

Proposed

September 21, 2026

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, September 21, 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
Ms. Gena Dietz, High School Principal
Mr. Jim Smith, High School Assistant Principal
Mr. Kyle McAlister, Middle School Principal
Mr. Rick Hatfield, Middle School Assistant Principal
Mr. Andy Cox, Elementary School Principal
Mrs. Allison Hug, Elementary School Assistant Principal

Visitors: 36

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mrs. Schultz, to approve the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of August 17, 2026.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. August 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Monthly Trial Balances
- C. Accounts Payable Listing

Motion by Mr. Bull, seconded by Mr. Gracik, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Public Comments

Two attendees addressed the Board.

Presentations from the Floor

Principal Gena Dietz gave the Board a presentation on the high school graduation rates, SAT scores and attendance. Mr. Brody Milner, High School Teacher, gave the Board a presentation on AP Exam data.

Superintendents Reports

Personnel – Resignations, Retirements and Terminations

The Board was notified of the following resignations, retirements and terminations:

1. Rebecca Campbell – Elementary Aide
2. Michelle Jacobs – High School Special Education Teacher

Personnel – Recommendations to Hire

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

1. Cassidy Fritts – Elementary Special Education Aide
2. Lydia Howard – Elementary General Education Aide
3. Cheyenne Cloud – Elementary General Education Aide
4. James Taylor – High School Special Education Teacher
5. John Hyink – Middle School Boys Basketball Coach
6. Grace Painter – Elementary General Education Aide

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Informational Items

1. Finance and Budget Update:

Superintendent Gilpin gave the Board an update on the finances of the District.

2. September Board Workshop Postponement

The Board agreed to postpone the originally agreed upon Board Workshop that was to be September 28th. The new date will be tentatively February 17th or 18th.

3. Tenured Teacher Announcement

Superintendent Gilpin announced the newly tenured teachers for the 2026-2027 school year.

Closed Session

Motion by Mrs. Rivera-Cronk, seconded by Mr. Bull, to move into closed session for the purpose of considering written attorney client privileged information which is material exempt from disclosure per section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

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

Time: 6:32pm

Return to Open Session

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mr. Bull, to return to open session.

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

Time: 7:06pm

Motion by Mrs. Schultz, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to select Option #2 of the attorney's recommendation.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mr. Gracik, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Time: 7:09p.m.

Sara Rivera-Cronk, Board Secretary