MASON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
March 19, 2026
Mason City Hall
201 W. Ash St., Suite 2A
Mason, MI 48854
7:00 PM

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Liz Evans, President.

Present: Christopher Mumby, Steve Duane, Matt Bennett, Amy Lark, Lacy Harding, Liz Evans and Bryan Droscha

Not available:

Also Present: Dr. Gary Kinzer, Superintendent; Randy Barton, Asst. Superintendent of Academic Services. Tracey Wooden, Chief Financial Officer; Rick Brooks, Director of Human Resources

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Steve Duane made and Bryan Droscha supported a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS
None.

SPECIAL REPORTS/RECOGNITION
Robotics Presentation
Steve Duane introduced Ethan, Leo and Izzy from the Impact Presentation Team of the Mason First Robotics Program - Team 3655, the Tractor Technicians. The Impact Presentation Team does presentations on the impact the team makes year-round. Ethan, Leo and Izzy shared about the program, the services and support they provide to others and the outreach they do.

Bond Presentation
Dr. Kinzer introduced Kevin Donnelly from Plante Moran Realpoint (PMR). Mr. Donnelly provided a bond presentation including an overview of PMR's scope of services and bond implementation action plan. He provided a professional services procurement update and a 2025 bond program project overview. There was time allowed at the end for questions.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
None.

COMMUNICATIONS
There will be several presentations for the Board over the next several months, including a Professional Learning Community (PLC) presentation and a presentation on the progress made towards district goals, as identified in the strategic plan.

OLD BUSINESS
None.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Amy Lark made and Steve Duane supported a motion to approve the consent agenda, including approval of the minutes of the February 12, 2026 regular meeting; Personnel Report No. 17 Financial Report No. 18; including payment of General Fund bills in the amount of $2,397,374.62, Food Service Fund bills in the amount of $141,206.61, Student Activities Fund bills in the amount of $5,371.52, Sinking Fund Bills in the amount of $15,522.53 and Capital Project Fund bills in the amount of $0.00, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

COMMITTEE AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

FINANCE AND PROPERTY

The Finance and Property Committee met on March 5, 2026. There was a closed session to discuss the purchase of real estate. There was no public comment. The committee discussed the athletic training services contract renewal that will be recommended to the full board for approval. There was discussion about the condition of athletic facilities. A monthly budget update was provided by Tracey Wooden. Kevin Donnelly from Plante Moran Realpoint shared the next steps for the 2025 bond, including the bond authorizing resolution that will go to the board this evening for approval. The committee reviewed a recommendation for device purchases for students and staff. They talked about bond contract approvals for GMB and Christman, but there is no action at this time. Parking lot bids were discussed and will go to the full board this evening. The committee was informed that the district does not have old vehicles that are not in use. The meeting adjourned at 6:14pm. The next meeting is Thursday, April 9, 2026.

Athletic Training Services Contract Renewal

Christopher Mumby made and Steve Duane supported a motion to approve the athletic training service contract renewal, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Device Purchases

Christopher Mumby made and Bryan Droscha supported a motion to approve the device purchases from People Driven Technology, in the amount of $275,727.20 to be funded by the General Fund, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

2026 School Building and Site Bond Sale, Series 1 Proposal

Christopher Mumby made and Steve Duane supported a motion to approve the 2026 School Building and Site Bond Sale, Series 1 proposal, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Roll Call Vote:

Harding-Y
Evans-Y
Bennett-Y
Duane-Y
Lark-Y
Droscha-Y
Mumby-Y

Parking Lot Bids

Reith-Riley

Christopher Mumby made and Bryan Droscha supported a motion to award the Alaiedon and North Aurelius parking lot contract to Reith-Riley in the amount of $288,717, to be funded by the sinking fund, as presented. Discussion Followed. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

CURRICULUM AND STAFF

The Curriculum and Staff Committee met on February 26, 2026. There was no public comment. Rick Brooks provided a staffing report. Randy Barton provided a Sex Education Advisory Board update, including term limits and consent lessons. He presented on the January 23rd professional development day. Randy provided an ELA review update. Nice Job Notes were discussed. The meeting adjourned at 5:45pm. The next meeting is March 26, 2026.

Nice Job Notes

Nice Job Notes were shared.

