



## Agenda of Regular Meeting

### The Board of Education Huron Intermediate School District

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Huron Intermediate School District will be held on August 11, 2025, beginning at 4:00 PM at the Huron Intermediate School District's Administration Building at 1299 S. Thomas Road, Suite 1, Bad Axe, MI 48413.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Minutes of July 14, 2025
4. Public Participation
5. Action Items
  - A. Michigan Association of School Board Delegate Assembly Appointment
  - B. Programs/Services and Personnel
    1. Resignation of Speech-Language Pathologist
    2. Resignation of Diagnostic Assessment Intervention Technician
    3. Resignation of Special Education Paraprofessional
    4. Request to Employ MOCI Teacher
    5. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    6. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    7. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    8. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    9. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    10. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    11. Request to Employ Diagnostic Assessment Intervention Technician
    12. Request to Employ Special Education Paraprofessional
    13. Request to Approve Huron Intermediate Support Staff (HISSA) Memorandum of Understanding
    14. Request to Approve Huron Intermediate Support Staff (HISSA) Memorandum of Understanding
    15. Request to Approve Huron Area Technical Center and Huron Learning Center Student Handbooks and Course Catalogs
6. Informational Items
  - A. Report of Directors
  - B. Report of Superintendent
7. Approval of Bills

## 8. Adjournment

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business. There is time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.



## Huron ISD General Education Report August 2025

### General Ed News from Last Month

- Over 80 administrators from Huron, Tuscola, and Sanilac County met in Midland for the Tri-County Administrators Retreat on July 29-30. Day 1 featured an inspiring keynote from Buddy Berry, a Kentucky Superintendent whose small, rural, school does some amazing innovation. Day 2 was all about collaboration, as we had time reserved for more discussion on ideas presented to us on Day 1, as well as time for attendees to talk with colleagues from other districts (superintendents meeting with superintendents, elementary principals meeting with elementary principals, etc.), and time for district teams to plan next steps prior to leaving. We have some powerful ideas about steps we might take as a county/region, and we are already starting to plan for next year's admin retreat.
- July was very busy with six separate PD sessions hosted at HISD, with topics on AI, early literacy/early math, and behavior management, bringing in over 80 adult learners. August is already off to a great start, with 5 PD sessions scheduled between this report being submitted and our Board Meeting.
- A MiSTEM Regional Stakeholder meeting was held on August 4 (shortly after submitting this Board Report). I'll be able to share specifics from this meeting during my report to the Board on August 11, including a possible timeline for posting/interviewing candidates for this position.
- Kelsey Renshaw has resigned from her DAIT position at Harbor Beach, which has been slated to evolve to include some inclusion paraprofessional responsibilities. I've already begun collaborating with the Special Ed team to get this job posted, with the goal of having someone in place by the start of the student school year if possible.

### Coming Events

- HISD Opening Week (August 18-21) fast approaches, and we've been working as an Admin Team to make sure our staff is welcomed back in the manner they deserve while providing structured, relevant, professional learning. In addition to department-specific experiences, all staff will take part in a Poverty Simulation as well as Suicide Prevention & Awareness training.
- I've been part of a team looking at improvements to the evaluation framework we use with ancillary staff in the HIEA group. We are aiming for an enhanced framework that provides more specificity in ratings, which will increase transparency and allow for improved feedback. As this subgroup of the admin team finalizes a draft, we will be sharing the work with HIEA leadership for their feedback and collaboration prior to using the improved tool for this year's observations/evaluations. As we learn from this work, we'll look to make similar improvements with the evaluation frameworks used with some of our other employee groups.

### Director's Professional Learning Summary

Since our last meeting, I've participated in the following professional learning opportunities:

- Tri-County Administrators Retreat @ Midland, July 29-30



## Huron ISD General Education Report August 2025

### Current Professional Development Summary

	Participants	Total Hours
<b>July 2025</b>	86	42
<b>SY25-26 Total</b>	86	42

*Quality Ratings range from (4) Excellent, (3) Good, (2) Fair, and (1) Poor.  
Knowledge/Understanding Ratings range from (4) Excellent, (3) Good, (2) Fair, and (1) Poor.*

#### Motivational Interviewing (July 14-15)

Quality of Content: 3.6  
Quality of Presenter: 3.72  
Quality of Facilities: 3.16 (video wall issues)

