasscoe, 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**: Meredith Buckley, Kassandra Hanson, Daniel Landry, Erin Snyder, Merrie Burkle, Mary Rice, Don Rice, John Burkle, Denise Proper, Dan Graver, Erik Buckley, Caleb Buckley, Brian Diller, William Lawson, Dan Klodt, Mike Proper, Katie Grass, Cindy Zerbe, David Zerbe, Jim Gee, Sally Jo Nelton, Fred Koor, Kate Wight, Colleen Price, John Schlendon, Dan Neuenschwander, Janna Neuenschwander, Chrissy Bright, Kevin Garthe, Brian Klopp, Allyson McCann, John Piper, and Kim Manning

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the December 8, 2025 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the December 8, 2025 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.**

Included on the Consent Agenda were the November 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes and two Closed Session Minutes and the teacher hiring of Mya Diaz.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**PRESENTATION**

**A. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHECK PRESENTATION**

Dan Klodt of the St. Michaels Knights of Columbus 7311 presented a check to the Student Services Department in the amount of \$2,527.71 from their Tootsie Roll drive that took place in October.

**B. CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT – ROBERT BUCKLEY**

The board recognized the accomplishment of Robert Buckley in his pursuit of learning to read.

**REPORTS**

**A. CAPITOL CONNECTIONS**

Dr. Glasscoe shared information regarding a package of bills currently in the Senate Regulatory Affairs Committee that would address the enforcement of underage person purchasing tobacco and vaping products.

**B. EATON RESA**

President DuFort noted the board received a presentation update on instructional service, focused on general education. The board renewed the contract with U of M Health Sparrow for the GL Health Clinic. She shared information around the Michigan Blueprint Special Education Funding Study, and encouraged folks to contact legislators about this. In closing, she shared information around regional lobbying efforts.

**C. GRAND LEDGE EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Ms. Shannon reviewed the teacher grants awarded earlier this year and the recent Night of Stars event. She reminded everyone to sign up at GLEF.net for the Foundation's upcoming Trivia Night fundraiser, shared information about the recent throw-back shirt sale fundraiser and reminded everyone it is never to early to start training for the June 13<sup>th</sup> Comet Chase.

**D. DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION**

Ms. Kuykendoll noted during the last meeting they discussed expectations for the committee and what they want to see moving forward into next year. She noted the committee will be partnering with the Governance Committee to review policies around anti-bullying. She noted they further discussed being more intentional about how to incorporate student voice data and formalizing the Veterans recognition and continuing the focus on community outreach.

**E. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Holmes noted the committee discussed creating a process and plan to manage board member attendance at conferences and workshops noting this will be brought to the full board for further conversation, ideas and thoughts to create something that works for all the members. He noted the committee further discussed way to improve the information shared with staff, students and family to make things more concise.

**F. BOND UPDATE**

Bond, Sinking Fund and Capital Projects Director John Piper provided updates on construction work at the High School, Wacousta, the Morris property, and Delta Center.

**G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Barnes gave a shout out and congratulations to Grand Ledge High School noting they were named Top High School in the area in the Talk of the Town Awards last week. He further provided an update with regard to the district putting out Requests for Proposals for Architect and Construction Management services in response to presentations from August and October around the needs of the district. He noted a recommendation to the board will be coming at the first meeting in January remarking he appreciated the transparent process and all those interested in working with the district commenting we receive great response to both proposals.

**a. Willow Ridge Elementary Presentation**

Willow Ridge Principal Jim Gee and a team of teachers provided an overview from the Math Team, Reading Team, School Improvement Team, and PBIS. Teachers further provided information about what is happening at Willow Ridge per grade level and across specials. In closing, Principal Gee provided the board with an update regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade assessment growth in Reading and Math.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. APPROVAL OF REVISED BOARD POLICIES**

**Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve Revised Board Policy 5517.01 (Bullying & Other Aggressive Behavior Toward Students), as presented.**

A detailed discussion among the members raised some questions on the language in the policy.

