



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Committee of the Whole Minutes**  
**Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:00 pm**  
**Kenowa Hills Administration Building**  
**2325 4 Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544**

**I. Routine and Organizational Business**

- A. President LaBotz called the Committee of the Whole Workshop to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, 2325 4 Mile Road NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544.
- B. President LaBotz opened the meeting with a moment of silence.
- C. Members Present: Gustinis, LaBotz, Roberts, Robinson, and Turner are present. Members Courtade and Hart are absent. Superintendent Hopkins is also present.
- D. Motion by Member Robert supported by Member Robinson to approve the agenda. **Motion carries 5-0.**

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF  
SILENCE  
ROLL CALL

APPROVE AGENDA

**II. Hearings and Correspondence**

- A. Recognition - Superintendent Hopkins acknowledged with appreciation those who made contributions to our schools.
- B. Correspondence - None
- C. Board Communication - Members reported on various district events in which they participated.

CORRESPONDENCE

BOE  
COMMUNICATION

**III. Discussion/Information Items**

- A. Superintendent's Report
  - 1. Enrollment Update - Superintendent Hopkins provided current enrollment information, which was pulled from PowerSchool, in preparation of the February Count Day.
  - 2. 2026-27 School of Choice Resolutions (First Reading) - Superintendent Hopkins provided an overview of the Kent County School of Choice timeline and reviewed the school of choice resolutions. It is administration's recommendation to opt into the Kent ISD Collaborative SOC plan, opt out of the State 105 SOC Plan, and opt into the State 105 C SOC Plan. This will be an action item at the next Regular Board Meeting.
- B. Finance
  - 1. January 2026 Check Register
  - 2. Bond Funds Investment Update
  - 3. Audit Update - The auditors have provided final results to be presented at our next meeting.
- C. NASB Advocacy Institute - Members LaBotz and Turner shared some key takeaways from the NASB conference. Some of the learning sessions included Artificial Intelligence (AI), IDEA funding, and advocacy needed for fair and equitable rules to monitor the distribution of tax credits for K-12 scholarships. Attendees also had the opportunity to meet with elected officials or their staff while in D.C.
- D. Michigan Leadership Institute Discussion - The Board finalized the first few stages of the Superintendent search timeline and discussed the timing of the candidate review and interview stages of the search.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

FINANCE

NASB ADVOCACY  
INSTITUTE

MLI DISCUSSION

**IV. Public Comment:** No members of the public addressed the Board.

*The purpose of this meeting is to conduct Board of Education business. There will typically be no attempt to comment or give answers at this meeting. Audience members who wish to make comments are invited to complete the appropriate form located at the entrance. Each speaker has a maximum of three (3) minutes to address the board. Inquiries requiring a response will be referred to the superintendent in the cases where contact information is provided. We ask all individuals making public comments to follow our board policy.*

- A. Motion by Member Roberts supported by Member Robinson to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carries 5-0.**
1. January 26, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
  2. January 2026 Check Register: General Fund Expenditures of \$873,910.16 using checks #86493 through 86627; School Lunch Fund expenditures of \$203.80 using checks #111179 and 11780; 2024 Bond Debt Fund expenditures of \$162.35 using check #3; 2022 Building and Site Series expenditures of \$14,556.00 accounting for check #152; 2024 Athletic Bond Series expenditures of \$66,049.30 using checks #82-85; Scholarship expenditures of \$400.00 using check #2; and Student Activity expenditures of \$8,502.68 accounting for checks #97570 through 97584: Total expenditures for the month total \$963,784.29.
  3. Certified Staff Personnel Report  
New Hire (Returning)  
Catherine Carlson; Middle School Resource Room Teacher, (effective February 10, 2026)
  4. Annual Education Reports (AER)

CONSENT AGENDA

**VI. Future Items for Consideration**

- A. Future Meetings
1. 02/23/2026 6:00 pm Regular Meeting @ Alpine Elementary
  2. 03/09/2026 6:00 pm Committee of the Whole Workshop @ Administration Building
- B. Go Around

FUTURE MEETINGS

GO AROUND

**VII. Adjournment**

- A. Seeing no additional agenda items, President LaBotz adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary