



BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Monday, October 13th, 2025 – 6:30 PM
Kentwood Public Schools
5820 Eastern Ave SE
Kentwood, MI 49508

The regular meeting of the Kentwood Board of Education was held on Monday, October 13th, 2025. The regular meeting was called to order by Board President Mimi Madden at 6:30 P.M.

Present Mimi Madden, President
 Sylvia James, Vice President
 Pete Battey, Treasurer
 Allen Young, Secretary
 Tanya Powell-May, Trustee
 Kim Taboada-Arzate, Trustee
 Marlon Brown, Trustee
 Kevin Polston, Superintendent
 Jamie Gordon, Executive Director
 Tom Lagone, Executive Director
 Sunil Joy, Executive Director
 Carrie Tellerico, Executive Director
 Bre Bartels, Executive Director
 Veronica Lake, Executive Director
 Carrie Tellerico, Executive Director
 Sydney Hanlon, Recorder

Absent: None

Ms. Madden led the board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Motion by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the minutes from the board meeting of September 8th, 2025, and the board retreat on September 22nd, 2025.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion carried.

Mrs. Madden explained the procedure for the audience participation portion of the agenda. She asked all persons wishing to address the Board to sign the participation card prior to that item of business (Bylaw 9115 and PA 267, Sec. 3(5)).

AUDIENCE
PARTICIPATION
PROCEDURE

Monica Sparks - running for Mayor of Kentwood. She is currently a Kent County commissioner. She wants to be a mayor that works side by side with schools. Available for questions and information at their campaign site. When elected major will have a open door policy.

The superintendent's report included the following:

SUPT'S REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Finance Committee Report - Annual Financial Audit

Steve from Manor Casterian here tonight as well as business office members - Abbie, Margaret and Sadie. Abbie's first year as Director of Fiscal Services - great work!

Clean, unmodified opinion - came within 100k of the estimated deficit.

Smooth process - no difficulty with management or business office team.

Team did a great job modifying the budget over the year based on adjustments needed!

Pete - congrats to the business office!

Kudos to Tom and the team!

Indigenous Persons Day

TeachMichigan had fall convening this past weekend! KPS had 2 of the 3 cohorts attended

At the gala - just over 500k private investment made, to match state funds

GVSU event taking place tonight - Carrie and Jamie are representing the district

State budget - nuanced language - we will create a new plan for those seniors on that testing day

Motion by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, supported by Mr. Young, to approve parent representatives to serve on the Kent ISD Parent Advisors for Special Education (PASE).

PACE
REPRESENTATIVE
S

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Battey, supported by Mr. Young, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegating the Sale of the 2026 Refunding Bonds.

RESOLUTION FOR
BONDS

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, to recognize the sale of the Residential Construction house located at 2889 Wildflower Ln, Kentwood, MI at a contract price of \$490,500.

SALE OF
RESIDENTIAL
CONSTRUCTION

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Mr. Young, to award a contract to Wolf Kubota for repair of the District skid steer in an amount not-to-exceed \$31,578.52.

WOLF KUBOTA
CONTRACT

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to adopt a three-year contract with Gallup for the purchase of the Q12 Employee Engagement Survey. Funding is from the general fund.

GALLUP
CONTRACT

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Battey, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the disbursement summary for September 2025

DISBURSEMENT
SUMMARY

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, supported by Mr. Brown, to go into closed session for the purpose of 4 student reinstatements (in accordance with Policy 0160 and PA 267 of 1976, section 8.b.) (at 6:58PM)

CLOSED SESSION

Motion carried.

Open Session at 7:13pm

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the reinstatement of Student A.

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 1

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Battey, supported by Mr. Young, to approve the reinstatement of Student B.

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 2

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Battey, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the reinstatement of Student C.

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 3

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the reinstatement of Student D.

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 4

Motion carried

BOARD DISCUSSION

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Tours of facilities - Mimi, Pete and Allen joined us! Hudsonville, Grandville and Forrest Hills - 2 renovations and 2 new builds.

Good learning experience and tour for things that are coming up.

Shoutout for CO team for redistricting!

Stark difference in new builds vs renovations

B. Superintendent evaluation in November

In 2 weeks, you will get Kevin's evidence - email October 27th

You have 1 week to complete assessment

Send to Sydney 1 week before the board meeting

Sydney will compile information to present at the November board meeting

Motion by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, supported by Mr. Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Allen Young, Secretary