

**ALLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 12, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M.  
OAKWOOD BOARD ROOM**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.

**I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:00 PM**

**II. MISSION STATEMENT**

Allendale Public Schools commit to educate, inspire, and support all students.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** DeJong, Harris, Hendricks, Holstege, Ramey, TenBrink, Thurkettle

**Administration:** Cooper, Park, Murphy, Torno, VanderLaan, Voss

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**V. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT – Policy #1.4 -** The Board recognizes that the authority to act rests with the entire Board of Education and that business shall be transacted only in official meetings. (TenBrink - Trustee)

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

Members of the audience are welcome to make comments at the time designated on the agenda. Please register on the sign-up sheet and limit your comments to 3 minutes when your name is called. Out of respect for all individuals, please refrain from personal criticisms in an open forum. Policy #167.3

**VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by TenBrink, seconded by Harris, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes**

April 14, regular meeting minutes

April 28, work session minutes

**B. Financial Reports**

a. General Fund Summary

b. Budget Report

c. Cumulative Fund Activity Report

- d. Business Services Checklists
  - e. Financial Statement Notes
  - f. Check Register
- Wires: #5653 - 5690; Checks: 228843 - 228889;  
EFT: 17872 - 17963; Totaling = \$1,181,345.35

**C. Personnel Report**

Motion by DeJong, seconded by TenBrink, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**X. EDUCATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

**All State Boys' Basketball**  
**MSVMA**

**XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jeff DuCharme  
Mike Eichberger  
Troy Lampen  
Ronnie Allen  
Jeanine Gasper

**XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Ad Hoc (SEAB)**

**XIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Dates**

May 13 Middle School Choir Concert, 6:30 PM, CFAC  
May 14 Seniors Last Day  
May 15 Middle School Band Concert, 7:00 PM, CFAC  
May 16 Middle School 8th Grade Award Ceremony, 6:00 PM, CFAC  
May 19 Senior Honors Convocation, 7:00 PM, CFAC  
May 21 ECC Fine Arts Show, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM, AECC  
May 21 Evergreen Ensembles, 7:00 PM, CFAC  
May 22 Graduation, 7:00 PM, Allendale High School  
May 26 No School, Young 5 - 12th Grade, Memorial Day  
June 5 Half Day of School, Young 5 - 12th Grade  
June 6 Half Day of School, Young 5 - 12th Grade, Last Day of School  
June 9 Board of Education meeting, 6:00 PM, Oakwood Board Room

**B. Bullying and Discipline Reports**

**C. Bond Election Recap**

**D. Other**

**XIV. BOARD COMMENTS**

Harris  
DeJong  
Thurkettle  
TenBrink  
Ramey

**XV. PRESIDENT COMMENT**

Holstege

**XVI. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. NEOLA policy updates**

**Background:** There are multiple suggested updates to our Board Policies. The recommendation is to accept the updates to policies #0131.1, #2340, #5320, #5330, #5330.01, #5350, #5460, #8320, #8500, and #8510. It is recommended that we rescind #1430 and #8640. It is also recommended that we reject #3430 and #4430. #1430, #3430 and #4430 are related to the new ESTA guidelines and it is not necessary to have a policy. #8640 is now included in the updates #2340 and so is not needed any longer.

Motion by Ramey, seconded by Harris, to approve changes to NEOLA policy as presented. Motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Ramey - YES; TenBrink - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**B. Approve Waiver option for PE**

**Background:** The State allows districts to offer a waiver for marching band students to bypass taking a PE class in high school. By offering this waiver we give our students more flexibility to choose an elective class that better matches their interests. It also frees up spots in our PE classes for other students who would like to take those classes as an elective. Students will need to take marching band for at least two years to qualify for the waiver, but they may still take PE if they wish to. The waiver is just an option, not a requirement.

Motion by TenBrink, seconded by DeJong, to approve the PE waiver option for marching band students as presented.

Amendment: Motion by Ramey, seconded by Hendricks to postpone the decision until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Yes - 6, No - 1, DeJong

**C. Filter First Install**

**Background:** The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) helped create legislation that requires schools and child care centers to meet water quality standards. Under the guidelines, water fixtures in a school that are used for consumption (drinking or food preparation) must be filtered at the point of use. This is called the Filter First initiative. To meet this requirement, after seeking bids from 4 companies, it is recommended that we use DHE plumbing at a total project cost of \$180,981.11.

Motion by Ramey, seconded by Hendricks, to approve using DHE for the plumbing work needed to meet the State's Filter First requirements as presented. Motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Ramey - YES; TenBrink - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**D. Resolution to approve OAISD 2025-2026 Budget for Ottawa Area Intermediate School District General Fund Budget Resolution**

**Background:** Each local district is required to pass a resolution approving the ISD's General Fund Budget. This is an annual event. In accordance with Section 380.624 of the Revised School Code, this Board must now adopt a resolution expressing its support or disapproval of the proposed ISD budget, and must submit to the ISD Board any specific objections and/or proposed changes to the budget prior to June 1, 2025.

Motion by DeJong, seconded by Harris, to approve the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District General Fund Budget Resolution as presented. Motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Ramey - YES; TenBrink - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**E. Resolution Scheduling 2025 Truth-in-Taxation, Budget Hearing**

**Background:** This is a resolution to establish an annual hearing conducted each June to allow citizens to make comments regarding the general fund budget before it is approved.

Motion by Ramey, seconded by Hendricks, to approve the Resolution Scheduling 2025 Truth-in-Taxation, Budget Hearing at 5:15 p.m. on June 9, 2025 as presented. Motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Ramey - YES; TenBrink - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**F. Approve changing the name of the New Options High School Program**

**Background:** Our alternative high school program has a reputation as more of a credit recovery program, but the vision is for this to be a diploma granting program. We need to make sure that students who are seeking a different type of education, know that our alternative high school is a great program for earning their diploma. The name we would like to use for the rebranding is the Allendale Virtual Academy (AVA). This is a program that offers great flexibility in an online learning format.

Motion by DeJong, seconded by TenBrink, to approve changing the name of New Options High School to the Allendale Virtual Academy as presented. Motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Ramey - YES; TenBrink - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**G. Select candidates to serve on the OAISD Board (MASB) effective July 1, 2025.**

**Background:** The district has the opportunity to select two candidates to fill full-term positions on the OAISD Board, which run until June 30, 2031, and also one partial term position that runs until June 30, 2027.

Motion by Thurkettle, seconded by Ramey, to approve Amanda Price and Rick Dernberger for the full term positions, and John Siemion for the partial term position. Motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - YES; Hendricks - YES; Holstege - YES; Ramey - YES; TenBrink - YES; Thurkettle - YES

**H. Approve renewing membership with the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) effective July 1, 2025.**

**Background:** The District's membership with MASB is set to expire on June 30, 2025. We utilize MASB in many ways, including professional development of school board members, free consultation regarding meeting procedures, policy questions and legal opinions. We also utilize the MASB superintendent evaluation tool, for which MASB provides the required by law training for board members.

Motion by Thurkettle, seconded by DeJong, to approve renewal of MASB membership, as presented. Motion failed.

**Roll Call Vote:** DeJong - YES; Harris - NO; Hendricks - NO; Holstege - YES; Ramey - NO; TenBrink - NO; Thurkettle - YES

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Hendricks, seconded by Ramey, to adjourn at 7:07 PM.

Yes - 7, No - 0

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Vissers