**Average Quality Score: 3.49**

#### Impact on Knowledge/Understanding (avg. across 11 areas)

Before: 1.98  
After: 3.29

**Avg. Gain in Knowledge: +1.31**

#### AI in Education (July 16)

Quality of Content: 4.0  
Quality of Presenter: 4.0  
Quality of Facilities: 4.0

**Average Quality Score: 4.0**

#### Impact on Knowledge/Understanding (avg. across 4 areas)

Before: 1.55  
After: 3.22

**Avg. Gain in Knowledge: +1.67**

#### The Science of Reading in Practice (July 17)

Quality of Content: 3.91  
Quality of Presenter: 3.91  
Quality of Facilities: 4.0

**Average Quality Score: 3.94**

#### Impact on Knowledge/Understanding (avg. across 1 area)

Before: 2.0  
After: 3.73

**Avg. Gain in Knowledge: +1.73**



## Huron ISD General Education Report August 2025

### Meaningful Fact Fluency (July 22)

Quality of Content: 4.0  
Quality of Presenter: 3.92  
Quality of Facilities: 4.0

**Average Quality Score: 3.97**

### Impact on Knowledge/Understanding (avg. across 4 area)

Before: 2.38  
After: 3.5

**Avg. Gain in Knowledge: +1.12**

## **HISD Special Services Report August 2025**

### **Professional Learning in Preparation for the 2025-26 School Year:**

We have many staff facilitating and attending training this summer to work to be prepared to best serve our students throughout the upcoming school year. We'd like to recognize the hard work happening during these summer months in preparation for our students' return.

- We have many mentors in the special education department that provide one-on-one training and coaching to new staff or to staff that are not new to our ISD but will be working in a new job role. Many of those mentors are attending the Teaching Mentor Training on August 11, presented by Steve Seward. We are thankful to Steve Carlson for organizing this opportunity for our organization.
- New special education paraprofessionals as well as those in their first few years of service, will be participating in ParaEducator Bootcamp on August 11 and August 14. This training will be facilitated by Deb Walsh, Kurt Long, and Sarah Green. We are opening this training up to local school paraprofessionals as well.
- The past few summers we have provided a one day training for new paraprofessionals that focuses on following ISD procedures in terms of work expectations, developing sub plans and navigating the financial portions of Skyward. This training will be facilitated by Julie Toner, Beth Nienlatowski, Becky Schumacher, and Geralyn Kolar
- New Special Ed Teacher Training will occur on August 14, facilitated by Michele Kabban. This training is focused on providing training to new special education teachers and service providers related to IEP development and using our SE data system called Infinity.
- Training in the administration and scoring of the universal screening measures from Acadience Reading will be held on August 15. Deb Walsh and Torri Volmering are facilitating this training. The training is open to any individuals in our local schools, who will be supporting the administration of these universal screening measures. This includes new special education teachers.
- Well Managed Schools, provided to us through BoysTown, will be held on August 12 and 13. Denise Pratt from BoysTown will be facilitating. This is a repeat of the training offered in August of 2024 with the purpose to provide the training to staff who could not attend the training last school year or who have been hired with our organization since that training was offered. The focus is on providing direct

instruction in social-emotional learning skills. This is opened up to local school staff as well.

- Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CPI) training will be held on August 25 for staff that have not had this training yet. This training is being facilitated by Melissa Pratt and Holly Wasierski.
- Jackie Callender and our CPI trainers are also providing additional CPI trainings for local schools, and they are providing refresher training options for HISD staff and local school staff targeted for people who have had CPI training in the past, but need a refresher session. Trainers provided those services for the start of the school year include Alicia Burkhard, Jodi Volk, Joe Pratt, Ashley Cramer, Makenzie Dubey, Melissa Pratt and Holly Wasierski.
- Many members of our Behavior Team participated in a Motivational Interviewing training in July. Motivational Interviewing is an evidence-based strategy for structuring conversations to help guide individuals toward their desired behavior change. Motivational interviewing strategies are especially helpful to use with individuals that are ambivalent to change and are applicable to working with students and adults that support students.
- Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CPI) training will be provided to bus drivers from Thumb Area Transit on August 11, 13 and 15.

### **Summer 2025 Interns/Student Teaching:**

We were fortunate to have the following individuals working with us this summer to complete the internships and student teaching as they progress in their respective programs in education.

- Kari Hildreth, one of our Early On (0 to 3 year old) Service Providers, is working toward earning her Master's Degree and Teacher Certification through Saginaw Valley State University. She is working to complete her student teaching hours through her work this summer in our Early Childhood Special Education classroom and also in her home visiting for Early On. Kari is one of our current staff utilizing Grow Your Own grant funding awarded to our ISD to support initial teacher certification.
- Jessica Podlesney, a general education teacher at Laker Elementary, is working toward earning her teaching certificate. We were happy to host Jessica in both our Early Childhood Special Education Classroom and in our Early On home visiting this summer as she works toward earning her student teaching hours.
- Emily Dennis, is a social work major entering her second year at Central Michigan University. She completed a job shadow experience with us this summer in various programs at the Huron Learning Center.

### **Fall 2025 Interns/Student Teaching:**

We look forward to having the following individuals working with us this coming fall to complete their internships and student teaching as they progress in their respective programs in education.

- Jenna Krug, one of our Early On (0 to 3 year old) Service Providers and our Great Start Parent Liaison, is working toward earning her Bachelor's Degree and Teacher Certification through Central Michigan University. Jenna will be completing her student teaching this fall in our Early Childhood Special Education program. Jenna is one of our current staff utilizing Grow Your Own grant funding awarded to our ISD to support initial teacher certification.
- April Major will be joining us this fall as a school social work intern. April is a North Huron graduate, who earned her Bachelor's Degree from Central Michigan University in Sociology with a concentration in Criminal Justice. She is pursuing her Master's in Social Work from Western New Mexico University. April has several years of experience working the community mental health and hospital settings in Michigan, Arizona and New York.
- Lucy Wiley will be joining us this fall as a school social work intern. Lucy is a North Huron graduate, who recently earned her Bachelor's Degree from Saginaw Valley State University. She is pursuing her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Kentucky. Lucy has experience working with the CAN Council in Saginaw, MI in their Children's Advocacy Center.
- Jaiden Schulte will be joining us this fall to complete an internship in Physical Therapy. Jaiden is a Ubly Community School graduate and is currently working on her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Central Michigan University. In addition to her coursework completion, she works with children in an after-school program in Shepard, Michigan.

### **Huron Learning Center**

- **Professional Learning**
  - Rebecca Schumacher participated in Motivational Interviewing Training on July 14 and 15.
  - The Elementary and Secondary STEPS program teachers and paraprofessionals along with HLC School Social Worker, Alicia Burkhard, EI Teacher Consultant, Michele Kabban, Jeff Guza, and Rebecca Schumacher participated in Specialized Classroom Management training provided by Boys Town on July 16 and 17. This is a follow up training from BoysTown that this team completed a couple summers ago. The purpose of the training is to help to continue to refine and

improve our practices in instruction and social modeling for the students in our Emotionally Impaired programs.

- Jeff Guza and Becky Schumacher also attended the Tri-County Administrative Retreat in Midland on July 29 and 30.
- **Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports**
  - The PBIS team will gather for a summer workday on August 4<sup>th</sup>, to continue the development of lessons and to plan for the coming school years events.

### **Early On Services Provided Year Round**

Early On evaluations and services for our youngest Huron County residents with developmental delays, those that are zero to three years old, are required to continue throughout the summer months. We want to thank and recognize the Early On team for continued service and dedication during the summer: Shari Craig, Kari Hildreth, Monica Krug, Jenna Krug, Brooklyn Leslie, Nicole Lesperance, Stacy Sievert, and Madelyn Smalley.

### **Summer Programming and Summer Enrichment**

- Thank you to Rakel Lemanski and Lauren Schornack that provided summer speech enrichment services for some of our preschoolers this summer.
- Thank you to Holly Wasierski who provided individual social work support, through 31n funding.
- Our Behavior Coaches and Board Certified Behavior Analysts have been completing summer work focused on preparing for training for the 2025-26 school year and refining behavior data collection processes as well as supporting at the Huron Learning Center Summer Programs.
- The following staff provided instruction during our summer enrichment program at the Huron Learning Center.
  - SXI – Emily Warrington, Vince Brewer, Shelby Lenton
  - Elementary/Intermediate MoCI – Alyssa Iseler, Elizabeth Little, Brian Krager
  - Adult/Secondary MoCI – Michele Kabban, Alexis Gonzales, Nicholas Eisinger
  - ECSE – Nichole Glaza, Kristen Essenmacher
  - Behavior Support – Jodi Volk
  - Flexible Support - Rodney Terwilliger, Dena Cieslack

### **Speech Camp**

Our Speech and Language Department held Summer Speech Camp from July 14-18 at Sleeper State Park. Twenty-nine speech therapy students from 8 local school districts (plus one home-schooled student), ranging from kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, registered for camp this year. Our theme was “Hawaii.” We introduced students to many new vocabulary words, created a “hula dance” to a song from “Lilo and Stich”, did a variety of crafts related to Hawaii,

and ate several tropical fruits and other snacks. We ended the week with a talent show and a “luau” (actually a hot dog roast, but close enough). Although the weather was a bit challenging, which affected our overall attendance, students reported that they had a wonderful time.

Several parents shared that their children loved attending speech camp. Therapists particularly enjoyed seeing students use good speech and language skills away from the therapy room and in a setting with their peers, and noticed many students carry over learned skills from the beginning to the end of the week. We were truly grateful for the opportunity to participate in such a fun activity with our students!

### **Social Emotional Skills Camp (Grades K–3 & 4–9)**

Camp Rising is a dynamic, age-tailored camp experience where children build essential social-emotional skills through interactive games, mindfulness activities, group discussions, and creative projects. It is funded through 31n grant dollars. The camp is grounded in the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) framework and the Zones of Regulation, our program focuses on:

- Self-Awareness – Understanding emotions, values, and strengths
- Self-Management – Regulating emotions and behaviors to achieve goals
- Social Awareness – Practicing empathy and perspective-taking
- Relationship Skills – Communicating clearly and building positive connections
- Responsible Decision-Making – Making caring and constructive choices
- Self-Esteem – Building confidence in one’s abilities and identity
- Self-Advocacy – Helping kids find and use their voice respectfully
- Mindfulness – Using breathing, movement, and reflection to stay present and regulated

Through the Zones of Regulation, campers learn to identify their emotional states, understand how those states affect their behaviors, and apply strategies to manage them. Camp Rising assists campers with starting their social journey or refining their emotional intelligence, this camp supports growth, resilience, and joy in every child. Eighteen general education students participated in Camp Rising this summer. Social Workers that facilitated camp included Alicia Burkhard, Ashley Cramer, Heather Dennis, Mackenzie Prill, Jillian Quintano, and Cierra Steinbis.

### **Special Needs Kids Event at the Huron Community Fair**

As in previous years, the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), along with many volunteers from the Huron ISD staff and county 4H members, put on the Special Needs Kids Event at the Huron Community Fair on Thursday, July 31, 2025. Children with special needs and their families enjoyed games, face painting, balloon animals, visiting the barns, treats, amusement rides and lunch, all at no cost to the families. We had 174 children, and 144 adults join us for the event! This event was started year ago as a way to provide an opportunity to children with significant physical or cognitive impairments to access different activities at the fair during a less crowded time.

Parent Advisory Committee members Kelli Messing and Carly Riske were integral to the planning. Kim Siemen, exiting Special Education Administrative Assistant, and Kelly Booms, incoming Special Education Administrative Assistant provided exceptional and substantial support to planning and putting on the event. We thank the Huron Community Fair Board for allowing us to host this event. The Elkton Lions allowed us to use their tent for lunch. The Bad Axe Lions Club provided the hot dogs and buns and helped us with cooking the hot dogs for lunch. TJ Schmidt & Co. provided the amusement rides.

Additionally, the following businesses generously donated to make the event possible:

- Maurer Electric
- Stone Insurance & Hastings Mutual Insurance Agency
- Lake Huron Financial
- AVS Broadband
- Bad Axe Lions Club
- Café 53
- Farm Bureau Insurance-Tim Fritz
- Gemini Group
- Huron Community Fair Association
- JW Hunt OTC, Inc.
- McLaren Thumb Regional Hospital
- Maurer Meat Processors
- Popham Flooring
- TAAZ Seed Sales-Tom and Anne Ziel
- Thumb Cellular
- TJ Schmidt & Co.
- Active Feed Company
- Bad Axe Orthodontics
- Bay Port State Bank
- Bechler's Fun Foods
- Cooperative Elevator Co.
- Emma's Coffee House
- Flannery Auto Mall
- Gabriel Holdwick, DDS
- Scheurer Health

We are so thankful to each and every business and individual who helped make this year's event a success!!

### **Personnel/Staffing**

This summer has proved to be another summer that is heavy in the work of hiring staff to ensure we have all positions covered and ready to serve students by the start of the school year. Julie Toner, Geralyn Kolar and Becky Schumacher in particular have put weeks' worth of time in seeking out, interviewing, conducting reference checks, communicating with necessary folks, and developing a training plan for new paraprofessionals.

The following positions have been filled:

- Special Education Paraprofessionals – 4 filled
- Special Education Teacher for Adult MOCI

The following positions are yet to be filled:

- Special Education Paraprofessionals – 1 vacancy
- Speech and Language Pathologist – 1 vacancy

# HURON AREA TECHNICAL CENTER August 2025



## Our County. Our Career Center.



### Early Middle College Boot Camp

On July 24th, all first year dual and Early Middle College students attended our EMC bootcamp. HATC staff, Ferris, Alpena, and Mid representatives met with students to prepare them for their dual/EMC journey by orienting them to their portals as well as skills such as communication, study habits, perseverance, and grit - to name a few. In the evening there was a mandatory parent meeting where parents understood the role and responsibilities of their child during enrollment. The event was informative yet engaging. We look forward to classes beginning in August 25th.