**Motion by Mr. Oppenheim, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe to Table this item. The motion carried 6-1.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. APPROVAL OF PARENT ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE**

**Motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the appointment of Candice Tess to serve as a Grand Ledge Public Schools representative on the Parent Advisory Committee, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**B. APPROVAL OF PROBATIONARY TO TENURE STATUS**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to award Tenure Status to Bradley Arnett, Sam Burns, Kylie Heiler, Laura Hemker, Kimberly Lee, Allison Miller, Crystal Quintanilla-Howard, Threse Simon, Travis Ward and Kimberly Wheat, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**C. APPROVAL OF SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2026 Summer Tax Resolution, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

<b>Mr. Oppenheim</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Stevens</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Dr. Glasscoe</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Shannon</b>	<u>YES</u>

<b>Ms. Kuykendoll</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>President DuFort</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Mr. Holmes</b>	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**D. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE & DELEGATING THE SALE OF GLPS 2026 REFUNDING BONDS**

**Motion by Mr. Oppenheim, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegating the Sale of GLPS 2026 Refunding Bonds, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

<b>Ms. Stevens</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Dr. Glasscoe</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Shannon</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Kuykendoll</b>	<u>YES</u>

<b>President DuFort</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Mr. Holmes</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Mr. Oppenheim</b>	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**E. APPROVAL OF CENTRAL OFFICE SALARY SCHEDULE – DEANS, INTERVENTIONISTS & OTHER PROGRAM STAFF**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Central Office Salary Schedule for Deans, Interventionists and Other Program Staff, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**F. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS**

**Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the School Improvement Goals, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**G. APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT PURCHASES**

**Motion by Mr. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Stevens for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Technology Improvement Purchases using 2018 Bond Technology Funds in the amount of \$55,800.69 and General Fund Dollars in the amount of \$65,721.29, as presented.**

Ms. Stevens noted this was reviewed at the Bond and Sinking Fund Committee and shared this purchase under the 2018 Bond Technology Fund includes Wacousta Access Controls / ADA Integration with RedGuard Fire & Security, High School/Middle School Music Rooms A/V Enhancement with Moss, Morris Property UPS with Moss, High School Auditorium Controls Enhancements with TPC Technologies and Electrical Enhancement with Centennial Electrics and for the General Fund includes updating the wired and wireless Network and adding UPS at the old Wacousta building.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**H. BID AWARDS – MORRIS PROPERTY**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Stevens for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education award Bids to Materials Testing Consultants in the amount of \$17,000 for testing and inspections, Functional Consulting Services in the amount of \$4,200 for commissioning, Proline Concrete Construction in the amount of \$162,012 for foundations and interior/exterior flatwork, Burggrabe Masonry in the amount of \$32,481 for masonry, MK Builders in the amount of \$192,200 and \$28,400 for general trades and roofing, respectively, Eagle Enterprise of Michigan in the amount of \$78,965 for metal wall panels, Aaron Glass Company in the amount of \$61,775 for glass and glazing, William Reichenbach Company in the amount of \$77,000 for walls and ceiling, B & J Painting in the amount of \$17,700 for painting, Integrity Interiors in the amount of \$8,945 for flooring, FCI Group in the amount of \$17,149 for manufactured casework, VanderHyde Mechanical in the amount of \$79,167 for plumbing, T-Mechanical in the amount of \$256,000 for HVAC, Ewing Electric in the amount of \$224,500 for electrical, TL Contracting in the amount of \$483,399 for site work, McKearney Asphalt & Sealing in the amount of \$118,280 for asphalt paving with a construction contingency of \$390,426.33 and general conditions in the amount of \$55,775.19 for a total bid award of \$2,305,374.52 using Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Funds, as presented.**

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Bond & Sinking Fund Committee.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**I. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$13,974.18, as presented.**

Ms. Stevens noted this represents the replacement of concrete stairs at Sawdon, the stadium scoreboard and fixing a tank in the boiler room at the high school.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**J. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL PROJECTS INVOICE**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of a Capital Projects Invoice in the amount of \$55,968.36, as presented.**

Ms. Stevens noted this is the rest of the scoreboard.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**K. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 3 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$1,359,482.92, as presented.**

Ms. Stevens noted this represents progress billing and trades work at the high school.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**L. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 4 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$808,275.89, as presented.**

Ms. Stevens noted this represents work at Willow Ridge, Hayes, Transportation and Wacousta.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD**

Superintendent Barnes expressed his appreciation to Dr. Gabriel for the connection to Mr. Buckley, thank the Grand Ledge Education Foundation for their support of teachers through the grants and thanked Willow Ridge for kicking off this year's school presentations to the Board.

Mr. Holmes noted as he is wrapping up his first year on the Board, he stated it has been really smooth and he has felt a lot of support all year long. He reminded everyone of the Collage Concert at the High School this Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. sharing there is a \$5 admission. IN closing he noted he is excited for the GLEF Trivia Night.

Mr. Oppenheim commended the production of Footloose noting it was fantastic and sharing he is looking forward to the GLEF Trivia Night as well.

Ms. Stevens noted this is the last meeting before the break and expressed she hopes everyone gets a chance to take a break, unplug and take care of yourself.

