



Fruitport Community Schools
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 19, 2026 – 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 7:09 p.m. by Board President, Dave Hazekamp.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present – Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, Josh Mueller, and Kathy Six.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 26-8. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve the agenda, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

IV. PRESENTATIONS:

- **School Board Recognition Month:** The Board was recognized for their service to the students, families, and greater school community. A certificate of recognition from the Michigan Association of School Boards was provided to each Board member, along with a letter that was shared with the community recognizing each board member's service. Each Board member had the opportunity to order a Fruitport apparel item. Each member was given a Fruitport t-shirt and hat as a way to say thanks.
- **2025-2026 General Fund / School Service Fund Budget Amendment:** Mark Mesbergen, Director of Business Services, reviewed a budget amendment presentation with the Board. The presentation reviewed changes in revenues and expenditures since the original budget, reviewed reasons for those changes,

reviewed various impacts on the budget, reviewed the January Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference, and provided a forward look into the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year. Mark Mesbergen proposed an amended budget for the Board to consider for approval.

V. COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Letter from MAISD Superintendents to Legislators:** The members of the Board of Education were presented with a letter that was drafted by the Muskegon County Superintendents Association and sent to State legislators. The letter discussed the process for adopting a State budget, and the impact that this process has on schools when a budget is not timely adopted by the State.
- **MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award:** The District received a communication from the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) stating that Gracelynn Olsen, a senior at Fruitport High School, was named as one of the top twenty-four (24) female finalists for the Class A MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award. The top six (6) female athletes in Class A will receive a Scholar Athlete Award for the 2025-2026 school year.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **National AASA Conference on Education - Nashville, TN:** The Superintendent shared that he will be attending the AASA National Conference on Education in Nashville, TN on February 11-14, 2026. The Superintendent is an Executive Board Member of the Michigan Associations of Superintendents and Administrators (MASA). MASA, the State Superintendent's Association will cover airfare, hotel costs, and meals.
- **Schematic Design of Edgewood Elementary School:** An update on the schematic design process of the new Edgewood Elementary School was discussed with the Board of Education. An updated conceptual block diagram, a schedule of events leading to the March 31, 2026 closing of the 2026 School and Site and Bonds, and a schedule of the Edgewood Elementary design schedule were shared with the Board of Education.
- **Crafting Coherence and Alignment Across Complex District Systems:** Superintendent Kennedy discussed the importance of developing coherence and alignment in each of the District's complex systems, as it was presented to the Administrative Team at their recent monthly meeting. Additional feedback will be sought from the Instructional Council at an upcoming meeting. More information on the topic will be provided to the Board of Education as the District continues

to work with leaders at the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District on the topic.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Item 26-9. MOTION by Six, SECOND by Cole to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Approval of Bill Listing in the amount of \$569,244.16
2. Acceptance of November and December 2025 General Fund Financial Reports
3. Acceptance of November and December 2025 Investment Reports
4. Approval of Personnel Report (includes confirmation of new hires, resignations, retirees, and transfers)
5. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes - December 8, 2025
6. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes - December 29, 2025

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

IX. GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS:

1. Michigan Statewide Energy Audit Study Results

The Board of Education was provided with the results of the Michigan Statewide Energy Audit that was conducted in 397 school districts across the State of Michigan. In 2023, the State of Michigan passed legislation, Section 11aa of the State School Aid Act, to fund this statewide study. The School Finance Research Foundation (SFRF), a consortium of ISD superintendents from across Michigan, representing each region of the state, administered and oversaw the work. The final report of the study using data points specific to Fruitport Community Schools was shared with the Board of Education.

X. BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

• Report of committee meeting held on January 12, 2026

JB Meeuwenberg provided a report of the committee meeting that was called to order at 5:07 p.m. on January 12, 2026. Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Jason Kennedy, JB Meeuwenberg, Jessica Wiseman, and Mark Mesbergen were present. The Committee discussed the 2025-2026 General Fund / School Service Fund Budget Amendment, and the schedule of events provided to the District by Stifel leading to the closing of the 2026 School Building and Site Bonds on March 31, 2026. It was shared that the recommendation for an increase in pay for ECC employees would be tabled. The

Committee reviewed the single audit now that the federal government has released the necessary documents needed for Rehmann to complete the audit. The Committee also discussed a proposal from TowerPinkster to provide technology services for the design, bidding, and construction of Edgewood Elementary. The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

1. Annual Financial Audit Report - Year Ending June 30, 2025

Item 26-10. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve and accept the annual financial audit report by Rehmann Robson, LLC. for the year ending June 30, 2025, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

2. 2025-2026 General Fund Budget Amendment

Item 26-11. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve the 2025-2026 General Fund Budget Amendment, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, Josh Mueller, Kathy Six.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

3. 2025-2026 School Service Fund Budget Amendment

Item 26-12. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve the 2025-2026 School Service Fund Budget Amendment, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Tim Burgess, Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, Josh Mueller, Kathy Six.

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

4. Technology and Physical Security Systems Design - Edgewood Elementary

Item 26-13. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Six to approve TowerPinkster's proposal for technology and physical security systems services for the Edgewood Elementary design and build, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XI. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Report of committee meeting held on January 12, 2026**

Steve Kelly provided a report of the committee meeting that was called to order at 5:52 p.m. on January 12, 2026. Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, Jason Kennedy, and Kathy Six were present. The Committee discussed the January 2026 Personnel report, and was provided an update on the hiring process for the next Varsity Football Coach. The Committee discussed a recommendation to increase the compensation of employees at the Early Childhood Center. The Committee was provided an update on an instructional assistant at Beach Elementary that did not successfully complete their probationary period, and it discussed disciplinary action taken to address an issue with a teacher at the Early Childhood Center. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

XII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Report of committee meeting held on January 12, 2026**

Tim Burgess provided a report of the committee meeting that was called to order at 4:30 p.m. on January 12, 2026. Tim Burgess, Dave Hazekamp, Josh Mueller, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee reviewed the second reading of the High School Handbook Addendum that was previously presented to the Board of Education for a first reading at the regularly scheduled Board meeting in December 2025. The Committee reviewed an overnight field trip request from varsity baseball coach Nick Reed. The Committee continued discussion on holding school related events on Sundays.

The Committee discussed the District's adult education program and potential issues with pupil accounting requirements with the flexible way in which students have been allowed to complete program requirements. The Committee was provided an update on the progress of calendar negotiations with the FEA for the 2026-2027 school year, and was provided an update on the process to hire a new varsity football coach. The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

1. Second Reading: High School Handbook Addendum

Item 26-14. MOTION by Burgess, SECOND by Mueller to approve the second reading of the proposed addendum to the high school student handbook and code of conduct to be given immediate effect, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

2. Overnight Trip Request - Varsity Baseball Team: Traverse City, MI

Item 26-15. MOTION by Burgess, SECOND by Six to approve the overnight trip request from Varsity Baseball Coach Nick Reed to stay the night in Traverse City, MI on May 22-24, 2026, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

3. Overnight Trip Request - DECA State Championship: Huntington Place - Detroit, MI

Item 26-16. MOTION by Burgess, SECOND by Mueller to approve the overnight trip request from Danielle Hershey for students to participate in the DECA State Competition on March 5-7, 2026 at the Huntington Place in Detroit, MI, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Kathy Six shared that as she was preparing for the radio show that she hosts, she has run into many articles highlighting the success of Fruitport students. She is proud of the work that our staff are doing.

Josh Mueller shared that our youth wrestling program continues to perform at a high level. He shared that we are consistently ranked in the top 2-3 programs across the region in the MYWAY Wrestling program.

JB Meeuwenberg shared that the middle school and high school choir program had four (4) students that qualified for the State Honors Festival.

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

1. The Business and Finance Committee will meet on February 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Personnel Committee will meet on February 2, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.
3. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on February 2, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
4. The Board of Education will meet on February 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

XV. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Item 26-17. MOTION by Six, SECOND by Cole to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kelly, Board Secretary

Abby Klug, Recording Secretary