

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, Cassandra 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 too early to start training for the June 13th 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 3rd and 4th 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

Mr. Oppenheim	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Stevens	<u>YES</u>	President DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Holmes	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Shannon	<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

Ms. Stevens	<u>YES</u>	President DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Holmes	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Shannon	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Oppenheim	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Kuykendoll	<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, Burggrave 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:

Dr. Glasscoe	YES	Mr. Holmes	YES
Ms. Shannon	YES	Mr. Oppenheim	YES
Ms. Kuykendoll	YES	Ms. Stevens	YES
President DuFort	YES		

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:

Attest:

Nicole Shannon, Secretary

Denise DuFort, President

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