Dr. Glasscoe gave a shout out to new hire Mya. She commented the Night of Stars event noting employees couldn't stop talking about how they see board members in the building and in the community. She remarked this is the most engaged board she has ever served on and expressed her appreciation to her colleagues.

Ms. Shannon remarked she hopes everyone has a great break and gets some time away to rest.

Ms. Kuykendoll also expressed she hopes everyone gets to unplug over the upcoming break to enjoy time with family. To those without family she hopes you have solace. She noted she is sending thoughts and prayers to the Ionia family and community following their recent tragic loss. In closing she expressed her appreciation to raising awareness around the significance of plain language and the push to be intentional about making things clear, concise and easily understood by everyone.

President Dufort commended the Transportation Department for their participation in the parade and noting it was a pleasure for her to have the opportunity to walk with them, providing her the opportunity to meet more of the members of the department. She remarked this is another example of how the Grand Ledge community comes together. In closing she remarked she was sorry she missed the Night of Stars.

**CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations**

**Motion by Dr Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Holmes for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiations Strategies, as Per Section 8(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>Dr. Glasscoe</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Shannon</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Kuykendoll</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>President DuFort</b>	<u>YES</u>

<b>Mr. Holmes</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Mr. Oppenheim</b>	<u>YES</u>
<b>Ms. Stevens</b>	<u>YES</u>

**The motion carried unanimously at 9:12 p.m.**

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

The board reconvened in Open Session at 9:44 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 School Calendar**

**Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar, as presented. The motion carried unanimously with members Stevens and Oppenheim abstaining from the vote.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

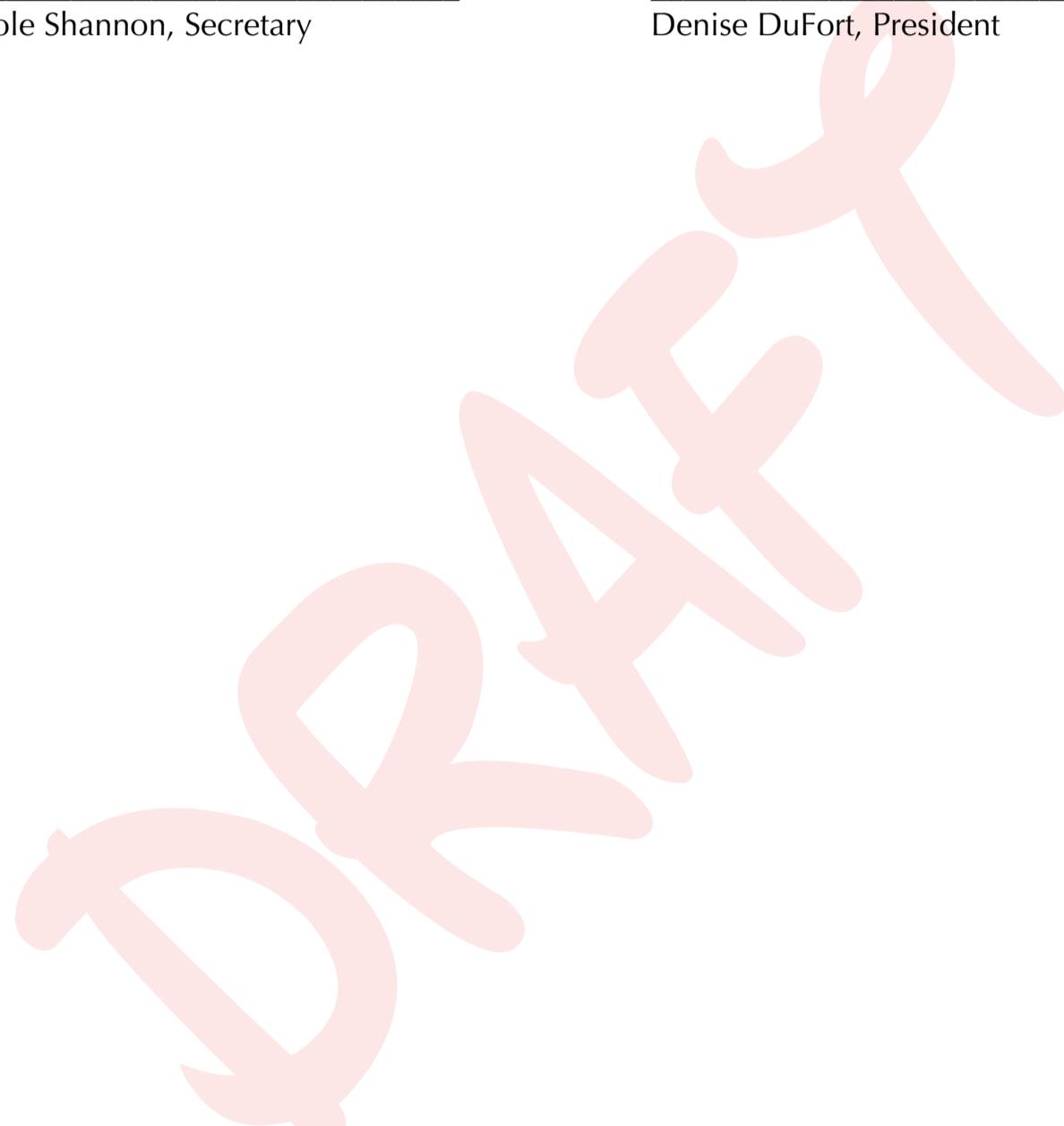
The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Nicole Shannon, Secretary

