

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

Members Absent: None

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by C. Martinez, that the minutes from the September 15, 2025, regular meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0-0.

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

Superintendent Bearden recognized Brian Field's exceptional leadership and thanked him for being a great friend and colleague. All Board members also recognized his kindness, and thanked him for all of the hard work he has put into the district for the students and staff.

Superintendent Bearden reported on the athletic teams' accomplishments and the student exchange.

Student Senate Executive President Riley reported the following:

- Recap of Homecoming
- 29 Sports
- The PAC: Bringing large groups together

Michelle Woods and Michelle Stoel had the students that participated in the Denmark Exchange present about their experience.

Michelle Woods and Dunes Counselors and Teachers presented on the vision of Dunes, supportive culture, community connections, partnerships, pathways, and future goals.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOGNITION

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Update

Student Senate Update

Denmark Exchange

Dunes Pathways Update

T. Tulgestke provided the Board with an update on biking numbers and promoting health and community engagement.

Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations, C. LaHaie, went over the audited financial review for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations, C. LaHaie, presented on the 2025-2026 budget.

R. Schipper reported the following items were discussed during the October 7 Curriculum & Instructional committee meeting: Learning labs for new & veteran teachers and other topics previously covered tonight by Associate Superintendents.

L. Rutan reported the following items were discussed during the October 6 Elementary Curriculum & Instructional committee meeting: Brian Field recognized for 10 years at WO, welcomed Kristin Graham as the new Associate Superintendent, Bookworms' essential components reviewed and teacher piloting.

M. Remenschneider reported the following items were discussed during the October 15 Finance & Facilities committee meeting: monthly financials, budget, action items, fiscal year fund, enrollment, school meals update, investment income data, and construction updates.

D. Duistermars reported the following was discussed during the October 2 H.R. & Wellness committee meeting: new Associate Superintendent of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction, Interim Director of Early Childhood job posting, and Dyslexia Public Act 146/147.

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

Moved by C. Martinez, supported by L. Rutan, that an administrative contract for the 2025-26 school year be awarded to Kristin Graham as Associate Superintendent of Elementary Curriculum and Instruction. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by R. Schipper, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the Board approve additions to the elementary outdoor classrooms for an amount not to exceed \$265,980, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by D. Duistermars, the purchase and installation of a Bogun PA system for the High Schools for an amount not to exceed \$106,719, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS
(Cont'd)

K-8 Biking Program Update
24-25 Financial Review

25-26 SAF Budget Recap

COMMITTEE REPORT

Secondary Curriculum &
Instruction Report

Elementary Curriculum &
Instructional Report

Finance & Facilities
Report

Human Resources &
Wellness Report

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

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of
Administrative Contract

Outdoor Classroom
Additions

HS PA System Purchase

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the purchase of a new operations truck for an amount not to exceed \$51,701, as recommended by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

ACTION ITEMS (Cont'd)
Operations Truck Purchase

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by J. Otteman, that the following travel applications be approved as presented, pending consideration of the world situation at the time of the proposed trip:

Travel Applications

1. **November 7 – 9, 2025** – WOHS Choirs on the Advanced Ensembles Retreat at Camp Scottie in Howard City, Michigan
2. **November 15, 2025** – FIRST Robotics to the Chicago Museum of Science & Industry in Chicago, Illinois
3. **November 20 – 22, 2025** – Girls Varsity Swimming & Diving to the MHSAA State Finals in Auburn Hills, Michigan
4. **November 21 – 22, 2025** – Science Olympiad Team to the Northridge HS Science Olympiad Tournament in Middleburg, Indiana
5. **January 21 – 22, 2026** – WOMS Chanteurs Choir to the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan
6. **March 12 – 14, 2026** – Boys Varsity Swimming & Diving to the MHSAA State Finals in Auburn Hills, Michigan
7. **April 3 – 10, 2026** – WOHS Baseball on a Spring Break trip to Orange Beach, Alabama and Pensacola, Florida
8. **June 16 – 20, 2026** – WOHS Choirs on a Choir trip to Nashville, Tennessee
9. **November 5 – 7, 2026** – WOMS 8th Grade on a trip to Washington DC

Motion carried 7-0-0.

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

FUTURE CONSIDERATION
COMMUNICATIONS FROM
THE AUDIENCE
(regarding items
not on the agenda)

Opportunity was given for communications from the Board. R. Schipper, C. Lebster, and M. Remenschneider commented on the CTC.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

A work session will be held on November 17, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Office Training Room.

NEXT MEETING
Work Session, 5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Moved R. Schipper, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the meeting adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried 7-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Otteman, Secretary