



Kenowa Hills Public Schools

VALUE. SUPPORT. EMPOWER.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 22, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Kenowa Hills Middle School
3950 Hendershot NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544

I. Routine and Organizational Business

- A. President LaBotz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Middle School, 3950 Hendershot Rd NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544.
- B. President LaBotz opened the meeting with a moment of silence.
- C. Members Present: Gustinis, Hart, LaBotz, Roberts, Robinson, and Turner (arrived at 6:03) are present. Superintendent Hopkins, Director of Finance Long, and Student Representative Chay'ce Smith is also present. Member Courtade is absent.
- D. Motion by Member Hart supported by Member Robinson to approve the agenda. **Motion passes 5-0.**

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVE AGENDA

II. Recognition and Correspondence

- A. Recognition
 1. Contributions to the District - Superintendent Hopkins acknowledged with appreciation the businesses that have made donations to Kenowa Hills.
 2. Staff Celebrations- Dr. Horner lifted up Director Liz Greeman for writing a grant that was awarded for over \$187,000 to focus on early reading intervention, and Speech & Language Pathologist Linsey Jones whose successful work with kindergarten students will be expanded to impact more students as a result of receiving this grant. Dr. Horner also recognized middle school teachers Jared Lancaster, Molly Henhuis, and Kendra Weeks for successful completion of additional educational credits to improve their ability to positively impact students.
- B. Correspondence - none
- C. Board Communication - Members reported on various district events in which they participated.

RECOGNITION

BOE
COMMUNICATION

III. Discussion/Information Items

- A. Middle School Spotlight- Principal Dodge, middle school teachers Erin Plants and Lori Rush, middle school students, and a parent of a middle school student reported on the early successes of grade level teaming, Moments of Genuine Connection, Response to Intervention supports, the success of the newly formed Middle School Parent Group, and Peak Moments for the middle school students.
- B. Student Representative Report- Chay'ce reported he is excited for his senior year. He is beginning a banking internship. He reported Homecoming Week was enjoyed by students. He is honored to represent the students on the Kent County student advisory committee and on this Board of Education.
- C. Department of Teaching and Learning
 1. PO8510 - Wellness (2nd Reading)

MS SPOTLIGHT

STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT

DEPT OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING

IV. Public Comment: 2 audience member(s) addressed the Board.

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct Board of Education business. There will typically be no attempt to comment or give answers at this meeting. Audience members who wish to make comments are invited to complete the appropriate form located at the entrance. Each speaker has a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the board. Inquiries requiring a response will be referred to the superintendent in the cases where contact information is provided. We ask all individuals making public comments to follow our board policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

V. Action Items

- A. Motion by Member Hart supported by Member Turner to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion passed 6-0**,
- 1. September 8, 2025 Committee of the Whole Workshop Minutes
 - 2. Certified Staff Personnel Report
 - i. New Hires

Jared Herron, Math Teacher, Pathways High School (effective September 23, 2025)

- B. Motion by Member Robinson, supported by Member Gustinis to amend the Wellness Policy Revisions to strike verbage in parenthesis related to gender identity and sexual orientation. **Motion failed 1-5.**

	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A
Courtade	—	—	—	Hart	—	N	—	Roberts	—	N	—	Turner	—	N	—
Gustinis	—	N	—	LaBotz	—	N	—	Robinson	Y	—	—				

Motion by Member Hart and support by Member Roberts to approve the revisions to the Wellness Policy as recommended by the District Wellness Committee. Action Item #25-057. **Motion passes 5-1.**

	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A
Courtade	—	—	—	Hart	Y	—	—	Roberts	Y	—	—	Turner	Y	—	—
Gustinis	Y	—	—	LaBotz	Y	—	—	Robinson	—	N	—				

- C. Motion by Member Hart and support by Member Roberts to approve the recommended network electronics and UPS replacements using \$193,057.30 from 2020 bond funds and \$346,890.31 in FY25 E-Rate funding as reported in Action Item #25-058. **Motion Passes 6-0.**
- D. Motion by Member Hart and support by Member Gustinis to appoint member Courtade to serve as voting delegate, and no members to serve as alternate voting delegates at the 2025 MASB Delegate Assembly at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City on Thursday October 23 at 7:00 pm. **Motion passes 6-0.**

VI. Future Items for Consideration

- A. Future Meetings
- 1. 10/13/2025 6:00 pm Committee of the Whole Meeting @ Administration Building
 - 2. 10/27/2025 6:00 pm Regular Meeting @ Kenowa Hills High School
 - 3. 11/10/25 6:00 pm Committee of the Whole Workshop - Administration Building
 - 4. 11/24/25 6:00 pm Regular Meeting - Pathways High School
 - 5. 12/10/25 6:00 pm Special Meeting, Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation
 - 6. 12/15/25 6:00 pm Regular Meeting - Zinser Elementary
- B. Go Around

VII. Adjournment

- A. Seeing no additional agenda items, President LaBotz adjourned the meeting at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

_____, Secretary

CONSENT AGENDA

WELLNESS POLICY
REPORT #25-057

NETWORK
ELECTRONICS AND
UPS REPLACEMENTS
REPORT #25-058

MASB VOTING
DELEGATES
REPORT #25-059

FUTURE MEETINGS

GO AROUND

ADJOURNMENT