Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees
Waverly Community Schools

Opening of Meeting
The regular monthly meeting of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education was held on Monday, September 15, 2025 in the Waverly Board of Education Meeting Room, located at 515 Snow Rd., Lansing, MI 48917. President Guevara called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The pledge to the flag was led by Member Perkins.

Members Present:	Alicia Guevara Deborah Lopez Vince Perkins Cathy Pike Ty Liggons Andrea Torres
Student Representative:	Vivian Wolfe
Members Absent:	Emily Lenneman

Correspondence:
None

Public Comment for Agenda Items:
None

Board Member Comment:
Member Pike
- Visited Elmwood
- Met a Waverly high school student who is excited to read about ancient history. Thank you to Waverly staff for keeping our students engaged and excited about learning.

Member Lopez:
- Greeted students at the Middle School on the first day of school. Staff was very helpful with getting students their schedules and to classes.

Member Liggons:

- Greeted students at East Intermediate on the first day of school.
- Welcomed Superintendent Mitcham.

Member Guevara:

- Welcomed Superintendent Mitcham.
- Welcomed Student Representative Vivian Wolfe.
- Greeted students at Colt ECEC on the first day of school. Great to see students excited to go to school to start learning.
- Welcome back all staff for the 2025-26 school year.

Approval Agenda and Accept all Reports into Discussion

President Guevara requested a motion to amend the agenda to add Report #24-18, Winter Tax Levy and a closed session meeting.

A motion was presented by Member Perkins and supported by Member Lopez to amend the agenda as requested.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

A motion was presented by Member Liggons and supported by Member Torres to approve the agenda with additions as presented and accept all reports into discussion.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

Approval Consent Agenda Items

A motion was presented by Member Lopez and supported by Member Perkins to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

Committee Meetings

- None

Presentation of Reports

For Action – Report #25-17, Apprentice Program Wall at Waverly High School
A motion was presented by Member Liggons and supported by Member Perkins, to approve the Apprentice Program Wall at Waverly High School.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

For Action – Report #25-18, Winter Tax Levy
A motion was presented by Member Lopez and supported by Member Pike, to adopt the proposed winter tax levy for the City of Lansing, Delta Township, Lansing Township, Watertown Township and Windsor Township.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Mitcham reported:

- Excited to be at Waverly Community Schools.
- Have spent time in each school building and service building and recognize the outstanding staff at Waverly Community Schools.
- Construction update – a full report will be included in the board minutes
    - At the high school the baseball path concrete replacement, painting, roller shades in classroom
    - At the middle school – tiling in bathrooms, ceilings installed
    - At Winans – steel and roof removal, roller shades in classrooms
    - At Elmwood – new paved parking lot
    - At Colt – starting basic abatement work

- Budget update – need to have an education friendly budget
    - Encourages all to reach out to state legislature
- Sinking Fund renewal on November ballot – no tax increase renewal
    - Will send an informational flyer to all in 48917 zip code
- Advanced Peace – Community-based violence prevention program. WCS has contracte3d with Advanced Peace to be involved at Waverly High School. Advanced Pease will give a presentation to the board at the October regular meeting.

Public Comment – Open Comment for District Issues

The following individuals gave a public comment:
Community Member Arnold Weinfeld – Elmwood construction
WEA member Nellie Jurgess –Special Education and Human Resources
WEA member Matt Oppenhim – Staffing concerns
WEA member Mike Shuptar – Class offerings and class sizes

WESPA member Rhonda Snook – School library staffing
WESPA member Chelsea Ott – Special Education
Student parent Natasha Ortega – Student Code of Conduct violations
WEA member Nate Jarvie – Staffing
Student Camryn Murray – Orchestra concerns
Rasaad Long – Orchestra concerns
Luke Hollenbaugh – Class size concerns

Other Board Business
None

A motion was presented by Vince Perkins and supported by Member Lopez to go into closed session for the purpose of attorney/client privileged discussion.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Torres – Yes	Member Lopez - Yes
Member Pike – Yes	Member Guevara - Yes
Member Perkins – Yes	Member Liggons – Yes

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

The board exited open session at 7:00 pm.
The board returned to open session at 9:05 pm.

A motion was presented by Vince Perkins and supported by Member Liggons to accept the investigation resolution as presented.

Motion PASSED
Vote: Ayes – 6 ; Nays – 0; Absent – 1 Member Lenneman

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vince Perkins, Secretary
aml

Superintendents Report September 25, 2025

Week 1

- So excited to be here! Day 6 😊
- I have sincerely appreciated the warm welcome I have experienced from the good people of Waverly Community Schools (WCS). All the smiles, handshakes, kind notes and information sharing have been wonderful. Thank you.
- I **used** to think I knew what it meant to "Drink from the firehose" … Now I really know! Maybe it's like moving to a new country… Everything is similar but different. However, I am so glad to be here, and I am doing my best to climb up this learning curve!
- There have been many highlights from my first week on the job – but none better than the time I spent in each of our 6 buildings and our transportation center. These were quick visits but already I can tell that WCS employees love our students and are working hard to support them and teach them. Students are learning and growing – getting all that the Pre K – 12th grade experience has to offer! I have been nothing but impressed!

Construction Update

- I have attended my first WCS Owner Architect Construction (OAC) Meeting – Great job by Evan!
- **Coordination & Schedule**
    a. **High School**
- Restrooms: Pluming UG done and inspected, electrical UG inspection tomorrow, concrete infill next week with plumbing rough in to follow
- Ramp: Walls placed and forms pulled, backfill to follow
- Concrete replacement by the baseball path underway now, going to follow up with north side of high school

- Painting the old office entrance started with prep yesterday
- Plans for Bulletin 16 Entrance
- Powdercoat Railing at Ramp
- Pit Cover Installed week of 9/15
- Ladder for Roof Access
- Replace locketset with new
- Lights in Panels at entrance
- Hole in frame at Entrance
- Roof Leaks & Cafeteria Stains
- Rollershades 9/15 week

a. **Middle School**

Occupied Spaces:

- Tile complete in 4 bathrooms. Ready to hang fixtures. Turn over next week. Take over 3 more.
- Hallway flooring
- Cut down doors
- Glass for bump out
- Doors by Gym

Area "D" – Front Entrance & Office:

- Column Splice
- Ceilings installed by 9/12
- Lights dropping starting 9/14
- Fire Suppression 9/15
- Storefront system 3 weeks for delivery: **RFI**
- Coordinate field measuring for panels 9/14
- Move in possible Oct 15 (no panels)
- RFI: DT Watermain
    b. **Winans**
- Foundations Underway
- Steel & Roof Removal Underway
- Gym Roofing Sept 19. (Leak at Main office curb sealed)
- Bathroom Ceilings in Area A & Tile
- Blocking for Metal Panels 9/16
- Rollershades week of 9/15
- Cores & Locker tops are in. Confirm install.

- Coat Hooks Send RFI
- Camera for line under area C

c. **Elmwood**

- Site Utilities Underway
- Parking Lot Paved
- Building Pad Underway (Undercut)
- Temp Wall & Sidewalk 9/12 – 9/16
- Construction Fence

d. **Colt**

- Schedule
- Estimate Review week of 9/15
- Start Next Week
- Abatement 9/22 (coordinate)
- Dumpster Coordination

- Working hard to do everything we can to stay **on time and under budget!**

State Budget

- Last week I was a participant in a Press Conference sponsored by the Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators (MASA).
- 40-50 Superintendents from all over the State gathered at the MASA headquarters here in Lansing, in front of all our local media outlets to send a message of solidarity to our state legislators that a K-12 education friendly state budget needs to be passed before October1. As we have all heard in the news, if a budget is not passed by October 1 – The state government would face a shut down. If that were to happen, The October 20th state aid payment to schools could be at risk.
- After the press conference, 20-25 of us went to the State Capital while the legislature was in session. I personally had the opportunity to speak with Senator Sarah Anthony about what we needed in the education budget.
- We are fortunate in Waverly that we do have a healthy savings account (fund balance) – So in the event of a short-term government shut down - our savings along with some timely tax revenue collections – we will be OK. We will be able to carry on as normal.
- However, I would argue that this is a self-imposed crisis by our state government. The House and Senate have not been able to come to an agreement and as a result we have this problem – I would very much like to avoid spending any of our hard-earned savings in this way. So I encourage all of us to reach out to our legislators to urge them to pass a state budget that is supportive for K-12 education before October 1.

Sinking Fund Renewal

- On November 4 election ballot, 2025 WCS will seek a Sinking Fund Renewal from our voters. This no tax increase renewal will fund district infrastructure improvements and maintenance for the next 10 years. We are currently working on an informational flyer to go out to the 48917-voting area before ballots go out to voters at the end of this month. We will also run an informational “blurb” in the Delta Township newsletter.

Advance Peace

- Advance Peace is a community-based violence prevention program that focuses on reducing gun violence by engaging with individuals most at risk of being involved in firearm related incidents. The program follows a public health approach treating gun violence as a preventable issue rather than solely a law enforcement issue.
    - We have contracted Advance Peace to be involved at WHS.
    - I would like them to come present at our October 20 Board Meeting.
    - Thank you to Shawn Lewis for spearheading this effort!

Reminder

- No School for students Friday, September 19. This is a professional learning day for our staff.