**Summer Maintenance  
and Painting**

**Handbook Changes and  
Updates**

**Early Enrollment  
Numbers High**

**Full Staff and Professional  
Learning Opportunities**

### Wireless Communication Devices (WCD) at Tech Center



Starting this school year, students will not be allowed to use wireless devices (phones, smartwatches, earbuds) during class, except on breaks or with teacher permission.

This policy is based on classroom data and national studies showing that device use significantly reduces focus and academic performance. Our goal is to create a distraction-free learning environment that supports student success.

(See next page...)

Personal Wireless Communication Devices (WCD) use is prohibited in the HATC building during instructional time. WCD's will be placed in the program locker or teacher designated area (if no locker exists) upon entering the classroom and will remain there until dismissal bell rings. WCD's will be off or in silent mode upon entry to our building, not just vibrate. Students may not use WCD's in restrooms or hallways. WCDs will only be allowed during scheduled break times and in the classroom, with instructor approval and supervision.

A student may possess and have the WCD in silent mode and on the person if the student has a special health condition that is reported to administration ahead of time (with documentation on file) - ex. A diabetic may need access to their device.

Except as authorized under this policy, use of a WCD in school will be subject to disciplinary action.

1st Offense: Coaching Conversation and verbal warning instructor takes the device for the remainder of the day

2nd Offense: minor write up and device(s) turned into the main office from bell to bell for 5 school days.

3rd Offense: 2nd minor writeup, turn into the office, and requires parent pickup

Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their WCD. The District is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of any WCD if a student chooses to bring their WCD to the Tech Center.

Taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal photographs, video, audio, or other similar data, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (including via cell phone or other electronic device), may constitute a crime under state or federal law. A student engaged in any of these activities at school, at a school event, or on school-provided transportation may be subject to discipline. A student engaged in any of these activities outside of school may be disciplined if the student's activities substantially disrupt or negatively affect the school environment.

School officials may search for a student's wireless communication device (WCD) if the official has reasonable cause to suspect that evidence of criminal conduct or misconduct will be found on the device.



# HURON AREA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## AUGUST 2025



### JULY WORK

Let's reflect back...

- **Cash Request for Grants**
- **Contracts**
- **Fingerprint Audit**
- **Maintenance of Effort**
- **Audit Workpapers**
- **25-26 Contracts**
- **Preliminary Audit**
- **L-4029 Millage**
- **Office and files purged, organized**
- **Final Expenditure Reports for Grant Applications**
- **Grant Applications**

### JULY MEETINGS/TRAININGS

- **Training was provided for staff in locals and in house on Audit Workpapers and Year End Procedures**

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

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#### Audit Preparation

Huron ISD had the preliminary audit on August 17th. During this time, the auditors tested our internal controls, reviewed documentation, and verified compliance with financial reporting requirements. Specifically, they examined our accounts payable checks, payroll checks, and cash receipts to ensure all processes are in compliance with applicable standards and procedures.

#### Early Literacy Grant Application – Section 35m

Huron ISD applied for funding under Section 35m of the FY 2025 State School Aid Act, specifically targeting Early Literacy Tier 1 Materials. This grant, totaling \$87 million statewide, was created to improve student literacy outcomes through high-quality instructional materials, professional development, and intervention tools.

Funding is based on rankings established by the Committee for Literacy Achievement (CLA), which evaluated literacy resources to ensure alignment with best practices. By applying for Early Literacy Tier 1 Materials from the funded list, HISD is eligible for a \$30,000 base award and a minimum of \$44 per pupil to support PreK–5 literacy efforts. This initiative reinforces our commitment to providing strong foundational learning resources for students across the region.

#### Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Compliance

We recently completed the preliminary Maintenance of Effort (MOE) testing for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The purpose of the MOE requirement is to ensure that Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) provide the financial support necessary to make a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) available to eligible children with disabilities. Generally, LEAs may not reduce the amount of local, or state and local, funds spent on the education of children with disabilities compared to the previous fiscal year.

In our region, MOE is calculated and reviewed at the county level, aggregating data across districts for compliance monitoring. We are pleased to report that, based on the preliminary testing, Huron ISD is currently in compliance with MOE requirements for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.