

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2026 7:00 PM Eastern

Boardroom at the Administration Office
245 W. M-55
Tawas City, MI 48763

Jennifer Bruning: Absent
Michael Butzin: Present
Ami Edmonds: Absent
Amy Jenkins: Present
Anthony Lesko: Absent
Sheila Malewska: Present
Allan Miller: Present
Present: 4, Absent: 3.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Jenkins at 7:00 p.m.

I.A. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Jenkins.

I.B. Roll Call

I.C. Positive Highlight

Prior to the board meeting, board members toured the campus with Mrs. Danek to review recent campus updates. This was tonight's positive highlight.

I.D. Public Comments (Agenda Items and Other Matters)

There was no public comment.

II. Action Items

II.A. Consent Agenda

I move to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Amy Jenkins and seconded by Allan Miller, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

II.A.1. Approval of Minutes

II.A.2. Approval of Payment of Bills

II.A.3. Receipt of Written Communications

II.B. Routine Matters

II.B.1. Recommendations & Reports from the Administration

II.B.1.a. Hire Teacher

I move to approve the hiring of Mrs. Aimee Butler as a 3rd grade teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. This motion, made by Allan Miller and seconded by Amy Jenkins,

Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

II.B.1.b. Hire Educational Assistant

I move to approve the hiring of Mrs. Sara Redd as an educational assistant for the 2026-2027 school year. This motion, made by Amy Jenkins and seconded by Allan Miller, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

II.C. Old Business

II.C.1. Committee Reports

II.C.1.a. Student Achievement Committee

II.C.2. Legislative Report

Mrs. Danek had NMSLA meeting today and presented a few updates to the Board.

First, she said that Senate Bill 1136 was voted in on September 10th in the Senate. This bill would significantly modify how public employers contribute toward employee health insurance. It would increase Michigan's hard cap for employers, requiring employers to pay at least 80% of the total annual cost of the medical benefit plans they offer to employees. If enacted, it could increase the district's required costs.

Next, Mrs. Danek discussed the Federal Education Freedom Tax Credit, a new federal program beginning January 1, 2027. The program allows individuals to receive a nonrefundable federal tax credit of up to \$1,700 for qualifying contributions to approved Scholarship Granting Organizations.

II.D. New Business

II.D.1. Selection/Certification of Voting Delegate to MASB Fall Conference

I move to certify Amy Jenkins as the delegate and Allan Miller as the alternate from Tawas Area Schools. This motion, made by Sheila Malewska and seconded by Michael Butzin, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Mrs. Jenkins stated that she was already planning to attend the Delegate Assembly and volunteered to be the delegate for the district. Mr. Miller offered that he would be willing to be the alternate in the event that Mrs. Jenkins cannot attend.

II.D.2. Approval of the Strategic Plan

I move to approve the Strategic Plan as presented. This motion, made by Sheila Malewska and seconded by Amy Jenkins, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin:

Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

II.D.3. 8th Grade Trip Request

I move to approve the 8th grade student trip to Washington D.C. in May of 2027 as presented, authorizing the administration to proceed with the necessary arrangements and contracting with American History Tours. This motion, made by Amy Jenkins and seconded by Michael Butzin, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Mrs. Hazen and Mr. Del Rio presented a short video highlighting last year's Washington, D.C. trip.

They explained that a different travel company would be used for this year's trip. The company they are recommending provided the best pricing while offering similar trip content. Mrs. Hazen and Mr. Del Rio reported that quotes were obtained from five different travel companies and presented information on the top three companies.

When asked about anticipated participation, Mrs. Hazen stated that the goal would be approximately 44 students, seven chaperones, and three school representatives.

The Board inquired about the student application process. Mrs. Hazen and Mr. Del Rio explained that students would be required to submit references and complete a questionnaire. A panel of teachers would review the applications and determine which students would participate.

Mr. Del Rio stated that they would like to make partial scholarships available to students to help increase participation.

When asked about fundraising opportunities, they shared that they plan to work with the American Legion to host a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for the trip.

The Board also asked about bus accommodations. Mrs. Hazen and Mr. Del Rio explained that the transportation arrangements would be similar to those provided during last year's trip.

II.D.4. 2025-2026 Audit Presentation

I move to accept the 2025-2026 Audit Report, as presented. This motion, made by Amy Jenkins and seconded by Michael Butzin, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Mr. Nathan Miller of Stephenson & Company presented the district's annual financial audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. The auditor reviewed the district's financial statements and provided an overview of the district's financial position, fund balances, revenues, and expenditures.

The auditor reported that the district received an unmodified opinion on its financial statements and reviewed the significant findings and recommendations identified during the audit. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the audit results with the auditor.

III. Information & Proposals

III.A. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Danek provided the Board with a brief update on recent activities, events, and developments within the District.

III.B. Student Representatives

Senior Representative Eryn Hayes and Junior Representative Leif Guillotel provided the Board with a brief update on upcoming events in the district and outlined their goals for the year.

III.C. Administration

Members of the administration provided the Board with updates regarding recent activities, events, and developments within their respective areas.

III.D. From the Board

Board members shared comments, feedback, and observations regarding agenda items and matters of interest to the District.

IV. Advanced Planning

IV.A. Personnel Committee Meeting

Per contract language, the Board must have a strategic planning meeting to discuss how to support class overloads in 6th grade within 30 days.

Mrs. Danek stated that due to 2 members of the committee not being present at the meeting, she will schedule a personnel committee meeting via text with committee members.

V. Adjournment

I move to adjourn. This motion, made by Amy Jenkins and seconded by Allan Miller, Carried.

Jennifer Bruning: Absent, Ami Edmonds: Absent, Anthony Lesko: Absent, Michael Butzin: Yea, Amy Jenkins: Yea, Sheila Malewska: Yea, Allan Miller: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.