

Minutes of Board of Education Regular Meeting
The Board of Trustees
Gull Lake Community Schools

A Board of Education Regular Meeting of the Gull Lake Community Schools was held on the 20th day of October 2025, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Thomas M. Ryan Intermediate Media Center, Richland, Michigan.

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Roll Call

A. Present

Mini Paulose-Murphy, Carole Mendez, Laura Zervic, John McCann, Krystal Scott-Rhodes, Eddie Keene

B. Absent

Desiree LaDuke

C. Staff Members

Superintendent Christopher Rundle, Deputy Superintendent Lisa Anderson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instructional Technology Drew Bordner, and Recording Secretary Danelle Wheeler

D. Guests Present

Suzy Barrett, Courtney Boyce, Rob Woodrow, Nikki VanPelt, Eric VanPelt, Isabelle Tackmann, Michelle Jaros, Amanda McElroy, Audra Misner, Danielle Buckmaster, Bobbi Jo Stoner, Mike Stephayn, Corey VanDyke, Charles Sportel

4. Plante Moran Presentation on Annual Financial Audit

Corey VanDyke and Charles Sportel of Plante Moran presented the results of the financial audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The audit went well, and we were given an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level, in accordance with accounting principles. President Mendez expressed appreciation to Deputy Superintendent Anderson and her team for their outstanding work and positive audit outcome.

5. Communications/Public Comments

A. Public Comments – None

B. Superintendent Comments

Superintendent Rundle concurred with President Mendez's acknowledgment of the Business Office staff for their excellent audit results.

October is National Principal's Month; Superintendent Rundle stated our principals represent the best in the State of Michigan and referred to the "four-legged chair" analogy representing instruction, safety, relationships, and innovation. Appreciation was expressed for everyone's dedication and hard work.

C. Deputy Superintendent Comments

Deputy Superintendent Anderson echoed appreciation for the principals, noting the strength of the district team. She provided an update on the State Budget, indicating efforts are underway to determine accurate bottom-line net numbers.

D. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instructional Technology Comments

Assistant Superintendent Bordner reported plans to visit the StarBase Program at Battle Creek Air Force Base later this week with Principal Rob Woodrow. The GLHS Cybersecurity Team recently competed at Western Michigan University and placed 1st out of 12 teams. Congratulations to those students!

E. Board President Comments

President Mendez joined in recognizing and thanking the district's principals. Appreciation was expressed for the completion of the state budget, noting an increase in the per pupil foundation allowance and reductions in categoricals and MPSERS funding.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Board Minutes: August 18, 2025 Regular Minutes, September 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, and September 29, 2025 Special and Closed Meeting Minutes

B. Budget Report: September 2025 Budget Report

C. Accounts Payable: September 2025 Accounts Payable Report

D. New Hires: Isabelle Tackmann – GLHS Social Studies Teacher; Nikki VanPelt – GLHS Math Teacher

E. Resignation: Katlin Powell – GLMS ELA Teacher

F. Retirements: Julie Hermenitt – GLVP Foreign Language Teacher; Becky Klein – Richland Elementary 2nd Grade Teacher; Danielle Vert – GLMS ELA Teacher

It was moved by Treasurer Zervic and supported by Trustee Scott-Rhodes to approve the Consent Agenda, including acknowledgement of the retirements and many years of service. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Presentations & Reports

A. Bond Report

Trustee McCann provided an update to the Board on the projects. Bid Pack #1 is largely complete, including radiant heat installation at Kellogg, testing and balancing work at the Middle School, and boiler repairs. The project remains within budget with remaining contingency funds.

Bid Pack #2 includes storage building construction and is expected to be completed by the end of October or November, also within budget.

The Sinking Fund Projects are complete except for the Ryan Intermediate skylight replacement, which is scheduled for next summer.

B. Board of Education Community Relations Committee

The Committee met and discussed committee goals, including survey planning, bond communication, and timing of the next community survey. Members discussed increasing engagement with PTOs and members attended Richland PTO last month.

C. Board of Education Curriculum Committee

The Committee met and discussed the 6th Grade Resource Room Novels Proposal and the GLMS Musical Theater Course Proposal that will be addressed under New Business. The Committee received an update on Cultural Agility with Marcy Peake.

D. Board of Education Facilities Committee

The Committee met and discussed the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Biennial Review that will be addressed Under New Business. Viridis Design Group presented on

the Kellogg Elementary traffic flow improvement options. The estimated project cost is approximately one million dollars. The Safety & Security Subcommittee met with community partners to discuss safety in the district and community. The group meets twice a year.

E. Board of Education Finance Committee

The Committee met and discussed the financial audit, proposed Central Office Proposed Salary Structure that will be addressed under New Business, and briefly discussed the State Budget.

F. Board of Education Negotiations/Personnel Committee

The Committee met and discussed 1) Central Office Market Analysis; 2) Closed Session for Collective Bargaining; 3) Current Sub Pay Rates; 4) Transportation Update; 5) Open Positions

G. Board of Education Policy Committee

The Committee did not meet.

8. Old Business - None

9. New Business

A. Overnight Trip Request for 5th Grade

Principal Woodrow requested permission on behalf of Ryan Intermediate for the 5th Grade Trip to Sherman Lake YMCA, May 18-20, 2026, and May 20-22, 2026.

It was moved by Treasurer Zervic and supported by Secretary Paulose-Murphy to approve the Overnight Trip Request for 5th Grade as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Overnight Trip Request for Model UN – San Francisco

Principal Stoner requested permission on behalf of the GLHS Model UN, for an overnight trip to San Francisco, California, January 15-20, 2026.

It was moved by Treasurer Zervic and supported by Secretary Paulose-Murphy to approve the Overnight Trip Request for GLHS Model UN as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Overnight Trip Request for Model UN – Lansing

Principal Stoner requested permission on behalf of the GLHS Model UN, for an overnight trip to Lansing, Michigan, December 4-6, 2025.

It was moved by Treasurer Zervic and supported by Secretary Paulose-Murphy to approve the Overnight Trip Request for GLHS Model UN as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

D. 6th Grade Resource Room Novels Proposal

Assistant Superintendent Bordner presented the 6th Grade Resource Room Novels Proposal to the Board for their review.

It was moved by Secretary Paulose-Murphy, on behalf of the Curriculum Committee, to approve the 6th Grade Resource Room Novels Proposal as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

E. GLMS Musical Theater Course Proposal

Assistant Superintendent Bordner presented the GLMS Musical Theater Course Proposal to the Board for their review.

It was moved by Secretary Paulose-Murphy, on behalf of the Curriculum Committee, to approve the GLMS Musical Theater Course Proposal as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Biennial Review

Assistant Superintendent Bordner presented the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Biennial Review to the Board; per the Michigan Department of Education and Public Act (PA) 436 of 2018 the plan needs to be reviewed every two years.

It was moved by Trustee Keene, on behalf of the Facilities Committee, to approve the Emergency Operations Plan as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Central Office Proposed Salary Structure

Deputy Superintendent Anderson presented the Central Office Proposed Salary Structure to the Board. She provided a brief overview of the proposal, highlighting the importance of maintaining salary structures as it relates to the Office of Retirement Services (ORS).

10. Adjournment

There being no further business President Mendez adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

President Carole Mendez

Secretary Mini Paulose-Murphy

Minutes approved: _____