



Fruitport Community Schools  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
Monday, December 9, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

**Meeting Location:**

Fruitport High School  
Media Center  
357 N. 6th Ave.  
Fruitport, MI 49415

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Board President, Dave Hazekamp.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance at the meeting.
- III. **ROLL CALL:** Present – Elroy Buckner, Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Susan Franklin, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 24-184. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to approve the agenda, as modified. The following modification was added to the agenda:

- Add: General Board Business - 2. 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

V. **PRESENTATIONS:**

- Outgoing Board of Education members Elroy Buckner (1988-2024; 36 years of service) and Susan Franklin 2016-2024; 9 years of service) were honored and recognized for their dedication to the students of Fruitport Community Schools and their service on the Board of Education. Board President, Dave Hazekamp, provided special remarks about the service of each outgoing board member, while thanking them for their service and dedication. Superintendent Kennedy read a

prepared statement from Elroy Buckner thanking the community for their support of him as a board member over the last 36 years.

**VI. COMMUNICATIONS:**

- **Annual Financial Management Decision Communication:** The District received communication from the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District regarding the Annual MAISD Audit Management Decision in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's Uniform Guidance 2. The letter commended Mark Mesbergen and the business management team of the District for a clean, unmodified opinion on its audit, with zero (0) findings, and zero (0) reportable conditions or recommendations. No management decision is required, and there are no disallowed costs, financial adjustments, or other actions required of the District.
- **Congratulatory Letter: Operating Millage Restoration - MDE:** The District received communication from State Superintendent Michael Rice and State Board of Education President Pamela Pugh congratulating the District on the recent passage of the Non-homestead Operating Millage ballot proposition in November 2024.
- **Draft: Proposed May 2025 Bond Proposal Ballot Language - Thrun Law Firm:** The District received a copy of the proposed ballot language from Thrun Law Firm for the Board to consider at its January 20, 2025 Board of Education meeting, should the Board desire to place a ballot proposition on the May 2025 ballot, as has been discussed at recent Board of Education meetings. The draft ballot language was provided in advance of the January meeting for Board review.

**VII. SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:** None

**VIII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

Item 24-185. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Approval of Bill Listing in the amount of \$521,014.43
2. Acceptance of Monthly Financial, Bond, and Capital Projects Report
3. Acceptance of Student Activity Summary Report
4. Acceptance of Credit Card and Utilities Report
5. Approval of Transfers and ACH Transactions Report

6. Approval of Personnel Report (includes confirmation of new hires, resignations, retirees, and transfers)

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

## **X. GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS:**

### **1. Designation of Authorized Check Signers**

Item 24-186. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to approve the Board President and Business Manager or Treasurer to sign checks; the Superintendent or his designee to sign contracts; the Superintendent or his designee to sign agreements; and the Director of Business to sign purchase orders, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

### **2. 2025-2026 School Year Calendar - Tentative Agreement with the Fruitport Education Association (FEA)**

Item 24-187. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to approve the tentative agreement on the 2025-2026 school year calendar between the District and the Fruitport Education Association, as presented. The calendar includes 180 days of instructional time and 1102.13 hours of instruction, which meets the 180 days of instruction and 1,098 hours of instruction requirement, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

## **XI. BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **● Report of committee meeting held on December 3, 2024**

There was not a report from the Committee, as the December 3, 2024 meeting of the Business and Finance Committee was canceled due to a lack of agenda items at the time of the originally scheduled committee meeting.

### **1. High School Roof Replacement Bid**

Item 24-188. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Cole to approve and accept the bid from J Stevens, in the amount of \$209,400, with funds coming out of the 2021 Capital Projects Fund, to replace two (2) sections of the high school roof that were not replaced as a part of the original building project at Fruitport High School, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

## **XII. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- **Report of committee meeting held on December 2, 2024**

There was not a report from the Committee, nor business to report on, as the December 2, 2024 meeting of the Personnel Committee was canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

## **XIII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **Report of committee meeting held on December 2, 2024**

There was not a report from the Committee, nor business to report on, as the December 2, 2024 meeting of the Student Affairs Committee was canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

## **XIV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:**

Kris Cole shared that the Fruitport First Tech Challenge Qualifier took place on November 22-23, 2024 at Fruitport High School. Kris shared that this was a great display of our school, and that many people commented on how nice our facilities are. Kris also shared that the robotics program will be hosting the state championship tournament on December 13-14, 2024 at Trinity Health Arena in Muskegon.

## **XV. AGENDA ITEMS for FUTURE MEETINGS & SCHEDULING OF ANY SPECIAL MEETINGS**

1. The Business and Finance Committee will meet on January 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Personnel Committee will meet on January 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
3. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on January 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
4. The Board of Education will meet on January 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

## **XVI. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

- Lauren Chesney, high school principal, expressed her gratitude and thankfulness for the service that Elroy Buckner and Susan Franklin provided to the Board of Education at Fruitport Community Schools. Lauren provided a special thank you to both Elroy and Susan for their unwavering commitment and support of the students and staff at Fruitport.

## **XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Item 24-189. MOTION by Buckner, SECOND by Franklin to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Franklin, Board Secretary

Danielle VanderMeulen, Recording Secretary