FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
held on February 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Forest Hills Board of Education met in regular session on February 10, 2025, at the Administration Building. President Fauson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Michaud, Kermode, Ninemeier, Colley, Terryn, Fauson

Members Absent: DeBoer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Member Kermode led the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME

Scott Haid, the assistant superintendent for instruction, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

INSTRUCTIONAL HIGHLIGHT

Mr. Haid shared a presentation on the NWEA Fall to Winter Growth Data which analyzes K-6 student progress in reading and math between the fall and winter assessment periods. The data highlights growth trends, identifies areas of strength, and pinpoints skill gaps for targeted intervention. Based on this data, Mr. Haid also explained how students are grouped for tier 2 interventions.

CONSENT GROUPING ITEMS

Motion made by Member Michaud, second by Member Ninemeier, that the Forest Hills Board of Education approve consent grouping items V. A.-C.

Member Terryn, Curriculum Committee Chair, and Member Michaud, Finance Committee Chair, gave their respective committee reports.

AYES: Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

NAYS: None

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved the minutes of the January 20, 2025, Regular Meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for January 2025, as presented.

GENERAL FUND	$14,500,441.31
DEBT FUND	0.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 2023	2,969,240.58
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	
1. Food Service Fund	175,565.12
2. Child Care Fund	3,445.89
3. Student/School Activity	133,261.37
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$17,781,954.27**

Approved the purchase and installation of interactive flat panels from Digital Age Technologies (DAT) for an amount not to exceed $379,654. — INTERACTIVE FLAT PANELS

Awarded the contract for roofing work at Food Service to Modern Roofing for an amount not to exceed $125,190, including contingency funds. — FOOD SERVICE ROOFING

Awarded the contract for roofing work at Pine Ridge to Division 7 Building Contractors Inc. for an amount not to exceed $569,176, including contingency funds. — PINE RIDGE ROOFING

Awarded the contract for roofing work at Eastern Middle/High to Advanced Construction Group Inc. for an amount not to exceed $547,924, including contingency funds. — EASTERN ROOFING

Approved the purchase of new playground equipment from GameTime for an amount not to exceed $5,223,076. — PLAYGROUNDS

Approved the purchase of classroom furniture from Custer Inc., Dew-El Corporation, Great Lakes Furniture Supply, Inc., Interphase Interiors, and VS America for an amount not to exceed $2,303,911. — CLASSROOM FURNITURE

Approved the purchase of four new seventy-seven passenger school bus units from Midwest Transit Equipment at a cost of $646,464. — BUS REPLACEMENT

Authorized the Secretary of the Board of Education to sign the Waiver and Consent forms from Cascade Charter Township, City of Grand Rapids, City of Kentwood, and Grand Rapids Charter Township to strike delinquent personal property taxes. (Ref. No. 25-02/10-A, B, C, and D) — DELINQUENT PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Approved relinquishing of the federal Title III Immigrant funds allocated to Forest Hills Public Schools. — FEDERAL TITLE III IMMIGRANT FUNDS

Superintendent Kirby gave an overview of the Schools of Choice Resolutions. — SCHOOLS OF CHOICE RESOLUTIONS FOR 2025-2026

Board Member Michaud moved that the Board of Education of the Forest Hills Public School District, exercising the option permitted by Section 105 of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, <u>will not</u> accept Section 105 applications of non-resident students from outside our district, for purposes of operating an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program in accordance with Section 105 for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion was supported by Member Ninemeier. — SECTION 105

SECTION 105c

KENT ISD COLLABORATIVE SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

<u>AYES</u>: Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

<u>NAYS</u>:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. (Ref. No. 25-02/10-E1)

Board Member Michaud moved that the Board of Education of the Forest Hills Public School District, exercising the option permitted by Section 105c of the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297

of 2000, will not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion was supported by Member Kermode.

AYES: Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. (Ref. No. 25-02/10-E2)

Board Member Kermode moved that the Board of Education of the Forest Hills Public School District will participate in the Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2025-2026 school year. The motion was supported by Member Terryn.

AYES: Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. (Ref. No. 25-02/10-E3)

RESOLUTION CALLING SPECIAL ELECTION

Superintendent Kirby discussed the Operating Millage proposal.

Motion by Member Kermode, support by Member Colley, to adopt the resolution setting the date of May 6, 2025, for the purpose of putting before the voters a six-year renewal of the 18-mill operation millage and setting the ballot wording and election registration notice forms.

AYES: Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote. (Ref. No. 25-02/10-F)

BOARD POLICIES

President Fauson provided an overview of the policy changes. She shared that all of the policies presented for consideration were provided to the board members for review in advance of the meeting.

Motion by Member Michaud, support by Member Ninemeier, that the Forest Hills Board of Education adopt and/or delete the policies as presented. Board discussion followed.

AYES: Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

With the approval of the motion, the Board adopted, revised, and/or deleted the following board policies:

Section 3100 General Operations

- 3115 Nondiscrimination, Anti-Harassment, and Non-Retaliation (Revised Policy)
- 3115A Definitions for 3115 Series (Revised Policy)
- 3115B Designation of Coordinators (Revised Policy)
- 3115C Supportive Measures (Revised Policy)
- 3115D Informal Resolution (Revised Policy)
- 3115E Grievance Procedure and Remedies (Revised Policy)
- 3115F Complaint Dismissal and Appeals (Revised Policy)
- 3115G Additional Requirements to Prevent and Address Pregnancy Discrimination (Delete Policy)
- 3115H Training Requirements and Policy Notice (Revised Policy)
- 3118 Title IX Sexual Harassment (Revised Policy)

Section 4100 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

- 4101 Non-Discrimination (Revised Policy)
- 4102 Anti-Harassment (Revised Policy)
- 4104 Employment Complaint Procedure for Allegations Implicating Civil Rights (Revised Policy)
- 4105A Pregnancy-Related Workplace Accommodations (Revised Policy)
- 4113 Michigan Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) (New Policy)
- 4305 Michigan Paid Medical Leave Act (MPMLA) (Delete Policy)

Section 5200 Student Conduct and Discipline

- 5202 Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Students (Revised Policy)
- 5206 Student Discipline (Revised Policy)
- 5309 Student Records and Directory Information (Revised Policy)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Kirby shared the following:

- An update on the governor's budget proposal and a general legislative update.
- District staff have been reminded of the process of handling outside agencies seeking information on students.
- The importance of the operating millage.
- Mid-winter break is Friday, February 14 – Monday, February 17.
- The district will be sending an engagement survey to stakeholders in mid-February.
- The district will also be sending a survey in March regarding academic programming.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Member Michaud gave an update from the Forest Hills Foundation.

- The Spring grant cycle is closed, and applications are currently being reviewed. Grant recipients will be notified in March.
- The Foundation is looking for volunteers for its board of trustees. Information is available on the Foundation website.

Member Michaud shared that Eastern's production of Mary Poppins was excellent, and he was pleased to see many students in the audience supporting fellow students.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Fauson shared the format for the public comment portion of the meeting. Students will be given the opportunity to address the board first, followed by staff, and concluding with community members.

The board received comments from six members of the audience regarding the following topics:

- The Naturalization Ceremony at the Fine Arts Center
- Transparency
- Graduate Recognition
- Academic excellence
- Accessible ground cover for elementary playgrounds
- A high school library book
- A curriculum concern
- The status of public education

ADJOURNMENT

President Fauson inquired if there was other business of the board. Hearing none, she adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Malorie Ninemeier

Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary
Forest Hills Board of Education

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

In the Matter of the Petition
of the Township Treasurer of
Cascade Charter Township to
Strike 2019 and prior Delinquent
Personal Property Taxes
from the Tax Tolls

File No._____

WAIVER AND CONSENT

NOW COMES Forest Hills Public Schools and acknowledges receipt of the 2019 and prior Delinquent Personal Property Tax Report, and the Statement of Attempt to Collect the 2019 and prior Personal Property Taxes and consents to the relief requested by the petitioner and voluntarily waives notice of the hearing and of the entry of judgment.

Dated Feb. 10, 2025

Malorie Ninemeier

Malorie Ninemeier
Secretary, FHPS Board of Education
Forest Hills Public Schools

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

In the matter of the Petition
of the City Treasurer of
the City of Grand Rapids to
Strike 2019 Delinquent
Personal Property Taxes
from the Tax Rolls

File No. 25-_____

WAIVER AND CONSENT

NOW COMES the Forest Hills Public Schools and acknowledges receipt of the 2019 Delinquent Personal Property Tax Roll, and the Statement of Attempt to Collect the 2019 Personal Property Taxes and consents to the relief requested by the petitioner and voluntarily waives notice of the hearing and the entry of judgment.

Dated Feb. 10, 2025

Malorie Ninemeier

Malorie Ninemeier, Board Secretary
Forest Hills Public Schools

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

In the matter of the Petition
of the Treasurer of
the Township of Grand Rapids to
Strike 2019 and prior Delinquent
Personal Property Taxes
from the Tax Rolls

File No._____

WAIVER AND CONSENT

NOW COMES, Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary of the Board of Education, Forest Hills Public Schools, and acknowledges Receipt of the 2019 and prior Delinquent Personal Property Tax Report, and the Statement of Attempt to Collect the 2019 and prior Personal Property Taxes and consents to the relief requested by the petitioner and voluntarily waives notice of the hearing and of the entry of judgment.

