



Fruitport Community Schools
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 15, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Fruitport Community Schools Central Office
Board of Education Meeting Room
3255 E. Pontaluna Rd.
Fruitport, MI 49415

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President, Dave Hazekamp.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, Josh Mueller, Kathy Six.
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Item 25-118. MOTION by Six, SECOND by Meeuwenberg to approve the agenda, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.
- IV. **PRESENTATIONS:** None
- V. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Superintendent Kennedy provided an overview and discussed the Pontaluna Land, LLC Michigan Tax Tribunal Petition that was received.
- VI. **SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Superintendent Kennedy provided an overview of the November 4, 2025 Bond Proposal and updated the Board on the informational campaign. This included a review of an additional *FOCUS* Newsletter mailing, display boards that will be distributed to each school, vote reminder signs, videos that are to be filmed, and an online public forum that will be scheduled in October.

Superintendent Kennedy also shared with the Board of Education that he would be attending the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators (MASA) state superintendent's conference in Traverse City during the week of September 15, 2025.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Item 25-119. MOTION by Cole, SECOND by Burgess to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Approval of Bill Listing in the amount of \$806,552.91
2. Acceptance of August 2025 General Fund Financial Report
3. Acceptance of August 2025 Investments Report
4. Approval of Personnel Report (includes confirmation of new hires, resignations, retirees, and transfers)
5. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2025

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

IX. GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS:

1. **November 4, 2025 Bond Proposal Ballot Preview Attorney Approval** - The Board reviewed the attorney approved November 4, 2025 bond proposal ballot language for Ottawa County.

X. BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on September 8, 2025

JB Meeuwenberg reported on a Business and Finance Committee meeting held on September 8, 2025 at 5:04 p.m. Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, JB Meeuwenberg, Mark Mesbergen, Jason Kennedy, and Jessica Wiseman were present. The Committee discussed the need to consider a two (2) year contract renewal for custodial services with NAWA, the District's current custodial services provider. The Committee also discussed preliminary audit results with the Committee after auditors from Rehman conducted the annual financial audit and financial testing the week prior to the Committee meeting. The Committee discussed an update on the November 4th bond proposal. The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

2. Third Party Custodial Services Renewal - NAWA Professional Services

Item 25-120. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve the proposed renewal from Nawa Professional Services to provide the District with custodial services, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XI. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Report of committee meeting held on September 8, 2025

Steve Kelly reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held on September 8, 2025 at 5:31 p.m. Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, Kathy Six, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee discussed the Personnel Report for September 2025, and it discussed the need to consider renewal of the superintendent's contract before the expiration date of June 30, 2026. The Committee discussed provisions of the superintendent's contract pertaining to renewal. The Committee discussed an update on the November 4th bond proposal. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m

2. Superintendent's Contract and Salary Schedule: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2031

Item 25-121. MOTION by Kelly, SECOND by Six to approve the five (5) year Contract between the Board of Education and Superintendent Jason Kennedy from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2031, and the superintendent's salary schedule, as discussed.

Note: The Contract provides a step on the Superintendent's salary schedule each year. A step on the superintendent's salary schedule equates to a 3% increase each year. The Contract also provides an additional 1% merit increase for each year of the Contract that the Superintendent is evaluated as "effective" by the Board of Education. The Contract covers July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2031.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on September 8, 2025

Tim Burgess reported on a Student Affairs Committee meeting held on September 8, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. Tim Burgess, Dave Hazekamp, Josh Mueller, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee discussed an update on the Sex Education Advisory Board's recommendation on 5th grade materials. The Committee

discussed tabling any decision on using these resources at this time. The Committee also reviewed the English Language Learner Handbook and discussed the Board of Education approving the handbook at the Board meeting on September 15, 2025. The Committee discussed an update on the November 4th bond proposal. The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

2. English Language Learner Handbook

Item 25-122. MOTION by Burgess, SECOND by Mueller to approve the District's English Language Learner Handbook, as presented and discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Dave Hazekamp shared that the Equestrian Team has experienced success and that they would be moving on to the Michigan Interscholastic Horsemanship Association's (MIHA) regional championship at the Midland Fairgrounds.

Josh Mueller shared that he had received positive feedback on the bond proposal mailer that was sent out. He encouraged using bullet points on future communications.

Kathy Six discussed the District's handling of a family issue where the family had reached out to her because the family was thankful for the way in which the issue was resolved. The family shared that they are proud to have their children attend Fruitport Community Schools.

Kris Cole shared the success of our robotics students at the girls in robotics competition. Our team adapted well and was selected to participate on the number #1 alliance. Kris shared that we will be hosting the middle school state robotics championship at Trinity Health Arena in Muskegon again this year.

XIV. AGENDA ITEMS for FUTURE MEETINGS & SCHEDULING OF ANY SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. The Business and Finance Committee will meet on October 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
2. The Personnel Committee will meet on October 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
3. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on October 13, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.
4. The Board of Education will meet on October 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for the regular meeting.

XV. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC:

John Winkas shared that he had spoken with a family who recently moved their children to Fruitport. The family shared with John that it was the best decision that the family could have made for the education of their children.

Pam Gustafson shared a thank you with the Board of Education for approving the custodial contract, which included the addition of a split time day porter at Beach and Shettler. This has been a huge help to both schools to have a day time custodian available. Pam also thanked the Board of Education and was thankful for her time in the District, as she prepares to retire on December 31, 2025.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Item 25-123. MOTION by Kelly, SECOND by Six to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kelly, Board Secretary

Jason J. Kennedy, Recording Secretary