Attest:

Denise DuFort, President

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## ACTION ITEM B

### B. Approval of Teacher Hiring

- a. Sarah Gooley - ASD - Beagle
- b. Jenna Fish - Counselor - Beagle

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the hiring of Sara Gooley and Jenna Fish, as presented.



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## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Dr. William A. Barnes, Superintendent of Schools  
**FROM:** Kelly J. Jones, Director of Human Resources  
**SUBJECT:** Teacher Recommendations  
**DATE:** January 2, 2026

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I recommend the hiring of the following candidates for employment during the 2025-2026 School Year. Each candidate has the qualifications and certifications necessary for the recommended position.

Sara Gooley      ASD      Beagle

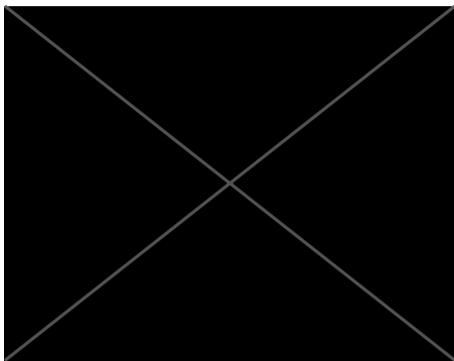
KJJ

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "KJJ".

# SARA GOOLEY

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR

### CONTACT



### SUMMARY

A dedicated and experienced educator with over 25 years of teaching and mentoring students, now transitioning to a new career. Skilled in communication, problem-solving, and adapting to diverse environments, with a strong passion for continuous learning and helping others succeed. Known for cultivating a positive, collaborative atmosphere, building strong relationships, and developing effective strategies to overcome challenges. Eager to bring my transferable skills in leadership, collaboration, organization, and interpersonal communication to a dynamic new role.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### **Autism Spectrum Disorder Teacher Consultant | 2022-PRESENT**

Beagle Middle School - Grand Ledge, MI 48827

- Utilizes differentiated instruction and the Universal Design for Learning Framework to build instructional units and lesson plans to instruct a diverse set of learners. Adapt to increase student engagement and increase progress.
- Collaborates staff regularly to increase student performance.
- Creates and manages appropriate individualized student programs, including IEPs and FBA/BIPs.
- Develops academic, behavioral and social supports specific to students with varying disability areas.
- Communicates specific student needs to staff, administration, and paraprofessionals.
- Maintains efficient data and records in appropriate software program. Prepares regular reports of student progress.
- Manages paraprofessional team.

#### **Peer to Peer Support (LINKS) Program Coordinator | 2022-Present**

Beagle Middle School - Grand Ledge, MI 48827

- Coordinates, prepares and manage student Peer to Peer Support Program throughout building.
- Builds instructional units and lesson plans to teach about neurodivergent learners.
- Connects students with and without disabilities across the school setting to promote belonging for all students.
- Creates a positive learning environment for all students to feel safe and comfortable to learn, socialize and build lifelong relationships.
- Promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in the school community.

