



BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Monday, September 8th, 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, September 8th, 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 Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. James, to approve the minutes from the board meeting of August 11th, 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

Nathan Loding - child at GW and CW - Complaints that are being heard - Communications and lack there of. Received an email the week before that bus routes were ready, but theirs were not. They did not receive their bus route the Sunday before school started. Backpack policy- was communicated at open house but we were not there. I only received info via my daughter's friend. Glenwood lunch times - kids and their parents sharing that there was not enough time to eat their lunch. Rushed schedule and kids are not getting the proper amount of time. Understanding that there are logistical issues. Talked to principal at GW and the teacher and they shared the sentiment that it was a rushed schedule. Would like someone to get back to him.

The superintendent's report included the following:

SUPT'S REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

State and Federal Budget Update

Community eligibility will still carry on for the next 4 years. If the state budget does not include school lunch program, that will not impact our practice.

Enhancement Millage - November Election

Asking for a renewal & restoration - this would impact all schools across the county - public and charter.

We can do an informational campaign. We can inform voters.

Explorer and ECC Main campus started today! We will welcome Hamilton ECC students tomorrow morning!

Enrollment is still trending positively! We are trending to be around 100 students more than last year. Neighboring communities and the overall state is declining enrollment. We are addressing this growth by our ongoing construction projects.

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 Ms. James, to approve Shanell Haigh as the Interim Special Education Supervisor.

NEW HIRE- HAIGH

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms Powell-May, supported by Ms. Taboda-Arzate, to purchase materials and training to pilot Project Lead the Way STEM curriculum resources in the amount of \$45,000. Funding is from the General Fund.

PROJECT LEAD
THE WAY

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Battey, supported by Mr. Allen, to appoint Mimi Madden as the delegate and Sylvia YOUNG as the alternate to vote on behalf of the Kentwood Public Schools Board of Education at the MASB Delegate Assembly on October 23rd, 2025.

DELEGATE
ASSEMBLY

Motion carried.

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

NEW HIRES

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Young, supported by Ms. James, to approve the disbursement summary for August 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 7:02PM)

CLOSED SESSION

Motion carried.

Open Session at 7:13pm

Motion by Mr. Battey, supported by Ms. James, to approve the reinstatement of Student A.

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 1

Motion carried.

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

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 2

Motion carried.

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

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 3

Motion carried.

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

REINSTATEMENT
STUDENT 4

Motion carried

BOARD DISCUSSION

Kevin and Tanya are attending the KISD finance meeting at the end of the month. Delays at Hamilton and the ECC.

BOARD
DISCUSSION

AMENDED AGENDA

Motion by Ms. James, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to appoint OAK Construction as the Construction Management Company for any remaining contracts awarded to Fritz Walfield Construction.

CONSTRUCTION
MANAGEMENT
COMPANY
CHANGE

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Allen Young, Secretary