

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7 p.m. at West Ottawa Public Schools' Administration Office, 1138 136th Avenue.

President C. Lebster opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: C. Lebster, J. Otteman, L. Rutan, M. Remenschneider, D. Duistermars, C. Martinez and R. Schipper. Superintendent T. Bearden was also present.

Members Absent: None.

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by L. Rutan, that the minutes from August 7, 2025 be approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Superintendent Bearden began by updating the Board on the District Compass. He then provided updates on HR matters, capital projects, enrollment, Los Lagos Bilingual Academy, Outdoor Education, and Staff Opening Day.

Student Senate Executive President Riley presented and introduced the Student Senate Executive Board, middle school walkthroughs, high school registration, and the 2025 Senior class gift.

C. Lebster described discussions from the August 5 Secondary Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation committee meeting: Endorsement availability on student transcripts, Global & Stem scholars, AI literacy in ELA classes, AI staff training, Fall 2027 & 2028 pathways, Dunes Alternative increased enrollment, Global initiatives expanded to middle schools and Panther Fund changes.

D. Duistermars reported the Board met at Waukazoo and Pine Creek to see the progress in person on Outdoor Learning areas.

R. Schipper reported the following items were discussed during the August 13 Finance & Facilities Committee meeting: 2024-2025 Audit update, monthly General and Food Service fund financials, Investments and Projects & Purchases.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Update

Student Senate Update

COMMITTEE REPORT

Secondary Curriculum Report

Elementary Curriculum Report

Finance & Facilities Report

M. Remenschneider reported on the HR & Wellness Committee Meeting that took place on August 7: Updated workflow process, hiring process, policy updates, and Support Staff Handbook changes.

HR & Wellness

There was discussion on the appointment of the official voting delegate and alternate at the Michigan Association of School Board’s (MASB’s) 2025 Delegate Assembly in October.

Discussion on 2025 MASB
Voting Delegate and Alternate

Opportunity was given for communications from the audience regarding agenda items. There was no response.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM
THE AUDIENCE**
(regarding agenda items)

Moved by L. Rutan, supported by J. Otteman, that a contract for the 2025-2026 school year be awarded to the following:

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of
Administrative Contract

1. System Admin Technology - Brett Winegar
2. Dean K-5 - Megan Harbison

Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by L. Rutan, that a probationary contract for the 2025 -2026 school year be awarded to the following:

Approval of
Probationary Contracts

1. Sheldon Woods 5th - Jacob Merrill
2. Adaptive Specials and Resource Lakewood & Great Lakes - Kristen Knieper
3. MTSS Math MS - Randi Alferink
4. HS ELA - April Mueller
5. Science Exploration (K-5) Philip DiCicco
6. EL (SW/LS) - Jill Lewis
7. Speech Language Pathology - Chloe Kikstra
8. Library (K-5) Melissa James
9. Elementary PBIS (LL) Amy Disselkoen
10. Kindergarten Pine Creek - Emma Hughes
11. 4th Grade Teacher Waukazoo - Grant Burke
12. Kindergarten at Riley Farms - Morgan Terpstra
13. K-2 Resource Teacher Woodside - Anna Wolterink
14. K-2 Resource Teacher Riley Farms - Quinn Feldmeier
15. 6-8 ELA at MB - Curisa Kopko
16. HS Social Studies - Katharine Michel
17. 1st Grade Teacher Sheldon Woods - Marley Fogel
18. 3rd Grade Teacher Woodsie - Kelly Burzych
19. Kindergarten Teacher Woodside - Erika Ostrander
20. Social Worker Lakewood and Waukazoo - Gabrielle Brummel
21. 0.4 High School Band Teacher - Michael Hamann

Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by J. Otteman, that Cynthia Martinez be certified as the official voting delegate and Cathy Lebster be certified as the alternate at the Michigan Association of School Board’s (MASB’s) Delegate Assembly, which will be held during on October 23, 2025, at the Grand Travers Resort and Spa in Acme. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the Board approve the updated policies from the June 2025 Policy Update as presented . Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by C. Martinez, that the 2025-2026 Student Handbooks for the middle schools and West Ottawa High School be approved with the changes presented. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the site improvement package for the WOHS track for an amount not to exceed \$292,751, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by R. Schipper, supported by J. Otteman, that the Board approve the purchase of track and field equipment for an amount not to exceed \$135,156, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the purchase of WOBN equipment, for an amount not to exceed \$166,966, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by R. Schipper, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the WO High School South library furniture package for an amount not to exceed \$196,568, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations Motion carried 7-0-0.

Opportunity was provided for communications from the audience regarding items not on the agenda. There was no response.

Opportunity was given for communications from the Board. D. Duistermars commented on the wonderful Holland Orchestra Performance.

The next regular meeting will be on September 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Office Training Room.

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by R. Schipper, that the meeting adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Otteman, Secretary

ACTION ITEMS (Cont’d)
Designation of Voting

Delegate and Alternate at
MASB’s 2024 Delegate
Assembly

Approval of Policies

Approval of Student
Handbooks

WOHS Track
Equipment Renovations

WOHS Track
Equipment Purchase

WOBN Equipment
Purchase

WOHS South Library
Furniture Purchase

FUTURE CONSIDERATION
**COMMUNICATIONS FROM
THE AUDIENCE**

(regarding items
not on the agenda)

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

NEXT MEETING 09/15/25
Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT