



OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ready for the World

Board of Education Agenda

Special Meeting

July 23, 2025

5:30 pm

(Regular Board Meeting Immediately Following Special Meeting)

Washington Campus Gymnasium

645 Alger St

Owosso, Michigan 48867

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Participation

4. For Action

- Public Hearing-Anti-Bullying Policy
- Repeal NEOLA po5517.01 and adopt Thrun Policy 5207: Anti-Bullying -----

Report 25-01

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5. Adjournment



BOARD OF EDUCATION GUARANTEE

(Adopted June 2025)

As elected representatives of our community, we are honored to serve our fellow citizens by delivering the highest quality programs and services to the children of our district.

Therefore, we will guarantee that:

We will serve with dedication.

We embrace the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and the overall quality of life in our community. We proudly accept this responsibility and the challenge it brings.

We will treat all individuals with dignity and respect.

Whether students, parents, staff, citizens, or fellow board members, every person we engage with will be treated with professionalism, civility, and compassion.

We will be informed, prepared, and engaged.

Our decisions will be guided by the most current, accurate, and relevant information available. We are committed to continuous learning and to modeling the belief that education is a ongoing journey.

We will work collaboratively to foster a caring learning environment.

We value teamwork and will partner with administrators, educators, support staff, parents, students, and community members to ensure our schools reflect warmth and care.

We will uphold our role as policy makers and trusted representatives.

We understand the importance of governance and will maintain the Board's role in policy development. We will communicate openly with our constituents and ensure concerns are respectfully directed through appropriate channels.

We will champion our schools with enthusiasm.

We are committed to supporting the outstanding work of our students, staff, and volunteers. We will demonstrate this support by attending school events and pursuing board certification through ongoing professional development.

We will represent all voices in our community with integrity.

Our decisions will be rooted in sound policy, ethical principles, and the best interests of all students. We will use data, surveys, and active listening—both formally and informally—to stay connected with those we serve

Marlene Webster
President

Shelly Ochodnicky
Vice President

Olga Quick
Treasurer

Nick Henne
Secretary

Rick Mowen
Trustee

Adam Easlick
Trustee

John Pappas
Trustee



BOARD OF EDUCATION NORMS

**As Owosso Public Schools Board Members,
we will:**

- Put students first in all decisions and actions.
- Communicate respectfully, honestly, and in a timely manner.
- Come prepared for all meetings and discussions.
- Be committed to the mission and vision of the district.
- Act as a unified board once decisions are made.
- Be punctual and courteous, and notify others if we will be absent.
- Avoid surprises by keeping each other informed.



Public Participation at Board Meetings Statement

The Board of Education is a public body and recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues. Time has been included in the meeting's agenda for public participation. Members of the audience are reminded that they should announce their name and group affiliation when applicable and to limit their participation time to three minutes or less. Comments should be directed to the Board and be relevant to the business of the Board of Education. This is not an opportunity for dialogue with the Board of Education. The rules of common courtesy should also be observed.

For Action

OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
July 23, 2025
Report 25-01

FOR ACTION

Subject:

To inform the Board of Education about the legal requirement in the State of Michigan to hold a public hearing before adopting or modifying an anti-bullying policy, and to outline the necessary steps to remain in compliance with MCL 380.1310b.

Background

Michigan law, under the Matt Epling Safe School Law (MCL 380.1310b), requires all public school districts to adopt and maintain an anti-bullying policy. A key provision of the law mandates that prior to the adoption of a new anti-bullying policy, or any modifications to an existing one, the Board must hold at least one public hearing.

Legal Requirements

- **Public Hearing:** The Board of Education must conduct at least one public hearing prior to adopting or amending the district's anti-bullying policy. This requirement ensures that stakeholders, including students, parents, staff, and community members, have an opportunity to provide input.
- **Submission to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE):** Within 30 days of adoption or amendment, the district must submit a copy of the policy to the MDE.
- **Annual Reporting:** The district must annually report the number of verified incidents of bullying and any resulting disciplinary actions to the Board.
- **Policy Coverage:** The policy must apply to all students, regardless of the motivation behind the bullying, and must address bullying that occurs on school property, on a school bus, or at school-sponsored activities.

Recommendation:

After the public hearing, it is recommended that the Board of Education repeal and replace the new anti-bullying policy. **Thrun's 5207** is a **specific policy version** drafted to satisfy Michigan (and similar) statutory demands, with firm processes like mandatory public hearings, state filings, and structured investigation/remediation steps. **Thrun 5207** is a finalized, legally vetted document ready for implementation in jurisdictions with explicit procedural requirements.

Motion

Seconded

Vote – Ayes

Nays

Motion



OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ready for the World

NOTICE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Please take notice that the Owosso Public Schools Board of Education will be holding a regularly scheduled regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 23, 2025. The special meeting will take place at 5:30pm, located at the Washington Campus Administration Building, Gymnasium, at 645 Alger St, Owosso, MI. Immediately following this will be a second regular meeting to begin at approximately 5:35pm in the same location.

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, July 23, 2025

HOUR OF MEETING: 5:30pm and 5:35pm

LOCATION OF MEETING: Washington Campus Administration
Building, Gymnasium
645 Alger St, Owosso MI 48867

PURPOSE OF MEETING: Special & Regular Meeting

**Telephone Number of Principal Office
of Board of Education:** 989-723-8131

**Board Minutes are located at the
Principal Office of the Board of
Education:** 645 Alger St, Owosso MI 48867

Board of Education, President
Owosso Public Schools