FOREST HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
held on June 8, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The Forest Hills Board of Education met in regular session on June 8, 2026, at the Administration Building. President Fauson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

Members Absent: Colley

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Member Michaud led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT GROUPING ITEMS

Motion made by Member Kermode, second by Member Terryn, that the Forest Hills Board of Education approve consent grouping items III.A.1. – III.D.2.

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

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved the minutes of the June 3, 2026, Special Meeting and the June 3, 2026, Closed Session.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for April 2026, as presented.

GENERAL FUND	$11,403,790.96
DEBT FUND	24,235,834.57
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 2023	501,565.23
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 2025	3,772,465.45
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	
1. Food Service Fund	337,622.00
2. Child Care Fund	12,823.89
3. Student/School Activity	194,957.99
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$40,459,060.06**

POWERSCHOOL RENEWAL

Renewed the annual agreement with PowerSchool in the amount of $245,620 for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

GOOGLE PLUS RENEWAL

Approved year three of a three-year agreement with Google through CDW Education for Google Workspace for Education Plus and one year of Amplified Support at a cost of $41,400.

INCIDENT IQ RENEWAL

Approved the renewal of Incident IQ Helpdesk and inventory Software from Incident IQ in the amount of $42,744 for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

REPLACEMENT OF WATER FILTERS / INLINE SINK FILTERS

Approved the purchase of replacement water filters and installing inline sink filters from Best Plumbing specialties for an amount not to exceed $36,238.

FLEX ROOF REPLACEMENT

Approved Summit Point Roofing to perform construction work at the Flex Academy facility at a total cost of $112,869, including allowances, contingency, fees, and general conditions.

FOOD SERVICE EQUIPMENT

Approved the necessary updates to the oldest walk-in coolers and freezers from Stafford-Smith for a cost not to exceed $102,811.

PAPER

Authorized participation in the Regional Educational Media Center (REMC) statewide purchasing cooperative to purchase paper in 2026-2027 at an estimated cost not to exceed $160,000.

TAX REIMBURSEMENT

Authorized reimbursement of $46,495.44 to Kent County for refunded property taxes.

EVERYDAY MATH WORKBOOKS

Approved the purchase request for *Everyday Math Workbooks* from McGraw Hill at a cost not to exceed $103,211.

CONNECTED MATHEMATICS 3 (CMP3) ONLINE LICENSES

Approved the purchase request for Connected Mathematics Project 3 (CMP3) online licenses from Savaas Learning Company at a cost not to exceed $51,450.

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Approved the following supplemental instructional resources:

- *Everything is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection* by John Green for grades 7-8 PLTW at Eastern Middle School
- *The Secret Life of Groceries* by Benjamin Lorr for Grade 11 – Project Next English, Environmental Science, and Economics at Northern High School

EMPLOYMENT OF NEW PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Approved the hire and issue of contracts to the following new professional staff beginning with the 2026-2027 school year:

- James Alexander, Teacher, Eastern High/Eastern Middle schools
- Esther Belli, Teacher, Northern High School
- Melissa Benoit, Teacher, Northern High School
- Jessie Crawford, Teacher, Central High School
- Peggy Denman, Teacher, Central High School
- Margaret Edison, Teacher, Northern High School
- Terri Fenske, Teacher, District
- Lauren Hackerd, Teacher, Pine Ridge Elementary School
- Katie Rae Hayduck, Teacher Central High/Central Middle, Central Woodlands 5/6 schools

- Heather Kelley, Teacher, Eastern High School
- Sarah Rosema, Teacher, Northern Trails 5/6 School

Approved the hire and issue of a contract to the following new administrative staff for the 2026-2027 school year:

EMPLOYMENT OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

- Gabrielle Kokenakes, Ada Elementary School Principal
- Josh White, Eastern High School Assistant Principal

Motion by Member Terryn, support by Member DeBoer, to approve the work calendar and the wage and benefit agreement for the Forest Hills Education Association. Discussion followed.

RATIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS - FHEA

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

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Motion by Member Michaud, support by Member Kermode, to approve the wage and benefit agreement for the Forest Hills Supervisors. Discussion followed.

RATIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS – FOREST HILLS SUPERVISORS

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

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Motion by Member Terryn, support by Member Michaud, to approve the wage and benefit agreement for the Forest Hills Child Care and Preschool employee group.

RATIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS – FOREST HILLS CHILD CARE AND PRESCHOOL

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

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Motion by Member Michaud, support by Member Terryn, to approve the wage and benefit agreement for the Forest Hills Administrators.

RATIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS – FOREST HILLS ADMINISTRATORS

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

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Motion by Member Kermode, support by Member DeBoer, to adopt the year-end evaluation of Superintendent Kirby for the 2025-2026 school year.

ADOPTION OF SUPERINTENDENT YEAR-END EVALUATION

President Fauson shared that the Board completed the year-end evaluation of Superintendent Kirby, and he was rated effective in every section of the evaluation.

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

NAYS:

Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

RESIGNATIONS

Superintendent Kirby has accepted the following resignations:

- Paige Hallock, Teacher, Central High School

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Kirby shared the following:

- An update on the status of the remaining employee group negotiations.
- Forest Hills drivers took first place in Kent County in the Bus Driver Rodeo. Two drivers qualified for the state event.
- An update on the status of new hires.
- An update on the 2026-2027 Schools of Choice placements.
- The first day of school for students will be August 26, 2026.
- There will be a staff welcome back event on August 20, 2026.
- Hand2Hand will be expanding services to Northern Trails 5/6 and Kids Hope at Ada Elementary next school year.
- An update of student proficiency data.
- The Leadership Team spent the day reviewing experience survey data.
- A postseason athletic update.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

There was no additional board communication.

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.

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

President Fauson inquired if there was other business of the board. Hearing none, she adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Malorie Ninemeier

Malorie Ninemeier, Secretary
Forest Hills Board of Education