



BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Monday, August 11th, 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, August 11th, 2025. The regular meeting was called to order by Board President Mimi Madden at 6:30 P.M.

Present Mimi Madden, President
 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: Sylvia James, Vice President
 Pete Battey, Treasurer

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 July 14th, 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

The superintendent's report included the following:

SUPT'S REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Redistricting Steering Committee

3 years in the making - this committee helped with facilitating the plan - bus routes, logistics, staffing, etc.

NSPRA golden achievement award & Award from frontline central

Thank you for the dedication and hard work from this team!

Appointment of Erin Anderson as Principal of East Kentwood Freshman Campus

Appointment of Sheree Harmon as Interim Director of Special Education

New staff welcome Wednesday morning - breakfast

All staff welcome - Tuesday the 19th - breakfast and then program

Celebration - grant tier 1 for instruction of literacy - over 800k for tier one literacy - later on in the school year, spring we will come to the board for recommendation to purchase materials.

Motion by Ms. Powell-May, supported by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, to approve the hire Dr. Mulonge Kalumbula as the Assistant Principal of East Kentwood Freshman Campus.

NEW HIRE -
KALUMBULA

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the hire of Sarah O'Connell as the principal of Glenwood Elementary.

NEW HIRE-
O'CONNELL

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Mr. Young, to approve Dr. Brian Gamm as the Principal of Townline Elementary School.

NEW HIRE - GAMM

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Powell-May, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the hire of Veola McFerrin-Nelson as the Special Education Supervisor.

NEW HIRE -
MCFERRIN-NELSON

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the hire of Chad Nielson as Assistant Principal at East Kentwood High School.

NEW HIRE -
NIELSON

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, to approve the 2025–2026 Alternate Agreement between Kentwood Public Schools (KPS) and Gerald Dawkins Academy (GDA), granting KPS full legal and financial responsibility for the operation of School Nutrition Programs at Gerald Dawkins Academy.

GDA AGREEMENT

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, supported by Mr. Young, to approve the renewal of a Cooperative Ice Hockey Program for the 2025-2027 seasons, with East Kentwood High School serving as the primary school, in partnership with Hopkins High School and West Michigan Aviation Academy.

COOPERATIVE ICE
HOCKEY
PROGRAM

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the purchase of over 25 replacement copiers and print management solutions at East Kentwood High School from Applied Innovation, in accordance with pricing secured through the MITN cooperative purchasing network, at a total equipment cost of \$137,673.69. Funded by the 2021 Bond.

REPLACEMENT
COPIERS

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Mr. Brown, to award contracts totaling \$202,135 for the installation of a temporary chiller system at the Kentwood Ice Arena for the 2025–2026 school year. This includes equipment rental, chemical removal, piping modifications, glycol fill, and electrical work. Funded by the General Fund.

CHILLER SYSTEM

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the East Kentwood High School Course Book. This is the second reading.

EKHS COURSE
BOOK - 2ND
READING

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Powell-May, to approve a contract with Goalbook Digital Toolkit. Funding is from the Special Education General Fund.

GOALBOOK
DIGITAL TOOLKIT
CONTRACT

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the purchase of 50 Lenovo laptops from CDWG at a cost not to exceed \$64,800.00. Funding by the General Fund

LAPTOP
PURCHASE

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Powell-May, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the employment of the attached list

NEW HIRES

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the disbursement summary for July 2025

DISBURSEMENT
SUMMARY

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Allen Young, Secretary