

The Kent ISD School Board held a regular meeting at the Kent Conference Center on Monday, February 16, 2026. President Haidle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Drake, Hamming, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle.

Member Absent:

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Gorman, Assistant Superintendents Finkel, Fee, Philipps, Rodgers, Gardner, Myers; Directors Arnold, Baine, Behm, Burns, Campbell, Graham, Hendry, Hissong, Hofstee, Houtman, Karsten, Lienesch, Lillis, McClintic, Moore, Sneider, Store, Verwey; Recording Secretary Lovell; Staff Members: Cinnamon Mellema

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Assistant Superintendent of Technology Services, Glen Finkel, presented an overview of Artificial Intelligence and outlined the development of a long-term AI strategy. He highlighted upcoming professional learning opportunities, including the AI Summit 2026, and shared resources for families, such as a micro-learning series focused on AI for parents that will launch soon. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions after the presentation. President Haidle expressed appreciation to the Educational Technology team for their outstanding work and leadership in this area.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Schottke, it was resolved to combine and approve action items D.1-D.16.

Ayes: Drake, Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve contracting with Katerberg Verhage to replace and improve the parking lots and additional updates at Lincoln School.

Ayes: Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Schottke, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve contracting with Michigan Paving and Materials to replace and improve the asphalt and fencing at Pine Grove Learning Center.

Ayes: Schottke, Hamming, Drake, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the purchase of 132 desktop computers from SEHI Computer products for Secondary programs.

Ayes: Hamming, Drake, Featherston, Schottke, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Schottke, it was resolved to approve the bid from Shareco Communications for a three-year contract for fiber maintenance services.

Ayes: Drake, Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Upon motion of Member Featherston, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the bid from Sentinel for Cisco network switches for Center Programs.

Ayes: Featherston, Schottke, Hamming, Drake, Featherston, Haidle

Nays: None

***Motion declared to have carried.***

Assistant Superintendent Kevin Philipps provided a brief overview of the budget assumptions for the upcoming year based on the Governor’s recent budget proposal.

President Haidle offered the opportunity for public comment. No comments were given.

Superintendent Gorman shared that he, along with several Board members, attended an event hosted by former Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, who is currently a candidate for Governor. The event provided an opportunity to hear his perspective on education and his priorities related to advancing student success.

Due to the federal holiday and the mid-winter break, the Leading Learning Awards were paused and will resume at the March Board meeting. Dr. Gorman thanked Glen Finkel and the Ed Tech team for their comprehensive presentation. Finally, he noted that this week’s press release announcing the new CTE center at the former Dutton Elementary site has received positive feedback, with many community partners expressing enthusiasm for the new facility.

President Haidle adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Minutes approved on March 16, 2026

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Andrea Haidle, President

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David Drake, Secretary