



Kenowa Hills Public Schools
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BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting Preliminary Minutes
Friday, August 1, 2025 at 8:00 am
KHPS Administration Building
2325 4 Mile Rd NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544

I. Routine and Organizational Business	
A. President LaBotz called the Special Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the KHPS Administration Building at 2325 4 Mile Rd NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544.	CALL TO ORDER
B. President LaBotz opened the meeting with a moment of silence.	MOMENT OF SILENCE
C. Members Present: Courtade, Gustinis, Hart, LaBotz, Roberts (8:02 am), Robinson, and Turner are present. Superintendent Hopkins and Assistant Superintendent Dinkelmann are also present. President LaBotz appointed Member Courtade to serve as the temporary secretary until Secretary Roberts arrives.	ROLL CALL
D. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member Hart to approve the agenda. Motion carries 6-0.	APPROVE AGENDA
II. Recognition and Correspondence	
A. Board Communication - Members reported on various district events in which they participated.	BOE COMMUNICATION
III. Public Comment: One (1) member of the public addressed the Board. <i>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.</i>	PUBLIC COMMENT
IV. Information Items	
A. Kenowa Hills Education Association Tentative Agreement	KHEA TA
B. Kenowa Hills Support Staff Association Tentative Agreement	KHSSA TA
C. Kenowa Hills Transportation Agreement Cost of Living Increase	KHTA COL INCREASE
D. Kenowa Hills Central Office Support Staff and Administrator Contracts	CENTRAL OFFICE
E. K-8 Benchmark Assessment Platform Purchase	SUPPORT STAFF AND K-8 BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT
V. Action Items	
A. Motion by Memer Hart supported by Member Turner to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Hart requests the recommendation to appoint Dr. Cherie Horner be separated from the consent agenda and voted as a separate action item. Motion carries 7-0.	
a. June 23, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes b. Certified Staff Personnel Report i. Retirements Rebecca Nicolette, 1st Grade Teacher, Alpine Elementary (effective June 30, 2025) ii. Resignations Kasey Lee, Math Teacher, Kenowa Hills High School (effective June 24, 2025) Ed Beickman, Math Teacher, Kenowa Hills High School (effective July 7, 2025) Jason Feirick, Accountant-In-Charge, Administration Building (effective August 7, 2025) iii. New Hires Ken Long, Director of Finance, Administration Building (effective August 1, 2025) Starting Salary: \$123,335 (prorated based on \$135,304/260-day contract) Board Paid Annuity: \$13,396 (prorated based on \$14,696/260-day contract)	CONSENT AGENDA

Length of Contract: August 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Sarah Greenwood, K-Knights Teacher, Zinser Elementary (effective August 12, 2025)
Savannah Moore, Music Teacher (0.6 FTE), Alpine Elementary (effective August 12, 2025)
Julie Weber, Music Teacher (0.6 FTE), Zinser Elementary (effective August 12, 2025)
Anneka Katje, Science Teacher, Middle School (effective August 12, 2025)
Lacey Lehman, 1st Grade Teacher, Alpine Elementary (effective August 12, 2025)

iv. New Assignment

Cherie Horner, Director of Human Resources (effective August 1, 2025)
Starting Salary: \$114,853 (prorated based on \$126,000/260-day contract)
Degree Stipend: \$2,000
Length of Contract: August 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

c. 2025 PASE Nomination

- A.1. Motion by Member Roberts supported by Member Turner to accept the recommendation to appoint Dr. Horner as the Director of Human Resources. Motion carries 7-0.
- B. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member Turner to approve the Tentative Agreement with the Kenowa Hills Education Association as delineated in Report #25-051. Member Hart abstained from discussion and voting on this item due to a conflict of interest. Secretary Roberts takes a roll call vote. **Motion carries 6-0.**

KHEA TENTATIVE
AGREEMENT REPORT
#25-051

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

- C. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member Hart to approve the Tentative Agreement with the Kenowa Hills Support Staff Association as delineated in Report #25-052. Trustee Robinson abstained from discussion and voting on this item due to a conflict of interest. Secretary Roberts takes a roll call vote. **Motion carries 6-0.**

KHSSA TENTATIVE
AGREEMENT REPORT
#25-052

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

- D. Motion by Member Hart supported by Member Courtade to approve a 1% cost of living increase for individuals covered under the 2024-027 Kenowa Hills Transportation Association (Article XIII.1), which states: For the 2024-25 school year, route rates will increase by whichever is greater of 3.00% or the amount awarded to the KHEA (Teachers) as a cost of living adjustment. Secretary Roberts takes a roll call vote. Report #25-053. **Motion carries 7-0.**

KHTA COL INCREASE
25-053

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

- E. Motion by Member Courtade supported by Member Hart to approve the Kenowa Hills Central Office Support Staff cost of living and longevity increases and the Administrator increases as delineated in Report #25-054. Member Hart noted that the Superintendent Hopkins' contract will need to be revisited to discuss the stipend for performing Human Resources duties. Secretary Roberts took a roll call vote. **Motion carries 7-0.**

CENTRAL OFFICE
SUPPORT STAFF &
ADMINISTRATORS
CONTRACTS REPORT
#25-054

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

- F. Motion by Member Hart supported by Member Courtade to purchase the K-8 Benchmark Assessment Platform (iReady) from Curriculum Associates in the amount of \$87,679.50 using \$33,520.00 from Section 104 grant funds and \$54,159.50 from the General Fund. Report #25-055. **Motion carries 7-0.**

K-8 BENCHMARK
ASSESSMENT
PLATFORM
PURCHASE 25-055

VI. Future Items for Consideration

- A. Future Meetings
- 1. 08/11/2025 6:00 pm Committee of the Whole Workshop @ Administration Building
 - 2. 08/25/2025. 6:00 pm Regular Meeting @ Administration Building
 - 3. 09/08/2025. 6:00 pm Committee of the Whole Workshop @ Administration Building
- B. Go Around

FUTURE MEETINGS

GO AROUND

VII. Adjournment

- A. Seeing no additional agenda items, President LaBotz adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

_____, Secretary