

November 17, 2025

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, November 17, 2025 in the Newaygo High School Library. Reid Sherwood, Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vince Grodus,

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
Ms. Allison Hug, Elementary Assistant Principal
Mr. Jim Smith, High School Assistant Principal

Visitors: 56

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Sherwood announced that this meeting was being recorded.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, to approve the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of November 17, 2025.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. October 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Monthly Trial Balances
- C. Accounts Payable Listing

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

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Public Comments – Items on the Agenda

One staff member addressed the Board.

Presentations from the Floor

Special Announcements – Mr. Gilpin

Mr. Gilpin announced that High School Teacher, Mr. Luke Francis, had been honored as WZZM's Teacher of the Week and presented an award to Mr. Francis.

Mr. Gilpin and Girls Golf Coach, Mrs. Jen Grugett, presented certificates to the five students on the Girls Golf team who were honored as Academic All State.

Jostens Renaissance Leadership Conference

High School Student Council presented to the Board on their recent trip to the Jostens Renaissance Leadership Conference.

JumpStart National Educator Conference – Tabatha Lathrop

High School Teacher, Tabatha Lathrop, presented to the Board on her recent trip to Boston for the JumpStart National Educator Conference.

Elementary School Update

Members of the NES staff, a parent and the NCRESA Speech Pathologist and therapy dog handler, Sandra Smith, gave a presentation to the Board recapping the last year where they piloted the Therapy Dog program.

Superintendents Reports

Personnel – Resignations & Terminations

The Board was notified of the following resignations:

1. Amy Rood – Cook
2. Ryan Brummel – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach
3. Courtney Cook – Middle School Aide
4. Mike Borkowski – JV Baseball Coach

Personnel – Recommendations to Hire

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

1. Shelley McDonald – Middle School Cook
2. Lynn Boverhof – Floater Cook
3. Ariel DeCheney – Elementary Aide
4. Loretta Bristol – High School Aide

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Informational Items

1. Finance and Budget Update:

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

2. State MTSS Behavior Recognition

Mr. Gilpin announced that Newaygo Elementary School and Newaygo Middle School were recognized by Michigan MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) Technical Assistance Center for MTSS Data Utilization in Behavior and MTSS Implementation and Impact for Behavior.

3. MTSS Director Update

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.

Administrative Matters

For Action:

A. Fall NEOLA Policy Update

Motion by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to approve the Fall NEOLA Policy Updates, as presented.

The Board discussed the options for changes to policies 5517.01 and 8305.

Mrs. Rivera-Cronk rescinded her motion.

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, to approve the Fall NEOLA Policy updates presented with the following changes to po8305 and po5517.02:

- Add annual training for staff and contractors to po8305 Information Security Policy
- Add Restorative Practices and option 3 to po5517.01 Bullying and Other Aggressive Behaviors Towards Students

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

B. MHSAA Women in Sports Leadership Conference Approval

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mrs. Spicer, to approve the overnight request for the MHSAA Women in Sports Leadership Conference, as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Public Comments – Items Not on the Agenda

None

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Spicer, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to adjourn the meeting.

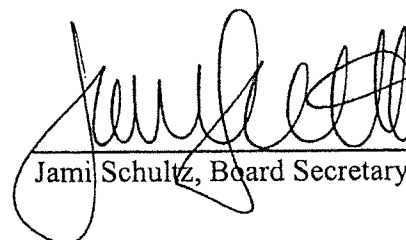
VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Time: 7:37p.m.



Jami Schultz, Board Secretary