POLICY AND COMMUNITY

The Policy and Community Committee met on February 19, 2026. A public comment was made. Overnight and Out-of-State field trips were reviewed and will be brought to the full board for approval. The committee reviewed superintendent approved donations and one donation that will be brought to the full board for approval. Dr. Kinzer discussed bond related communication and a bond presentation that will take place at the March full board meeting. NEOLA Policy updates were reviewed. The full board will vote on one of the policies at the March meeting. The committee was updated on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) work taking place. The meeting adjourned at 5:43pm. The Policy and Community Committee also met on March 19, 2026 just before the full board meeting. The minutes of the March 19th meeting will be available on the agenda for the April 16th Board of Education meeting. The next Policy and Community Committee meeting is April 23, 2026.

Overnight and Out-of-State Field Trips

Mason Middle School Robotics to Saginaw Valley State university April 16-18, 2026

Amy Lark made and Matt Bennett supported a motion to approve the Mason Middle School Robotics field trip to Saginaw Valley State University April 16-18, 2026, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Mason High School Science Students to Costa Rica June of 2027

Amy Lark made and Matt Bennett supported a motion to approve the Mason High School science field trip to Costa Rica in 2027, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Mason Middle School 7th Graders to Mystic Lake Camp October 12-16, 2026

Amy Lark made and Matt Bennett supported a motion to approve the Mason Middle School seventh grade field trip to Mystic Lake October 12-16, 2026, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Gifts and Bequests

Eleanor Brownell Trust Donation

Amy Lark made and Matt Bennett supported a motion to approve the Eleanor Brownell Trust Donation, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

NEOLA Policy Update – First Reading

Po 5517.01 Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior Towards Students

NEOLA Policy Update – Second Reading

Po 7250.01 Memorials

Amy Lark made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve policy 7250.01, as presented. Discussion followed.

Steve Duane made and Lacy Harding supported a motion to amend the motion for policy 7250.01 by striking everything from the hyphen through the end of the bullet in point H, under unacceptable memorials. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Bryan Droscha moved and Matt Bennett supported a motion to amend the motion for policy 7250.01 by changing the last sentence in point A under Acceptable Memorials to 'The cards or banner will be put away after up to five school days after the incident and be given to the family.' Motion carried. 5-2

Matt Bennett moved and Bryan Droscha supported a motion to amend the motion for policy 7250.01 by striking item I under unacceptable memorials. Motion failed. 2-5

Liz Evans made and Christopher Mumby supported a motion to approve policy 7250.01, as amended. Motion carried. 6-1

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Kinzer shared a strong recommendation for Mary Hilker-Loch as the next principal at Mason Middle School.

Middle School Principal Recommendation

Steve Duane made and Liz Evans supported a motion to approve Mary Hilker-Loch, as the next Mason Middle School Principal, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Dr. Kinzer informed listeners that the Mason High School Play, Clue, is this weekend.

There is no school March 27, 2026 and Spring Break is March 30 through April 3.

The Harvey Education Center principal position posting closed earlier this week. The district will use the same process to fill this position as they did for the MMS Principal position.

Melissa Netzel and Randy Barton are working on a Profession Learning Community (PLC) presentation for the Board.

Betsy Collins was awarded the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Education award.

PUBLIC REQUESTS/COMMENTS

None.

CLOSED SESSION: To Consider the Purchase of Real Estate

Steve Duane made and Matt Bennett supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of considering the purchase of real estate. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Roll Call Vote:

Droscha-Y
Mumby-Y
Bennett-Y
Duane-Y
Lark-Y
Harding-Y
Evans-Y

The Board entered into closed session at 8:26 p.m.

The minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's office as provided by P.A. 167 of the Public Acts of 1976.

The Board returned to open session at 9:00 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Steve Duane made and Bryan Droscha supported a motion to approve the minutes from the closed session, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

CLOSED SESSION: To Discuss Labor Negotiations

Amy Lark made and Steve Duane supported a motion to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

Roll Call Vote:

Duane-Y
Lark-Y
Droscha-Y
Mumby-Y
Bennett-Y
Harding-Y
Evans-Y

The Board entered into closed session at 9:01 p.m.

The minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's office as provided by P.A. 167 of the Public Acts of 1976.

The Board returned to open session at 9:20 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Steve Duane made and Matt Droscha supported a motion to approve the minutes from the closed session, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

2026-27 School Year Calendar Proposal
Christopher Mumby made and Amy Lark supported a motion to approve the proposed 2026-2027 school year calendar, as presented. All yes. Motion carried. 7-0

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

_____Dr. Amy Lark, Board Secretary