

Nottawa Community School
Board Meeting
November 10, 2025 ~ 7:00 P.M.
Mintues

“Building Better Futures for Children and Communities”

"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 in agenda item as, "introduction of guests."

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Rosenbaum.

Members Present: Borkholder, Brandon, Danberry, Hochstetler, Rosenbaum

A. Required Reading of PA213.

II. Introduction of guests:

A. Mr Wolff introduced Ian Reese, who is in remote attendance from Gabridge and Company, to present the annual Audit. Mr. Wolff also introduced Elaine Stryker, 5th grade homeroom and integrated technology teacher as well as Mrs. Beery teacher (kindergarten)/administrator of Early Childhood Education. The board thanked the staff for their service, and president Rosenbaum welcomed Ian Reese, advancing the agenda to the audit presentation.

III. Correspondence:

A. Mr. Wolff shared a correspondence to MASA Region 7 and Matt Kurta of Karoub and Associates, about concerns with 31aa legislation being in conflict with existing state and federal law.

IV. Presentations if any:

A. Ian Reese of Gabridge and Company to present annual audit

V. Consent Agenda

All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless there is a request from a board member to remove an individual agenda item (or items) from the Consent Agenda to be discussed and possibly voted upon separately. All agenda items pulled from the Consent Agenda will be placed under Action Items.

A. Approval of Minutes for October 13, 2025 Board of Education Meetings

B. Approval of Financial Report.

C. Approval of Monthly Board Bills: in the amount of \$25,942.64 through October 24, 2025.

Motion by Danberry, support by Hochstetler to approve the consent agenda. Motion Carried 5-0.

VI. Action items

A. Annual Audit Report

President Rosenbaum and the board thanked Mr. Reese for his presentation. Mr. Reese added that the work of Karen Bojanich and her team in the business office is excellent and contributed to the quality of the audit.

Treasurer Danberry and Trustee Bradon also commented on the board's sincere appreciation for the business office and all board members present expressed their agreement on a job well done.

Motion by Rosenbaum, support by Brandon to accept the annual audit presented by Gabridge and Company. Motion Carried 5-0.

B. Storage Recommendation

Mr. Wolff provided an update on the status of storage improvements, sharing pictures of the new toll storage in the bus garage built with the assistance of volunteers and organized by Mrs. Wonders. The board agreed that Trustees Brandon and Hochstetler will continue to look for trailer pricing and make contact with businesses in hopes of gathering quotes or recommendations to bring back to the board in December.

C. Acceptance of 31aa funding: Resolution

There was discussion about the language and acceptance of 31aa Funding for security and student mental health. New language attached to this section of the law would require school boards receiving funding to waive attorney client privilege if there were a mass casualty event. Legal counsel from THRUN advised that this added language was very problematic for Michigan public schools. Mr. Wolff noted that in the correspondence shared that the legislation is not harmonious with existing state and federal laws. Per legislative comment the added language was intended to produce a greater degree of transparency following the tragedy at Oxford Schools. Mr. Wolff noted that despite the problematic language in the law that this funding was necessary to sustain a current position and maintain security. Following discussion Mr. Wolff advised that the district accept the categorical funding, but with a resolution provided by legal counsel THRUN noting the problematic language and the districts potential response should the questionable language be revised or stricken.

Motion by Rosenbaum, support by Danberry to have a toll call vote to use the provided THRUN resolution A: Opt in and Waiver. Roll Call Vote:

Roll call vote: Borkholder- yes; Brandon- yes; Hochstetler- yes; Rosenbaum- yes Motion Carried 5-0.

D. First Read of Board Policies Fall 40.1

The board reviewed the first read of Board Policies 40.1. To note a number of the policies have technical language corrections, and some policies are being rescinded and replaced to be harmonious with changes in the law.

Motion by Danberry, support by Hochstetler to approve the first read of Board Policies for Fall 40.1 Motion Carried 5-0.

E. Health Insurance, Jerome Wolff (added by President Rosenbaum).

The board explained that with changes to health insurance they would like to update the contract to reflect that some form of cash in lieu would be added into the Superintendent Contract.

Motion by Danberry, support by Rosenbaum to amend Jerome' contract to include health insurance support as cash in lieu per discussion with the ISD Business Office. Motion Carried 5-0.

VII. Information items

A. Early Elementary Update

Mrs. Beery provided the board with an update on staffing and operations of Little Dippers, Preschool (GSRP) and Kindergarten. There was discussion about the growing size of the program, specifically kindergarten. It was also noted that the combined half and full day program is well received. Finally Mr. Wolff asked Mrs. Beery to share some news about her nomination, to which Mrs. Beery shared that he was nominated for Michigan Teacher of the Year. The board thanked Mrs. Beery for her report and congratulated her on the honorable nomination.

B. Data Gathering/Survey RE: Educational Offerings

Mr. Wolff shared with the board some data about K-8 school districts in the state of Michigan. Additionally Mr. Wolff recommended that it would be a good time to revisit comments in previous surveys raised by families who are making use of the school who are requesting the school to consider expanding its educational offerings. There was discussion about questions concerning early education enrollment, middle school opportunities to offer Michigan Merit Credit and questions about secondary education needs. Mr. Wolff also mentioned the potential need for additional classroom space for existing PreK-8 education.

C. Enrollment

K-8 enrollment is 190 and PreK enrollment is 12.

D. Roof Replacement: Possible Summer 2026

It is estimated that sufficient funds will be available to address the roof replacement project planned for the original west end of the building. Two board members, Trustees Brandon, Hochstetler, and/or President Rosenbuam will meet with some roof contractors and engineer Eckert Wordell to review plans. It is intended that a recommendation about next steps will be shared at the December board of education meeting.

E. Update on fundraiser suggestion to treat hard water.

Mr. Wolff reported that while there is no new information about the mechanical needs surrounding water treatment, there is EGLE guidance that local health departments are to be notified about improvements to non-public water systems that provide water to the general public, even for improvements not requiring a permit. Therefore, should the district move forward with filtration improvements it will notify the local health department for consultation on the improvements even if those improvements do not require a permit.

F. Parking Lot Improvements

1. Traffic Flow (M 86 Shoulder Request)
2. Stone School Exit: Owner Improvements Allowable (Lot repairs, new gravel/slag parking Stone School)

Following a discussion with MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation) the district is advised that in conjunction with the M86 corridor project that an additional 6 feet of pavement will be added to the shoulders of the east and west bound lands of M-86, likely sometime between April and August of 2026. These improvements will help alleviate congestion and safety concerns during the end of day pick-up. Further Mr. Wolff consulted with MDOT and has scheduled allowable maintenance to the farthest east entry drive at the Old Stone School parking area.

G. Theresa Danberry: Important Updates to Board Operations

Treasurer Danberry reported attending additional training on behalf of the district as well as details of a legal update provided concerning 31aa.

H. Legal Update(s)

Mr. Wolff shared monthly legal updates provided by THRUN Law.

VIII. Other

IX. Adjourn

Motion by Danberry, support by Rosenbaum to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 PM Motion Carried 5-0.

VISION

“Nottawa Community School will encourage the involvement of parents and community to embrace a shared purpose in the education of our students to become problem solving, responsible, and contributing members of society.”