



Ionia County Intermediate School District
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Partners in building full potential

COLLABORATION INTEGRITY INNOVATION SERVICE ACCOUNTABILITY DATA-DRIVEN

Board Report — September 10, 2026

- **Scholarship Granting Organizations:** Michigan ISD's continue to monitor developments of this new tax credit program, if Governor Whitmer will elect to have Michigan participate and potential ramifications from the state opting in or out. Under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs) are state-approved 501(c)(3) non-profit entities that act as intermediaries to fund K–12 education scholarships. Through the legislation's Federal Tax Credit Scholarship Program, individual taxpayers can donate to certified SGOs and receive a 100% dollar-for-dollar federal tax credit of up to \$1,700 annually. SGOs must allocate the vast majority (90%) of these tax-credited contributions directly toward tuition vouchers for eligible public and private school students—typically prioritizing low-to-moderate-income families—while remaining independent, non-affiliated entities subject to state opt-in and strict self-dealing regulations.
- **Freedom Acres Update:** Repairs, intensive cleaning and inspections were completed to Freedom Acres School on August 29 stemming from the electrical damage initiated by a malfunctioning transformer. Our first day of school for students was Monday, August 31. We continue to work with the insurance company and adjusters on our claim.
- **Superintendent Mid-Year Progress Review:** Under Michigan law (MCL 380.1249b), school boards are required to complete a midyear progress report for the superintendent during any year in which the superintendent is being evaluated. This report is to serve as a supplemental tool to gauge progress from the previous evaluation and provide any actionable support requested to assist the superintendent in meeting annual goals.

The three goals identified within the previous superintendent evaluation were as follows:

1. Passage of the ICISD Special Education Millage renewal and restoration
2. Completion of an ICISD-led School Safety training activity
3. Creation of an About Us/At-A-Glance ICISD document

The countywide renewal and restoration of the special education millage was approved in August 2026. The ISD planned, hosted, and administered a school safety training activity for all local districts in June 2026 in conjunction with Ionia County Emergency Management. An About Us/At-A-Glance document for the ICISD will begin development this Fall for estimated completion in May 2027. No additional board support is requested at this time.

- **Legislative Update:** As election season continues to remain the primary focus in Lansing, there has been some recent legislative activity with committee meetings in both the House and Senate as well as some votes on the House floor.

House Floor Action

HB 4813 would amend the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, and passed by a vote of 97-1.

HB 5648 would amend the Revised School Code to allow high school credit for working full time in a board-approved trade occupation, and passed by a vote of 59-39.

House Education and Workforce Committee

The committee met on Wednesday this week to consider a number of items, taking testimony on House Bills 6164, 6096, 6106, and 6175, while voting out HB 5919 to the House floor.

HB 6164 would allow a public high school to fulfill its obligation to offer a computer science course if the course is offered in any facility operated by the school district, an ISD, PSA, CTE center, or CTE consortium.

HB 6096 would create an extension in the Revised School Code for certification of noncertified, non-endorsed CTE instructors employed for more than 10 years.

HB 6106 modifies the eligibility criteria to receive grant funding for the Student Mental Health Apprenticeship Retention and Training (SMART) program.

HB 6175 would create an alternative academic performance rating and report card system for an alternative education campus.

HB 5919 was reported out of committee and to the floor. The bill would create a learner-first district option in Michigan.

Introduced Legislation

HB 6245 would propose a \$50,000 appropriation for the creation of learner-first school districts.

HB 6302 would require school districts to display an American flag in classrooms.