East Lansing Public Schools Regular Meeting October 26, 2026, 7:00 PM	Board Room 6160 Towar Ave East Lansing, Michigan 48823

I. **Opening of Meeting**

I.A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Lyons at 7:00 pm.

I.B. Roll Call

Chambers: Present, Edsall: Present, Faris-Hylen: Present, Lyons: Present, Martin: Present, Torrez: Present, Tykocki: Present, Student Representative Rojewski: Present, Superintendent Leyko: Present.
Student Representative Meghea arrived at 7:01 pm.

I.C. Mission Statement

Nurturing Each Child · Educating All Students · Building World Citizens
The mission statement was read by Trustee Chambers.

I.D. Approval of Agenda

Motion: 26-27/022: I move that the Board of Education approve the agenda for the October 26, 2026, regular meeting, as presented.

This motion, made by Chambers and seconded by Martin, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

I.E. Approval of Minutes

Motion: 26-27/023: I move that the Board of Education approve the September 28, 2026, regular meeting minutes, as presented.

I.E.1. September 28, 2026, regular meeting

This motion, made by Chambers and seconded by Tykocki, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

II. **Recognition**

Click here for the Recognition reported by Trustee Martin.

Trustee Chambers mentioned how appreciative she is of Representative Tsernoglou's office for recognizing great teachers in the area and that so many of our teachers earn that recognition. There are also more of our teachers that are probably coming up for recognition.

III. **Student Representative Report**

Student Representatives Meghea and Rojewski reported:

- Upcoming Math Nights at the elementary schools along with STEAM night at Donley Elementary this past Thursday.
- Marble Muskrat Movement Mayhem took place on October 22 and raised more than $5,000. This is double what they raised last year.
- Scholastic Book Fair is traveling through elementary schools and is giving a great opportunity for elementary schoolers to buy a new book.
- MacDonald Middle School held its “Fall into Kindness” activity night on October 16 and had over 300 students attend. They collected sweatpants, leggings and socks for their kindness closet.
- Whitehills Elementary School has its “Howl at the Glow” event where families can eat, dance and party.
- The Early Education class at Red Cedar took a field trip to the Special Olympics and the new MSU Rec Center.
- MacDonald Middle School volleyball team finished off their season with an outstanding record. The A team was undefeated, and the B team finished with a 9-1 record.
- At the Greater Lansing Cross Country championships, the middle school girls' team finished in third place and the boys' team finished in fourth.
- MacDonald Middle School is proud that with over 150 student athletes, they continue to excel with no one missing out on competitive competition due to attendance or grades.
- High school most fall sports have concluded their seasons. Highlights include:
    - Girls' swim and dive team have been undefeated this season.
    - Boys' soccer team finished their season after making it to districts with a record of 11-6-2.
    - Boys' football team defeated Waverly at the last home game of the season. Celebrated the senior cheerleaders, dancers, band, and football members. The football team qualified for the playoffs.
    - Boys' tennis team wrapped up their season with a fourth-place finish at regionals.
    - Boys' water polo began districts this past Saturday with day two coming up this Friday.
    - Cross Country team has district’s this Friday following their CAC win this past Thursday.
    - Special recognition to golfer, Zoe VanDorn, for individually qualifying for the state finals and competing last weekend in Battle Creek.

- The high school Orchestra and Choir held concerts this past week.
- East Lansing Band traveled to Plymouth this past Saturday and placed second overall.
- The Band paid a visit to all the elementary buildings this past week.
- The annual Powderpuff game took place this past Wednesday with the juniors and seniors facing off on the football field. The juniors took the win with a 20 to 19 score and raised over $3,500 to support the Karmanos Cancer Institute.
- The first annual Powderpuff volleyball game is happening on November 7, and they are raising money for men's mental health.
- The East Lansing High School play is happening on November 12–15. Tickets are on sale now through GoFan and they are performing *Radium Girls*.

Superintendent Leyko added that the senior members of the girls' swim and dive team have remained undefeated at home throughout their four years and are finishing the season with a 26–2 record. The football team will travel to Caledonia for the first round of the playoffs.

IV. **Superintendent's Report**
Click here for the Superintendent's Report.

V. **Public Comment**
This is an opportunity to address the Board. Speakers are limited to five minutes. Additional time may be granted after all other speakers have had an opportunity to speak. The Superintendent or designee may provide clarification when necessary to address significant misunderstandings.

No Public Comment.

VI. **Presentations**
VI.A. RJ Naughton, PFM Potential Bond Refunding
VI.B. Dave Nielsen, Maner Costerisan Year Ended June 30, 2026, Audited Financial Statements

Trustee Chambers appreciates the thoroughness of the presentation. Thank you to Rich and the team for all their hard work.

VII. **Board Discussion**
Trustee Edsall inquired about the dog's longevity. Superintendent Leyko stated that our oldest dog is five and the youngest is less than one year old.

VIII. **Action Items**
VIII.A. **Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2026**
Motion: 26-27/024: I move that the Board of Education accept the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2026, as presented.

This motion, made by Faris-Hylen and seconded by Edsall, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

VIII.B. **PA 152 Resolution (80/20 vs Hard Cap) Resolution**

Motion: 26-27/025: I move that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution to Comply with PA 152 of 2011, as presented.

This motion, made by Chambers and seconded by Faris-Hylen, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

VIII.C. **31 aa Resolution**

Motion: 26-27/026: I move that the Board of Education approve the resolution ("Resolution A") to accept 31aa Mental Health Funding and 31aa Student Safety Funding.

This motion, made by Martin and seconded by Tykocki, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

IX. **Committee Reports**

IX.A. Academic and Technology Committee

- Two new students serve on the committee. This is the only committee which has students serve. Isaiah Aikens attended and made great contributions to the discussion.
- Had great updates from Mr. Hampton and Dr. Dobson.
- There will be significant curriculum updates in the spring.
- There is a tentative meeting scheduled for December 7-1:00 pm in the Hub at the high school.

IX.B. Facilities Committee

- The committee met today and had a great meeting.
- Billy Hastings gave updates:

  - Construction from the bond is 99.9% complete.
  - Painted the middle school gym.
  - Extra bond funds are going to update the timing system for the pool, sound system in the auditorium, purchase sidewalk snowplow equipment and a new sound system in the gym.
  - The baseball parking lot will have new lines painted and adding four ADA-compliant spots to the lot. Concrete will be poured between stands and backstop instead of wheeling up to the stands, folks can wheel down.
  - Looking into solar panels for the roof at some of our buildings. He has reached out to the Board of Water and Light and Consumers to inquire about grants. Still in the gathering info stage.
- Nikki Norris gave Fall recap updates.
- Next meeting has not been scheduled yet.

IX.C. Finance Committee

- A big part of the last meeting was around the audit, which everyone just heard.
- The banking transition to Fifth Third is complete. New signatures will be added in January.
- MESSA renewal rates are about 6.1% which is positive since the budget was for 10%.
- The 2026-27 and 2027-28 budgets are currently being looked at in light of the variances from the budget that was just audited.
- The next meeting is November 2 at 1:00 pm.

IX.D. Intergovernmental Relations

- No report.

IX.E. Personnel Committee

- The committee met on October 22. Superintendent Leyko and the district's general counsel were in attendance.
- The meeting was broken down into two parts.
- Part 1: discussion around Superintendent Leyko's evaluation of how to support her with the things she wants to accomplish this year.
  - Will do her evaluation in closed session at the December meeting.
  - She will get materials of goals and competencies in early December.
  - The evaluation will be comprehensive and thorough but paired back from previous evaluation.
- Part 2: discussion of the process for bringing in a new Superintendent.
  - General Counsel advised the committee of the options for posting the position and seeking candidates.

- Encouraged the committee to consider whether they want to engage a search firm to assist with that process.
- Will reach out to a couple of firms to see if they can make a presentation as to what services they can offer.
- Advised as to how to solicit stakeholder input on what they would like the Board to consider in hiring a new Superintendent.
- Recommends that there is something ready to go in February 2027.

Trustee Faris-Hylen clarified that the firms that they reach out to will make the presentation publicly at a regular board meeting.

Trustee Edsall stated she is the only one who has hired a Superintendent from a search. A search firm helped quite a bit by reaching out to a large pool of candidates that fit the criteria, to know what questions to ask the candidates, and to know how many candidates to move forward. Stakeholder input is important, including voices that are overlooked; not hearing just from the community members who we always hear from, include voices of marginalized community members, students with disabilities and English language learners, BIPOC community teachers and families.

Superintendent Leyko stated they collectively decided that a facilitator would not be needed for the evaluation.

IX.F. Policy Committee

- Policy 3304.01 Renaming Policy was passed. Been working on how to best implement this policy. There has been a slight change to the policy. The information is in Items of Information and will be on the agenda of an upcoming regular meeting.
- Administrative guidelines were created when requesting a name change. The form can be completed by a community member.
- Land grants are still on hold.
- Discussed SGOs - Federal scholarship tax credit.

Superintendent Leyko stated that we are waiting to see if the governor will opt in to the program. The credit will apply in 2027, and we are currently getting prepared.

IX.G. Ingham School Officers Association (ISOA)

- Met on October 7 for the Legislative breakfast. East Lansing had a strong showing.
- There was a lot of good discussion and seemed like a learning experience for the panelist.
- The next meeting is November 4 and will be held virtually.

X. **Announcements**

X.A. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education is November 9, 2026.

XI. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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President

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Secretary