

Proposed

January 12, 2026

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, January 12, 2026 in the Newaygo High School Library. Vince Grodus, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vince Grodus, Jami Schultz, Sara Rivera-Cronk, Thomas Frisbie, Bruce Gracik and Mary Spicer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Reid Sherwood

Also Present: Mr. Ben Gilpin, Superintendent

Mrs. Christina Wetherell, Admin. Assistant

Mrs. Kim Bidwell, Business Manager

Ms. Gena Dietz, High School Principal

Mr. Kyle McAlister, Middle School Principal

Mr. Rick Hatfield, Middle School Assistant Principal

Mr. Jim Smith, High School Assistant Principal

Mr. Andy Cox, Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Allison Hug, Elementary Assistant Principal

Visitors: 20

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Spicer, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to approve the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of January 12, 2026.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Consent Agenda Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Monthly Trial Balances

C. Accounts Payable Listing

Motion by Mr. Grodus, seconded by Mrs. Spicer, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Public Comments – Items on the Agenda

None.

Presentations from the Floor

Bid Proposals – The Christmas Company

Some members of The Christman Company presented an update on the Bond work and explained the next phase of construction that will take place.

MTSS Update – Alexis Mercer

MTSS Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Alexis Mercer, gave the board an update on what has taken place in the last month with this new position.

Middle School Update – Kyle McAlister and Rick. Hatfield

Mr. McAlister and Mr. Hatfield introduced some student leaders who explained their thoughts and experiences with some of the leadership development initiatives taking place at NMS.

Superintendents Reports

Personnel – Resignations

The Board was notified of the following resignation:

1. Joe Barrette – 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Informational Items

1. January is School Board Appreciation Month

Superintendent Gilpin thanked the Board for their commitment and support.

2. Finance and Budget Update:

Mrs. Kim Bidwell, Business Manager, gave the Board an update on the finances of the District.

Administrative Matters

For Action:

A. Bond Bid Approvals

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mrs. Schultz, to approve the list of vendors and projects presented for the bond.

VOTE:

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

B. Operating Millage Election Resolution

Motion by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, seconded by Mrs. Schultz, to adopt the resolution calling for election on May 5, 2026, for the purpose of the continuation to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 Mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, as presented and recommended by the Administration.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Grodus, Aye; Mr. Gracik, Aye; Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, Aye; Mrs. Schultz, Aye; Mrs. Spicer, Aye; Mr. Frisbie, Aye

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Public Comments – Items Not on the Agenda

Three members of the public addressed the Board.

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, seconded by Mrs. Spicer, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Time: 7:14p.m.

Sara Rivera-Cronk, Board Secretary