#### **Special Education Teacher Consultant | 2016-2022**

Eaton Rapids Public Schools - Eaton Rapids, MI

- Provided expertise and guidance in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of special education plans.
- Maintained efficient data, records, reports and correspondence to all stakeholders.
- Planned and implemented staff professional development.
- Reviewed and evaluated special education programs and ensured compliance with federal and state laws, policies, and regulations.
- Coordinated services with collaborating departments and agencies to ensure comprehensive programming.
- Collaborated with and provided support to supplement classroom instruction, programs and behavior plans

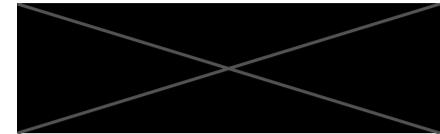
#### **Special Education Teacher | 2000-2016**

Eaton Rapids Middle School - Eaton Rapids, MI

- Created and managed data-driven student programs. Maintained efficient data & records.
- Prepared regular reports of student progress.
- Collaborated with general education teachers, assessed & evaluated students within general education & special education setting. Designed and executed tailored lesson plans to increase student engagement and performance levels, including behavior plans.
- Actively participated in the Building and District Leadership Teams.

# SARA GOOLEY

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR



### ADDITIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

#### **Behavior Technician, Applied Behavior Analysis | 2024-Present**

Residential Options, Inc. - Okemos, MI

- Implements Applied Behavior Analysis therapy-based programs with children on the Autism Spectrum based on therapist's programming.
- Works closely with clients and families to achieve behavioral goals.
- Closely observes client behaviors, works with supervisor to evaluate data, gauge progress, and revise goals and objectives based on data analysis.
- Effectively manages consumers demonstrating verbally or physically escalating or aggressive behaviors.
- QBS Safety-Care Certified (crisis prevention intervention)

#### **Crisis Prevention Intervention Certified Instructor - Crisis Prevention Institute | 2020-2024**

Crisis Prevention Institute - Milwaukee, WI

- Prepared staff to prevent and de-escalate medium to high-risk behavior using both restrictive and non-restrictive methods.
- Emphasized safety, consistency, and utilizing restraints as a last resort.
- Instructed staff to identify and understand behaviors in order to maintain a safe environment, de-escalate and adjust personal behaviors in escalating situations.

### ACADEMIC HISTORY

#### **Grand Valley State University | 2023-Present**

ASD Teacher Endorsement Program

#### **Michigan State University | 2001-2003**

Masters of Arts: Special Education

#### **Michigan State University | 1995-2000**

Bachelors of Arts: Education

### REFERENCES

Dave Kushman - Beagle Middle School Principal  
KushmanD@glcomets.net - (517) 925-5680

Tanya Smith - Grand Ledge Teacher

Misty Herson - Eaton RESA School Psychologist

Elizabeth Lozen - Consortium Coordinator, MSU  
elozen@msu.edu -



## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Dr. William A. Barnes, Superintendent of Schools  
**FROM:** Kelly J. Jones, Director of Human Resources  
**SUBJECT:** Teacher Recommendations  
**DATE:** January 6, 2026

I recommend the hiring of the following candidates for employment during the 2025-2026 School Year. Each candidate has the qualifications and certifications necessary for the recommended position.

Jenna Fish

### Counselor

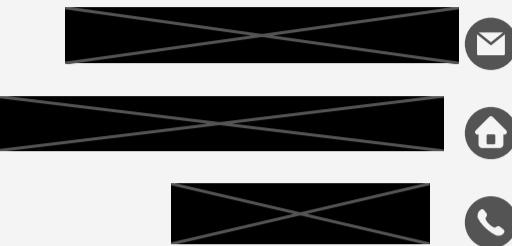
## Beagle

KJJ

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# Jenna Fish

School Counselor



## EDUCATION

### Saginaw Valley State University (August 2015-May 2020)

BA in Spanish Secondary  
Education, Minor in English  
Education

### Grand Canyon University (October 2022- September 2025)

Masters in School Counseling

### Certifications

- Standard Teaching Certificate
- School Counselor (NT)  
Endorsement

### SKILLS

- Interpersonal skills
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Adaptability
- Growth mindset
- Attention to detail
- Relationship building

## REFERENCES

### Erin Raymond - Vassar 6-12 Principal

Phone -

Email - eraymond@vassar.k12.mi.us

### Kyle Currie - Former Vassar Elementary Principal

Phone -

Email -

## EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATION

### Vassar Public Schools: 6-12 Spanish & English Teacher (September 2019-June 2023)

6th-12th Grade Spanish, English,  
Technology and Mentoring

### Vassar Public Schools: 6-12 Academic Counselor (August 2023-Current)

- Administering and planning all state testing
- Monitoring and implementing 504 plans
- Providing mental health counseling
- Advising college and career pathways
- Organizing events and student  
opportunities
- Developing the master schedule

## EXTRACURRICULAR LEADERSHIP

- Junior Varsity Softball Coach (2019-2021)
- Varsity Volleyball Asst. Coach (2019-2024)
- Sophomore Class Advisor (2022-2025)
- Junior Class Advisor (2025-current)
- HS Student Council (2025-current)
- MTSS Team Member (2023-current)
- State Testing Coordinator (2023-current)



## ACTION ITEM C

### C. Approval of Comet Academy Student Handbook

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the revision to the 2025-2026 Comet Academy Student Handbook, as presented.



