

**NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL SESSION
Performing Arts Center
1112 E. Clay Street
P.O. Box 280
New Buffalo, MI 49117
May 19, 2025
6:30 PM**

New Buffalo Area Schools will be a beacon of academic excellence and individualized learning, where every student thrives in a supportive and inclusive environment. We will lead in preparing students for future success, driven by strong community partnerships and a commitment to growth and sustainability.

1. Call to Order by President Lisa Werner - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
2. Roll Call: Denise Churchill, Stephen Donnelly, John Haskins, Jennifer Summers, Vanessa Thun, Greg Vosberg, Lisa Werner
Absent: Donnelly and Vosbert
Also in Attendance: Mr. Adam Bowen, Superintendent of Schools
Devinnie Wysocki, Adm. Asst. to Superintendent
3. Expressions from the Public: None
4. Items too Late for Printed Agenda #16 New Buffalo Area Schools Nature Study.
5. Adoption of the Agenda
 - A. Adoption of MHSAA Resolution 2025-26
Motion: Thun
Second: Churchill
All ayes, motion carried.
6. Adoption of the Consent Agenda: Items on the Consent Agenda are to be voted on as a single item by the Board. Board Members may remove items from the Consent Agenda prior to vote. Discussion of the items that have been removed can take place at the appropriate time listed on the Agenda.
 - A. Minutes:
Meeting MInutes 4/28/25
 - B. General/Associated Funds - Bills Payable:
 1. General Fund: \$143,014.67
 2. Payroll: \$873,972.36
 3. Food Service: \$19,394.39
 4. Scholarship Fund: \$8,680.20
 5. Public Improvement: \$69,090.46
 - C. Financials
 - D. Employee Compensation
Motion: Summers
Second: Churchill
All ayes, motion carried.

7. Communications: None

8. Committee Report(s)
Curriculum/Policy 5/15/2025

9. The Superintendent and Business Manager recommend the Board adopt the 2025-2026 fiscal budget (per resolutions).

Motion: Churchill
Second: Thun
All ayes, motion carried.

10. The Superintendent and Business Manager recommend the Board certify the 2025 tax levy to the City of New Buffalo, New Buffalo Township, and Chikaming Township, as attached.

Motion: Haskins
Second: Churchill
All ayes, motion carried.

11. The Superintendent and Business Manager recommend the Board approve the resolutions complying with the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contributions Act (152) for the medical benefit plan coverage beginning 7-1-25, which includes District employees paying 20% and New Buffalo Area Schools paying 80% of the premium, in lieu of capping the premium.

Motion: Summers
Second: Thun
All ayes, motion carried.

12. The Superintendent recommends that the Board adopt the resolution for the Berrien RESA Board of Education Election that designates Vanessa Thun, Board Secretary, as the Board's representative to serve on the 2025 electoral body, and Denise Churchill, Board Vice President, as the alternate to the RESA 2025 electoral body. Further, the board directs its representative to cast a vote for Anne (Nancy) Morrisett-Kierman and Daniel Buckenmyer for 6-year terms on the first ballot taken on June 2, 2025.

Motion: Thun
Second: Churchill
All ayes, motion carried.

13. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation, for retirement purposes, of David Kelly, effective July 1, 2025, per attached.

Motion: Thun
Second: Churchill
All ayes, motion carried.

14. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the administrative contract for Melissa Lijewski, as attached

Motion: Summers
Second: Churchill
All ayes, motion carried.

15. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Baseball Field Proposal, as attached.

Motion: Thun
Second: Summers
All ayes, motion carried.

16. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the proposal from Midwest Biological Survey, LLC for the NBAS Nature Study Area and Turtle Creek Preserve, including the addition of NBAS southern parcel (#240702), at a cost of \$13,500. This expenditure will be covered by a received grant.

Motion: Summers

Second: Churchill

All ayes, motion carried.

17. Remarks from the Superintendent

- District 5K was today for all students in grades K - 12.
- We hosted regionals this weekend for the track. Thanks to all of our helpers and especially Matt, Kerry and the grounds crew for making everything look so good.
- Coming up we are hosting districts for both girls soccer and boys baseball which begin next week.
- Graduation is Friday, May 30 at 7 PM.
- Next week the SROs, Principals and myself will be learning more about the I Love You Guys language which is the standard response protocol that all school districts in Berrien County are using in emergency situations.
- Nelson BBQ Chicken fundraiser will be on Saturday, May 31 for the athletic department.
- Last day of school for students is Friday, June 6th.

18. Remarks from the Board President and Members

19. Discussion Item(s)

A. Scholarships

Auditors and the State suggested recommendations regarding LRSB funds placed in the BISON Education Trust.

20. Other Business

President Werner recommends the Superintendent and Business Manager allocate a minimum of 50% of LRSB funds to go into the BISON Education Trust Fund.

Motion: Thun

Second: Haskins

All ayes, motion carried.

21. Adjournment

Motion: Haskins

Second: Summers

All ayes, motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Thun, Secretary
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS