

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A TIMELY, TRANSPARENT, AND ADEQUATELY FUNDED FY 2026–27 SCHOOL AID BUDGET

Lake Orion Community Schools, Lake Orion, Michigan (the "District")

A regular meeting of the board of education of the District was held Orion Township Hall, on the 27th day of May, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Danielle Bresett, President.

Present: Members

Absent: Members

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member _____ and supported by Member _____:

WHEREAS, public education is the foundation of a strong democracy, workforce, and economy, providing essential opportunities for all students to succeed; and

WHEREAS, Michigan school districts are currently planning staffing, programming, and student services for the 2026–27 school year and require a finalized state budget in order to make responsible and informed decisions; and

WHEREAS, failure to adopt the School Aid budget before the statutory July 1 deadline creates uncertainty that disrupts hiring, delays programming decisions, and negatively impacts students, educators, and families; and

WHEREAS, a budget process that lacks transparency or excludes meaningful input from educators and school leaders undermines public trust and results in less effective policy outcomes; and

WHEREAS, school districts across Michigan continue to face rising operational costs, including staffing, transportation, utilities, and student support services; and

WHEREAS, funding increases that do not keep pace with inflation result in real reductions to district purchasing power and negatively affect the quality of educational programs and services available to students; and

WHEREAS, the School Aid Fund was established to support K–12 education, and continued diversion of these funds to non-K–12 purposes weakens the state's ability to provide stable and adequate funding for public schools; and

WHEREAS, research conducted by the School Finance Research Collaborative demonstrates the need for a more equitable and adequate funding model, including a weighted foundation allowance that provides additional resources for students with greater needs; and

WHEREAS, programs such as Section 147, which supports school districts in managing legacy retirement costs, and Section 31aa, which supports school safety and student mental health, are critical to maintaining safe, stable, and effective learning environments; and

WHEREAS, maintaining flexibility at the local level allows school districts to respond effectively to the unique needs of their students and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lake Orion Community Schools Board of Education calls on the Michigan Legislature and the Governor to adopt a School Aid budget for fiscal year 2026–27 that is timely, transparent, and responsive to the needs of students and school communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lake Orion Community Schools Board of Education urges the Legislature to complete the School Aid budget prior to July 1 to ensure districts can plan responsibly for the upcoming school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board calls for a minimum foundation allowance increase at least equal to the rate of inflation, recognizing that anything less constitutes a reduction in real funding for schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board urges the State to protect the integrity of the School Aid Fund by prioritizing its use for K–12 education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board supports continued progress toward a research-based, weighted funding formula that more equitably meets the needs of all students, including those who are economically disadvantaged and English learners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board calls for the maintenance of current funding levels for Section 147 to ensure continued progress in managing legacy retirement obligations without disrupting district finances; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board supports continued funding for school safety and student mental health programs, including Section 31aa, with restored flexibility to allow districts to meet local needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board encourages policymakers to provide stable, predictable, and sustainable funding that allows districts to make long-term investments in student success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, members of the Michigan Legislature, and other relevant state officials to advocate for policies that support Michigan’s students, educators, and communities.

Adopted this 27th day of May, 2026, by the Lake Orion Community Schools Board of Education

Ayes: Members

Nays: Members

Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Lake Orion Community Schools, Lake Orion, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education at a regular meeting held on May 27, 2026, the original of which resolution is a part of the Board’s minutes, and further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

Secretary, Board of Education