

The Kent ISD School Board held a regular meeting at the Kent Conference Center on Monday, May 18, 2026. President Haidle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hamming, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle.

Member Absent: Drake

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Gorman, Assistant Superintendents Finkel, Fee, Philipps, Rodgers, Gardner, Myers; Directors Arnold, Baine, Behm, Burns, Campbell, Graham, Hendry, Hissong, Hofstee, Houtman, Karsten, Larkin, Lienesch, Lillis, Maynard, McClintic, Murphy, Store, Verwey; Principals Kleff, Sanders, Hordyk Recording Secretary Lovell;

Staff Members: Janine Brouwer, Lori Dulak, Esther Herrera, Joyce Irvine, Tom Kenyon, Elizabeth Lamancusa, Carol Lillie-Dausman, Sheryl Mankel, Cinnamon Mellema, Joanne Hewartson, Jennifer Kolhoff, Stacy Crowell, Michelle Cameron, Jenell Spindle,

Guests: Dan Salas, Rich Dausman, John Kozal, Vickie Finkler, Dolan Bair, Cindy Patin

President Haidle welcomed attendees and turned the meeting over to Superintendent Gorman, who shared words of appreciation for the retirees in attendance. Assistant Superintendent Dave Rodgers also expressed gratitude to the retirees for their many years of dedicated service and for their ongoing impact on students across Kent ISD.

Retirees recognized include:

- Janine Brouwer, Physical Therapist, Lincoln Developmental Center
- Lori Dulak-Core, Instructor, Kent Career Tech Center
- Esther Herrera, Instructional Support Specialist, Empower U South
- Joyce Irvine, Early Interventionist, Early On
- Tom Kenyon, Instructional Support Specialist, Pine Grove Learning Center
- Elizabeth Lamancusa, COTA, Lincoln Developmental Center
- Carol Little Dausman, Orientation & Mobility, Special Education
- Sheryl Mankel, Instructional Support Specialist, Empower U North

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Featherston, it was resolved to combine and approve the consent agenda items D.1-D.14.

Ayes: Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion by Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the annual renewal of the Rubrik data backup solution from People Driven Technology.

Ayes: Schottke, Hamming, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Schottke, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the Wide Area Fiber Maintenance.

Ayes: Hamming, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve Kent ISD to authorize the millage levies as recommended, totaling 5.2906 mills for 2026.

Ayes: Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Schottke, it was resolved to approve the superintendent's annual evaluation.

Vice President Hamming shared an overview of the superintendent's evaluation report and reviewed the ratings established by the board using the Michigan Association of School Boards evaluation tool. Superintendent Gorman's overall score was a 98%, which falls in the "Effective" category, the highest rating you can receive.

President Haidle shared feedback from the Board during the annual evaluation, noting that Dr. Gorman maintains strong communication with Board members and that the Board has a high level of confidence in his leadership. The Board also recognized Dr. Gorman's outstanding character, positive relationships with stakeholders, and effective communication with both staff and the broader community. Members further noted their appreciation for the positive organizational culture he fosters, emphasizing his honesty, transparency, and steady leadership.

Ayes: Schottke, Hamming, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Schottke, it was resolved to approve the superintendent's contract for the 2026-2027 school year.

Ayes: Hamming, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

President Haidle provided the opportunity for public comment.

On behalf of the Lily's Frog Pag organization, the following individuals shared comments related to conserving the buildings on the property of the Howard Christensen Nature Center: Ms. Vickie Finkler, Mr. Dolan Bair, Mr. John Kozal, and Ms. Cindy Patin.

Mr. Dan Behm provided a brief legislative update regarding the 26-27 state budget.

Superintendent Gorman thanked the Board for extending his contract and approving his annual evaluation. He also thanked his team members for their incredible leadership and support they provide to Kent ISD.

President Haidle adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

Minutes approved on June 15, 2026

Andrea Haidle, President

Anne Hamming, Vice-President