

The Kent ISD School Board held a regular meeting at the Kent Conference Center on Monday, October 20, 2025. President Haidle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hamming, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle
Member Absent: Drake

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Gorman; Assistant Superintendents Finkel, Fee, Gardner, Myers, Philipps, Rodgers; Directors Arnold, Baine, Behm, Bray, Burns Campbell, Graham, Hendry, Houtman, Hissong, Hofstee, Houtman, Karsten, Larkin, Lienesch, Lillis, Maynard, McClintic, Moore, Murphy Snider, Store, Verwey.

Staff Members: Debra Burkhardt, Lisa Faber, Cinnamon Mellema

President Haidle welcomed attendees and turned the meeting over to Director Arnold to honor Lisa Faber and Stacy Serba with the Leading Learning Award. Supervisors were given the opportunity to share their appreciation.

Director of Facilities, Russell Bray, provided an overview of the facilities team structure and what current projects are underway. Board Members had the opportunity to ask questions.

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to combine and approve the consent agenda action items D.1-D.9.

Ayes: Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Schottke, it was resolved to approve the partnership agreement with Dean Transportation to provide special education transportation services.

Ayes: Schottke, Hamming, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the partnership agreements for CTE Regional Programming with Educational Institutions to expand CTE offerings.

Ayes: Hamming, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

Abstained: Schottke

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve Kent ISD Administration to reduce up to 4.0 FTE from the Bright Beginnings program at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year.

Ayes: Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Featherston, it was resolved to approve the distribution of special education act 18 funds.

Ayes: Schottke, Hamming, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Schottke, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the Leading Educators Consulting Services for West Michigan Teacher Collaborative.

Ayes: Hamming, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Superintendent Gorman shared the following goals with Board Members for the 2025-2026 school year:

Kent ISD will continue to focus on expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming across the region. Success in this area will be measured through enrollment data and the continued growth of both CTE and CTE-like offerings that provide students with hands-on, career-ready experiences.

In addition, we remain committed to providing clear and effective communication to all stakeholders and Board of Education members. Progress toward this goal will be measured by analytics from Kent ISD newsletters and feedback gathered through performance surveys.

Lastly, increasing visibility and engagement with staff and students will remain a priority. This will be achieved through bi-monthly visits to programs and schools, fostering stronger connections and a deeper understanding of the work happening throughout Kent ISD.

President Haidle provided the opportunity for public comment. No public comments were given.

Dr. Gorman shared information enhancement millage restore and renewal and encouraged participants to vote on November 4. Dr. Gorman thanked Russell Bray for his facilities presentation.

President Haidle thanked Assistant Superintendent Kevin Philipps for presenting at the School Board Finance Bootcamp on September 30. Ms. Haidle also shared that she will be attending the NSBA Advocacy Institute held on February 1-4 in Washington, D.C.

Member Schottke shared that she is excited to be part of the Kent ISD School Board and looks forward to working with fellow her Board Members.

President Haidle adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.

Minutes approved on November 17, 2025

Andrea Haidle, President

Anne Hamming, Vice President

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