Okemos Board of Education
Okemos, Michigan 48864
REGULAR MEETING October 26, 2026

26

The regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education was called to order by President Tom Buffett at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Tom Buffett, Andy Phelps, Katie Cavanaugh, Jason Burns, Leeni Shrestha, Shulawn Doxie, and Jillian Winn
Members Absent:	None
Administration:	Superintendent Matt Olson, Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey, Assistant Director of Media & Tech Matt Wallinga

Trustee Cavanaugh shared that the Okemos High School marching band attended the Brandon Invitational and achieved excellence in every category, they also took second place overall in their division; Trustee Shrestha mentioned that Okemos Archery hosted their first tournament of the season; and President Buffett highlighted the OHS Orchestra fall concert who gave a fantastic performance.

Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey and Superintendent Matt Olson presented on the Assessment District Data Review.

No Public Comment

Superintendent Matt Olson presented the Food and Nutrition Services Report, prepared by Food and Nutrition Services Director, Brian Kremkow. He shared that he is grateful for the vegetarian menu options at all schools this year, including K-4 and how this is responsive and respectful for our families; there is also an increase with using Michigan sourced produce, and spend down has already started happening in the Food and Nutrition Services Department; Okemos Education Foundation (OEF) is getting ready for the annual recognition banquet that will be held at the Kellogg Center on November 18, 2026; OEF is looking for assistance coordinating with District Parent Council and fundraising to list a couple; highlighted the Okemos Athletic Boosters and their hard work hard serving the programs and patrons; conferences were held last week and Superintendent Olson thanked all those who took part in these; Recognized all the new hires between August 25 and October 25, 2026 and recognized Tracy Ojerio, who will serve as the interim principal at Bennett Woods Elementary for the 2026-27 school year.

President Buffett acknowledged correspondence from the following: Ryan Kuntzelman**,** regarding Okemos facilities access for student athletes and Lisa Murphy inquiring about the proper procedures for petitioning the board.

Trustee Cavanaugh attended the MASB Conference, along with Trustee Phelps and Trustee Burns, who attended the delegate assembly, and what a great opportunity it is to be able to attend; Trustee Burns also spoke on attending the MASB delegate assembly; Trustee Phelps was able to complete several courses at the MASB Conference, along with achieving his finance certification.

MOVED by Andy Phelps, **SUPPORTED** by Jillian Winn, that the board approve items 1 through 3 for immediate implementation and appropriate action. Item 1: Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2026; Item 2: Acknowledge receipt of the September financial statement and approve payment of bills through September; Item 3: Approve the following personnel appointments and position changes, including new hires, internal appointments, and an interim administrative assignment.

AYE: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED by Jason Burns, **SUPPORTED** by Katie Cavanaugh, that the board accept the audit report of Maner & Costerisan P.C. for the 2025-2026 school year.

AYE: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

MOVED by Andy Phelps, **SUPPORTED** by Katie Cavanaugh, that the board accept the administrative recommendation to permanently expel Student A.

AYE: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

No public comment.

The board transitioned into a work session. Laura Hildreth, Senior Director of Teaching and Learning with KnowledgeWorks, presented the Portrait of a Learner community sessions and graduate agendas. Portrait of a Learner outlines a shared vision for the skills educators need to drive innovation and support systems change through personalized, competency-based learning.

President Buffett adjourned the regular meeting at 9:32 pm

_____
Shulawn Doxie, Secretary