# Comet Academy

Comet Academy is an **alternative** education program provided to eligible Grand Ledge students. Comet Academy is open to Eleventh and Twelfth graders who have been identified as off track to graduate. It is located in room 304 on the third floor of the Sawdon Building.

## Graduation Requirements

All Comet Academy students are expected to complete the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum as established by the Michigan Department of Education. These requirements are as follows:

Course Name	Credits Required	Course Name	Credits Required
Health	.50	Physical Education	.50
Biology	1.0	Chemistry	1.0
Science	1.0	Work History and Geography	1.0
United States History and Geography	1.0	English and Language Arts	4.0
Algebra 1	1.0	Algebra 2	1.0
Geometry	1.0	Mathematics	1.0
Government	.50	Economics	.50
Visual and Performing Arts	1.0-2.0	CPR Certified	Certificate
Language other than English	1.0-2.0	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>18.5</b>

A full time course load for Comet Academy is a minimum of 4 courses, but some students may be scheduled for more depending on graduation date.



# Comet Academy

## **Academic Expectations**

All Comet Academy students are expected to check in twice weekly with their mentor teacher. One check in must be done face to face or via video conferencing. The second check in may be done via messaging. Students are also expected to complete their weekly goals that are established each week. Failure to complete weekly goals or to participate in the weekly communication for two weeks in a row will result in students being placed on probationary status. Students on probationary status will lose extra curricular activity privileges until placed in good standing and may ultimately be referred to truancy. If a student is ill and can not complete their weekly goal or communication expectation, a parent or guardian must reach out to the student's mentor to excuse them.

## **Behavior Expectations**

All Comet Academy students are held to the highest standards laid out by Grand Ledge public schools. Failure to comply with all rules and regulations could result in removal from the program.

## **Eligibility For Extracurricular Activities**

All Comet Academy students who are in good academic and behavioral standing and meet any other additional requirements will be eligible to participate in GLHS extracurricular activities and attend GLHS events.



## ACTION ITEM D

### D. Approval of School Resource Officer Agreement

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the second revision to the School Resource Officer Agreement between Grand Ledge Public Schools and the City of Grand Ledge, as presented, and direct Superintendent Bill Barnes to execute the Agreement on behalf of the district.

**SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE**  
**AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF GRAND LEDGE**  
**AND**  
**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

THIS SECOND AMENDMENT ("SECOND AMENDMENT") to the initial AGREEMENT dated June 1, 2022 ("AGREEMENT"), and FIRST AMENDMENT dated June 1, 2023 (FIRST AMENDMENT), is made and entered into as of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, by and between, the **CITY OF GRAND LEDGE**, a Michigan home rule city, whose address is 310 Greenwood Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 (hereinafter the "City") and **GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**, a Michigan general powers school district, whose address is 220 Lamson Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 (hereinafter, the "School District") (individually a "Party", collectively, the "Parties").

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into the AGREEMENT on June 1, 2022, to provide for the assignment of a Grand Ledge Police Department officer to the School District to improve school safety and the educational climate of the School by assisting in the maintenance of security for school staff, students, facilities, and the community.

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to restate the June 1, 2022 Agreement and June 1, 2023 First Amendment except where amended herein by this SECOND AMENDMENT.

WHEREAS, all provisions of the AGREEMENT and FIRST AMENDMENT, which do not conflict with this SECOND AMENDMENT, shall remain in full force and effect.

NOW THEREFORE it is mutually agreed as follows:

**SECOND AMENDMENT to the Agreement For Police  
Services Between City of Grand Ledge through its  
Police Department and Grand Ledge Public Schools  
Board of Education.**

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1. **RECITALS.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated in and form a part of this SECOND AMENDMENT.

2. **Compensation.** The School District shall compensate the City the cost of the second or subsequent SRO as follows:

A. The School District shall compensate wages, benefits, and necessary equipment of this SECOND AMENDMENT, in a fixed amount of \$146,799 for each of the five years of the SECOND AMENDMENT. The first SRO is at the fixed amount of \$72,447 (approximately 50%, subject to established increase limitation) for each of the five years.

B. It is understood and agreed that the compensation levels set forth above may be adjusted by the City due to changes in applicable collective bargaining agreements and operational costs annually. No adjustment charged to the School District shall exceed a 3.5% total compensation increase, and any adjustment shall be communicated with the School District in writing upon ratification of the collective bargaining agreement.

3. **Term.** The term of this SECOND AMENDMENT shall be five (5) years commencing July 1, 2026; however, either party may terminate this SECOND AMENDMENT for any reason by providing written notice of intent to terminate at least one (1) year prior to the anniversary date, i.e., July 1 of any of the five years. The AGREEMENT and FIRST

**SECOND AMENDMENT to the Agreement For Police  
Services Between City of Grand Ledge through its  
Police Department and Grand Ledge Public Schools  
Board of Education.**

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AMENDMENT shall be extended accordingly and run concurrently with the SECOND AMENDMENT.

**4. Binding Effect; Authority to Sign.** This SECOND AMENDMENT shall be binding upon the parties and their successors and assigns, and the parties executing this SECOND AMENDMENT certify that they have been and are duly authorized by the respective parties to execute this SECOND AMENDMENT and to bind the parties to the terms hereof.

**5. No Defense Nor Indemnification.** Neither party shall defend nor indemnify the other party for acts or omissions under this SECOND AMENDMENT.

**6. Venue and Jurisdiction.** Any litigation of this SECOND AMENDMENT shall be heard in the state courts of Eaton County, State of Michigan. Each party shall be responsible for its individual expenses, including actual attorney fees, witness fees, or other costs related to this amendment.

**7. MODIFICATIONS OR AMENDMENTS.** No modifications or amendments of this SECOND AMENDMENT shall be valid unless they are in writing and signed by the duly authorized representatives of both parties. This SECOND AMENDMENT shall be deemed to have been made in and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan.

**SECOND AMENDMENT to the Agreement For Police  
Services Between City of Grand Ledge through its  
Police Department and Grand Ledge Public Schools  
Board of Education.**

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8. **Mutual Draftsmanship.** This SECOND AMENDMENT will be construed for all purposes as having been drafted jointly by the parties hereto.

9. **No Waiver of Defenses.** By entering into this SECOND AMENDMENT, neither party is waiving any defenses, including the defense of governmental immunity.

10. **No Third-Party Rights.** Nothing in this SECOND AMENDMENT shall provide any rights to any third party who is not a party to this amendment.

11. **Counterparts.** This SECOND AMENDMENT may be executed in any number of counterparts, and all of said counterparts taken together shall be deemed to constitute one and the same amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this SECOND AMENDMENT on the dates set forth opposite the signatures of the parties.

**CITY OF GRAND LEDGE,**

**a Michigan municipal corporation,**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Adam R. Smith, City Manager**

And:

**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS,  
a Michigan general powers school  
district**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**William A. Barnes, Superintendent**



## ACTION ITEMS E & F

*Grand Ledge Public Schools*

# **Architect and Construction Manager Recommendation**

**1/12/26**



## ACTION ITEM E

### E. Approval of Architectural Firm

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve TMP for Architectural Services for all future construction projects and instruct Superintendent Bill Barnes to work to secure and execute a contract on behalf of Grand Ledge Public Schools.



## ACTION ITEM F

### F. Approval of Construction Management Firm

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve Clark Construction Company for Construction Management services for all future construction projects and instruct Superintendent Bill Barnes to work to secure and execute a contract on behalf of Grand Ledge Public Schools.



## ACTION ITEM G

### G. Approval of 2025-2026 Budget Amendment

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 Budget Amendment, as presented.

## General Fund Budget 2025-26 (FY2026)

Grand Ledge Public Schools

For Action 1-12-2026

### BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

	Original 2025-26	Amend 1 2025-26
Foundation Allowance	\$10,000	\$10,050
Membership blend	90% fall 2024/10% spring 2025	90% fall 2025/10% spring 2025
Current year Fall student FTE	5,429.20	5,487.80
Prior year Spring student FTE	5,408.26	5,407.26
Blended student count	5,427.00	5,479.75

### REVENUE

General Fund revenues for FY2026 are projected at **\$78.2 million**, an increase of approximately **\$2.6 million** from the original budget. Key changes include:

- **Local Revenues:** Increase of approximately **\$578,000**, primarily from operating millage collections and per-pupil related revenue.
- **State Revenues:** Increase of approximately **\$1.35 million**, driven by:
  - Higher foundation allowance
  - Increased student membership of 52.75 FTE
  - Additional MPSERS Section 147c retirement cost offset revenue
  - Increased Section 31a At-Risk funding
- **Federal Revenues:** Decrease of approximately **\$151,000** due to reductions in Title funding. These reductions are offset by increased Section 31a At-Risk revenue.
- **Incoming Transfers:** Increase of approximately **\$857,000**, primarily from:
  - Updated Eaton RESA special education reimbursement estimates
  - Increased transfers from the General Capital Projects Fund for technology purchases

