

Meeting of the FINANCE COMMITTEE
The Board of Trustees
Gull Lake Community Schools

A Finance Committee meeting of the Board of Trustees of Gull Lake Community Schools was held on Monday, November 17, 2025, beginning at 7:31 a.m. in the Christopher L. Rundle Administration Building.

Roll Call: Director of Business Services Amanda McElroy, Superintendent Christopher Rundle, Deputy Superintendent Lisa Anderson, Assistant Superintendent Drew Bordner, Carole Mendez, Laura Zervic, John McCann (arrived at 7:35 a.m.)

Guests: Josh Reames, Mike Stephayn, Cindy Belz (arrived at 8:25 a.m.)

1. Public Comments: None

2. Approve Draft Minutes: The October 15, 2025 minutes were approved.

3. Food Service Excess Fund Balance

Josh Reames from Chartwells presented the Food Service Excess Fund Balance to the Committee. The Committee reviewed several key areas, including why a fund balance, current actions underway, the impact of those actions, and additional considerations. Discussion followed.

The Committee requested that the Food Service Budget be presented and reviewed at the next committee meeting.

4. Student Information System

Assistant Superintendent Border and Mike Stephayn presented the Student Information System (SIS) to the Committee. They explained that discussions began approximately nine months ago in preparation of the final year of the district's current SIS contract. The Committee reviewed the selection process, overall goals, anticipated efficiencies, and projected costs. The total cost of the Skyward Student Information System is \$290,394 over a five-year period. The Committee will present this recommendation to the Board for formal approval.

5. Enrollment Update

Deputy Superintendent Anderson introduced Cindy Belz, Pupil Accountant, to the Committee. The projected fall enrollment was 3992.34, with an actual enrollment of 4018.27. She provided a breakdown of enrollment by headcount and FTE for each building. Discussion followed regarding future planning.

6. 31aa Funding

Deputy Superintendent Anderson presented an update on 31aa Funding. The Michigan Department of Education recently amended Section 31aa of the State School Aid Act, adding new conditions for districts opting to receive these funds. An overview of the financial impact of accepting versus declining the funds was provided.

The opt-in deadline has been extended to November 30th. After discussion, the Committee agreed not to accept the funds for the 2025-26 fiscal year. A report will be provided to the full Board.

7. Sub Pay Rates

Deputy Superintendent Anderson provided an update on substitute pay rates to the Committee. This topic was previously discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting. After reviewing comparable rates from the Universe Group and local districts, the Committee agreed to a 10% increase in substitute pay, totaling approximately \$39,626.25. The increase will take effect on January 1, 2026.

8. Budget Report

Director McElroy presented the October 2025 Budget Report to the Committee for their review.

9. Next Meeting: December 15, 2025 @ 7:30 a.m.