



BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Monday, May 12th, 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, May 12th, 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
 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: Allen Young, Secretary
 Pete Battey, Treasurer
 Tanya Powell-May, Trustee

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

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Motion by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, supported by Ms. James, to approve the minutes from the board meeting of April 21st, 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

Thank you community for the passing of the non homestead millage! Thank you for the trust and partnership!

Regional Teacher of the Year Recognition

Sarah Kresnick - region 3! She is most proud of her relationships she has with her students. Her passion for relationships is also a reflection of our district and the pride that we have in our community!

Grow Your Own Program Recognition

The investments we make in our community - our people! West Michigan teacher collaborative - 2 of our staff have been KPS staff members from the start! Other two came to us by way of HBCU from Alabama! We will continue the partnership with Talladega college for the 2026 school year.

Thank you Kentwood for the support that I have received throughout my time in Kentwood. This program is an extra layer of support.

My staff and principals have helped significantly and shown us the way and how to connect with students and build relationships.

My mentor teacher has helped through this journey and I am thankful for all of the support.

The beginning of my journey started with an interview for an office job and then transitioned to an ML para position. This opened my world into the opportunity of teaching and starting on this pathway.

This is Our Home Now - Presentation

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Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. James, to award a contract to Total Fire Protection to monitor, test and service the District's Fire Alarm systems in the amount of \$35,191. Funding is from the FY 26 general fund.

TOTAL FIRE
PROTECTION
CONTRACT

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, supported by Mr. Brown, to purchase office furniture for the Student Services area at East Kentwood High School in the amount of \$52,493.23 from Custer Furniture. Funding is from the 2021 Bond.

EKHS OFFICE
FURNITURE

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. James, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to purchase a truck for Facilities and Operations from Fox Ford in the amount of \$51,920.00. Funding is from the FY 25 general fund.

F&O TRUCK

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. James, to ratify the sale of the 2025 School Building and Site Bonds, Series III, in the principal amount of \$26,500,000, as authorized by the Board's delegating resolution adopted on April 21, 2025. The bond pricing was successfully executed on May 6, 2025 in collaboration with the district's legal, financial, and underwriting partners.

RATIFICATION OF
BONDS

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, supported by Mr. Brown, to approve the Kent ISD proposed budget resolution

KISD BUDGET
RESOLUTION

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. James, supported by Ms. Taboada-Arzate, to approve the disbursement summary for April 2025

DISBURSEMENT
SUMMARY

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. James, to vote for David Drake and Laura Featherston for the Kent ISD Board of Education on the first ballot. Each term is a Six-Year Term (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2031).

KISD BOARD VOTE

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Ms. James, to approve the The Title IX policies as presented. This is the second reading.

BOARD POLICIES -
SECOND READING

Motion carried.

The board meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Allen Young, Secretary