### EXPENDITURES

General Fund expenditures for FY2026 are projected at **\$80.0 million**, an increase of approximately **\$2.0 million** from the original budget. Major factors include:

- **Employee Compensation:** Net increase of approximately **\$300,000**, reflecting retirements, new hires, and the recently approved Letter of Agreement with GLEA to accelerate step catch-ups and implement a 0.5% salary schedule increase.
- **MPSERS Section 147c (UAAL):** Increase of approximately **\$1.0 million**, fully offset by corresponding state revenue.
- **Supplies and Materials:** Increase of **\$60,000**
- **Early College Tuition:** Increase of **\$208,000**, offset by additional state funding for 13th-year students in the Early College program.
- **Special Education Transportation:** Increase of **\$140,000**
- **Capital Outlay:** Increase of **\$350,000** to support the purchase of technology devices and the General Fund portion of printers, copiers, and UPS systems.

### FUND BALANCE

The amended budget for FY2026 shows expenditures in excess of revenues of \$1.8 million and a projected ending fund balance of \$11.9 million as of June 30, 2026. This fund balance level represents 15.27% of revenues.

**GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT**  
 Resolution for Adoption by the Board of Education of  
 Grand Ledge Public Schools

RESOLVED, that the General Appropriations Act for the  
 Grand Ledge Public Schools General Fund for fiscal year 2025-26  
 is amended as follows:

<b>Code#</b>		<b>Original</b>	<b>Amendment 1</b>	
		<b>2025-26</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
		<b>Budget</b>	<b>(Decrease)</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
100	Local	\$ 13,748,897	\$ 578,621	\$ 14,327,518
300	State	53,279,784	\$ 1,356,793	54,636,577
400	Federal	4,104,858	\$ (150,937)	3,953,921
500-600	Incoming Transfers	4,425,655	\$ 857,921	5,283,576
	Total Revenues	\$ 75,559,194	\$ 2,642,398	\$ 78,201,592
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
	Instruction -			
110	Basic Program	\$ 34,474,329	\$ 57,698	\$ 34,532,027
120	Added Needs	10,851,312	\$ 740,013	11,591,325
	Total Instruction	\$ 45,325,641	\$ 797,711	\$ 46,123,352
	Support Services -			
210	Pupil	\$ 6,404,378	\$ 68,971	\$ 6,473,349
220	Instructional Staff	3,080,901	\$ 386,756	3,467,657
230	General Administration	930,892	\$ 11,654	942,546
240	School Administration	4,130,690	\$ (16,583)	4,114,107
250	Business	992,841	\$ 55,548	1,048,389
260	Operations & Maintenance	7,925,557	\$ 224,773	8,150,330
270	Transportation	5,143,593	\$ 253,491	5,397,084
280	Central Support Services	2,201,929	\$ 116,503	2,318,432
290	Other Support Services	1,018,669	\$ 34,057	1,052,726
	Total Support Services	\$ 31,829,450	\$ 1,135,170	\$ 32,964,620
300	Community Services	\$ 28,417	\$ (1,208)	\$ 27,209
400-600	Outgoing Transfers & Fund Modifications	800,810	\$ 72,355	873,165
	Total Expenditures	\$ 77,984,318	\$ 2,004,028	\$ 79,988,346
	Amount by which Revenues Exceed Expenditures	\$ (2,425,124)	\$ 638,370	\$ (1,786,754)

**FUND BALANCE INFORMATION**

Fund Balance at July 1, 2025	\$ 13,730,942	\$ 13,730,942
Amount by which Revenues Exceed Expenditures	<u>\$ (2,425,124)</u>	<u>\$ (1,786,754)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	<u><u>\$ 11,305,818</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 11,944,188</u></u>
Fund Balance as a Percentage of Revenues	<u><u>14.96%</u></u>	<u><u>15.27%</u></u>

ADOPTED this 12th day of January, 2026



## ACTION ITEM H

### H. Approval of the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$21,974.00, as presented.





## ACTION ITEM I

### I. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$30,612.88, as presented.





## ACTION ITEM J

### J. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$145,914.18, as presented.





## COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD



## FUTURE TOPICS

Based upon 2026 Meeting Schedule approved during the Organizational Meeting.



## ADJOURNMENT

Time: \_\_\_\_\_