October 19, 2026

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, October 19, 2026 in the Newaygo High School Library. Vince Grodus, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Also Present: Mr. Ben Gilpin, Superintendent
Mrs. Christina Wetherell, Admin. Assistant
Mr. Jeremy Brown, Business Manager
Mr. Rick Hatfield, Middle School Assistant Principal

Visitors: 24

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mrs. Spicer, to approve the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of October 19, 2026.
VOTE
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Motion: Carried

Consent Agenda Items

A. Approval of Minutes
    1. September 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
    2. October 5, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes (including closed session minutes)
B. Monthly Trial Balances
C. Accounts Payable Listing

Motion by Mr. Bull, seconded by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.
VOTE
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Motion: Carried

Public Comments
One attendee addressed the Board.

Presentations from the Floor
Superintendent Gilpin recognized local businesses for their partnership with Newaygo Public Schools.

Superintendents Reports
Personnel – Resignations, Retirements and Terminations

The Board was notified of the following resignations:

1. Cody Bethel – IT Support Technician
2. Stacey Wilbur – Middle School Special Ed Teacher
3. Rebecka Clement – Elementary Aide
4. Lydia Howard – Elementary Aide
5. Shelley McDonald - Cook

Personnel – Recommendations to Hire

Motion by Mrs. Schultz, seconded by Mr. Bull, to hire the following individuals, as recommended by the Administration:

1. Mollie Van Oosterhout – Elementary Special Ed Aide
2. Shari Epker – Elementary General Ed Aide
3. Jeff Mercer – Boys Basketball Assistant Varsity Coach

VOTE
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Motion: Carried

Informational Items

1. Finance and Budget Update:
Business Manager, Jeremy Brown, gave the Board an update on the finances of the District. Superintendent Gilpin stated the Financial Auditor will need to present the annual audit findings at a special board meeting in the coming weeks.

2. Principal Appreciation Month
Superintendent Gilpin announced that October is Principal Appreciation Month.

Administrative Matters

Summer Tax Levy Resolution

Motion by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to approve the resolution to confirm renewals of summer tax collection agreements, as presented and recommended by the Administration.
ROLL CALL VOTE
Mr. Grodus, Aye; Mrs. Spicer, Aye; Mr. Frisbie, Aye; Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, Aye; Mr. Gracik, Aye; Mr. Bull, Aye; Mrs. Schultz, Aye.
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Motion: Carried

Cheer Team Lock In

Motion by Mr. Bull, seconded by Mr. Gracik, to approve the cheer team lock in event on November 20th, as presented.
VOTE
Ayes: 7

Nays: 0
Motion: Carried

STEM Storage Approval for Bond Purchase

Motion by Mr. Gracik, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to approve the STEM storage furniture proposal in the amount of $27,260.35, as presented.
VOTE
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Motion: Carried

Adjournment
Motion by Mrs. Schultz, seconded by Mrs. Spicer, to adjourn the meeting.
VOTE
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Motion: Carried
Time: 6:20p.m.

Sara Rivera-Cronk, Board Secretary