Dated Feb. 10, 2025

Malorie Ninemeier,
Board of Education Secretary
Forest Hills Public Schools

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

In the matter of the petition of the City Treasurer of the City of Kentwood to strike the 2019 and prior years' Personal Property taxes from the rolls.

File No. _____

WAIVER AND CONSENT

NOW COMES, Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary of the Board of Education for the Forest Hills School District and acknowledges receipt of the 2019 and prior years' Delinquent Personal Property Tax Report and the Statement of Attempt to Collect the 2019 and prior years' personal property taxes and consents to the relief requested by the petitioner and voluntarily waives notice of the hearing and of the Entry of Judgment on the petition.

Dated February 10 ,2025

Malorie Ninemeier

Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary
Board of Education
Forest Hills School District

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

February 10, 2025

SCHOOLS of CHOICE

RESOLUTION TO OPT OUT OF SECTION 105
(State Schools of Choice Program)

Board Member Michaud moves that the Board of Education of the Forest Hills Public School District, exercising the option permitted by *Section 105* of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, will not accept *Section 105* applications of non-resident students from outside our district, for purposes of operating an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program in accordance with Section 105 for the 2025-2026 school year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By Kristen Fauson
Kristen Fauson, President

By Malorie Ninemeier
Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary

Date 02/10/2025

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

February 10, 2025

CONTIGUOUS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS
SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

RESOLUTION TO OPT OUT OF SECTION 105c
(State Schools of Choice Program)

Board Member Michaud moves that the Board of Education of the Forest Hills Public School District, exercising the option permitted by *Section 105c* of the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297 of 2000, will not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2025-2026 school year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By _____
Kristen Fauson, President

By _____
Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary

Date 02/10/2025

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

February 10, 2025

RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
KENT ISD COLLABORATIVE SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PROGRAM

Board Member Hermode moves that the Board of Education of the Forest Hills Public School District will participate in the Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2025-2026 school year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By _____
Kristen Fauson, President

By _____
Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary

Date 02/10/2025

Forest Hills Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan (the "District")

A regular meeting of the board of education of the District (the "Board") was held in the Administration Building, within the boundaries of the District, on the 10th day of February, 2025, at 6:30 o'clock in the p.m. (the "Meeting").

The Meeting was called to order by Kristen Fauson, President.

Present: Members Michaud, Kermode, Ninemeier, Colley, Terryn, Fauson

Absent: Members DeBoer

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Kermode and supported by Member Colley:

WHEREAS:

1. This Board intends to submit a proposition at a special election to be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

2. On or before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, the Board shall certify any ballot proposition to be submitted to the voters at such election to the election coordinator or coordinators designated to conduct elections within the District (the "Election Coordinator").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. A special election of the school electors of the District be called and held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

2. The proposition to be voted on at the special election shall be stated on the ballots in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit A.

3. The Election Coordinator is requested to:

a. Utilize The Grand Rapids Press, a newspaper published or of general circulation within the District, for publication of notices in accordance with the election law requirements.

b. Utilize ballot proposition summary information, as prepared by legal counsel, in the forms of the notices of last day of registration and election in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto.

c. Provide a proof copy of the ballot to the District and its legal counsel in sufficient time to allow the ballot to be proofread prior to printing.

4. The Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this resolution with the Election Coordinator and with any Election Clerk or clerks designated to conduct elections within the District by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

THRUN LAW FIRM, P.C.

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members Michaud, Kermode, Colley, Terryn, Fauson, Ninemeier

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.

Malorie Ninemeier
Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Forest Hills Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at the Meeting, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

Malorie Ninemeier
Secretary, Board of Education

JJS/baf

THRUN LAW FIRM, P.C.

EXHIBIT A

FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its full revenue per pupil foundation allowance and restores millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Forest Hills Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan, be renewed by 18.1297 mills ($18.1297 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 6 years, 2026 to 2031, inclusive, and also be increased by .5 mill ($0.50 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 6 years, 2026 to 2031, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2026 is approximately $24,000,000 (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2025 levy and the addition of millage which will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the "Headlee" amendment to the Michigan Constitution of 1963)?

THRUN LAW FIRM, P.C.

EXHIBIT B

SUMMARY OF BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE INSERTED IN THE NOTICES OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION:

FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL
EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE
AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW
18.1297 MILLS FOR 6 YEARS AND
.5 MILL FOR 6 YEARS FOR
HEADLEE RESTORATION PURPOSES, IF NECESSARY

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Forest Hills Public Schools, 620 Forest Hill Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546, telephone: (616) 493-8800.

THRUN LAW FIRM, P.C.