

**NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR SESSION
Performing Arts Center
1112 E. Clay Street
P.O. Box 280
New Buffalo, MI 49117
April 14, 2025
6:00 PM**

New Buffalo Area Schools will be a beacon of academic excellence and individualized learning, where every student thrives in a supportive and inclusive environment. We will lead in preparing students for future success, driven by strong community partnerships and a commitment to growth and sustainability.

1. Call to Order by President Lisa Werner - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
2. Roll Call: Denise Churchill, Stephen Donnelly, John Haskins, Jennifer Summers, Vanessa Thun, Greg Vosberg, Lisa Werner
Absent: Churchill
Also in Attendance: Mr. Adam Bowen, Superintendent of Schools
Devinnie Wysocki, Adm. Asst. to Superintendent
3. Expressions from the Public: None
4. Items too Late for Printed Agenda
5. Adoption of the Agenda
Motion: Thun
Second: Haskins
All ayes, motion carried.
6. Communications
A. Class President: Bianca Ilescas-Villa - 11th Grade
Students have been completing surveys this past week. Recent change in PowerSchool related to GPA, this change was showing students GPA per trimester and not as a whole. Spring sports are in full swing. Thank you to the Board for their continued support.
7. Committee Report(s)
8. Presentation: Ashley Jager - Visual Arts Department/Art Attack
Presented on the Art Attack Launch Party. A student showcase and open mic night featuring Debutants at the Acorn Theater, Thursday, April 24: 5:00 PM - Doors open for the event, 6:30 PM – Art Talk Q&A on stage with Janet Davies. 7:00 PM – Music from the Debutants and Open Mic. NBAS K-12 Art Exhibit Saturday, April 26 – Sunday, April 27, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. NBAS STEAM Building.
9. Presentation: Denise Tuszynski – BISON Education Trust Scholarship
Presented on the Bison Education Trust Scholarship, detailing data from 2010 to 2024. This included the number of eligible graduates per class, the percentage of funds utilized, and the count of degrees/certifications earned. She also shared inspiring success stories and career paths from multiple graduates. (Full report attached)

10. Presentation: Strategic Scorecard/Data - Middle School Principal: Dan Caudle
Presented on the Fall to Winter NWEA Data, PBIS, NBMS Wellness Team Initiatives. Guaranteed & Viable Curriculum (Prioritizing Standards, Updated Pacing Guides, Creating Standards Based Formative & Summative Assessments). (Full report attached)
11. The Superintendent recommends the Board hire Bryan Ripley in the position of Construction Trades Instructor, pending background check.
Motion: Donnelly
Second: Haskins
All ayes, motion carried.
12. Remarks from the Superintendent
- Robotics qualified for Worlds which is located in Huston, Texas. This is the first time our team has qualified for Worlds. They left this morning. The competition begins on Wednesday and concludes on Saturday. The Bionic Bison stats are as follows: 37 / 525 in MI, 169 / 2927 in the US, and 206 / 3690 Worldwide. Congratulations and good luck!
 - Today, Studer was on site to support our ongoing improvement efforts. The primary focus was the rollout of our district-wide survey results. We're aiming for consistent and thoughtful implementation across all departments and buildings, ensuring fidelity in both the process and outcomes. Brent provided a valuable demonstration on how to effectively engage staff in reviewing and acting on the survey data. In addition, he led a review of our current strategic plan. I'm pleased to share that we've made significant progress—several key items can now be considered completed. Looking ahead, we will be identifying and assigning "Pillar Champions" for each area of our strategic plan. These individuals will help gather insights, develop actionable goals, and define success measures for the coming year. Their work will drive the trimester updates that the board will receive throughout the next school year. Our goal is to have a full strategic update finalized and ready for implementation by August 1.
 - State testing is currently underway for all students in grades 3 through 12. You may hear the names MSTEP, PSAT, and SAT mentioned during this time. These assessments provide us with valuable data that we take seriously, as they offer important insights into student learning and progress. In fact, state assessment results play a central role in how we evaluate the academic pillar of our strategic plan. While they represent just one part of a larger picture, they help us understand how effectively our instruction is reaching students and where we may need to adjust or improve.
 - Blood Drive Thursday, April 24th from 8:30AM-1:30PM our High School National Honors Society will be hosting our spring school/community blood drive in the Blue Gym.
13. Remarks from the Board President and Members:
Summers: Amazed at the great work the staff is doing and the great reports on student data.
14. Discussion Item(s)
A. The Superintendent approved the following hire:
Jose Martinez - Assistant Varsity Soccer Coach
15. Other Business
16. Adjournment
Motion: Summers
Second: Thun
All ayes, motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Thun, Secretary
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