

East Lansing Public Schools  
Regular Meeting  
January 26, 2026 7:00 PM

MacDonald Middle School Auditorium  
1601 Burcham Dr  
East Lansing, MI 48823

**I. Opening of Meeting**

**I.A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Lyons.

**I.B. Roll Call**

Chambers: Present, Edsall: Present, Faris-Hylen: Present, Lyons: Present, Martin: Present, Torrez: Present, Tykocki: Present.

Student Representative Dijagah: Absent, Meghea: Absent

Superintendent Leyko: Present

**I.C. Mission Statement: Nurturing Each Child, Educating All Students, Building World Citizens**

The mission statement was read by Trustee Tykocki.

**I.D. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion: 25-26/072: I move that the Board of Education approve the January 26, 2026, regular meeting agenda, as presented.*

This motion, made by Edsall and seconded by Tykocki, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

**I.E. Approval of Minutes**

*Motion: 25-26/073: I move that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the following meetings:*

I.E.1. January 12, 2026, regular meeting

I.E.2. January 16, 2026, special meeting

This motion, made by Chambers and seconded by Tykocki, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

**II. Recognition**

There was no recognition reported.

**III. Student Representative Report**

There was no Student Representative report.

**IV. Superintendent's Report**

Please click [here](#) for the Superintendent's Report.

**V. Public Comment**

This is the opportunity to address the Board. Speakers are to confine their remarks to five minutes. If a speaker requires more than five minutes, after all other persons who have requested to speak during this part of the meeting have spoken, that speaker will be allowed additional time. The Superintendent or other district staff may comment to clear up or avoid significant misunderstandings.

- Kristen Pfaendtner - Hiring of Dorcas Shumake as Associate Principal

**VI. Board Discussion**

There were no items for Board Discussion.

**VII. Action Items****VII.A. MacDonald Middle School Roof Bids**

*Motion: 25-26/074: I move that the Board of Education award the bid for the replacement of the MacDonald Middle School roof to Royal West Roofing in the amount of \$843,000 and approve RS Consultants to provide construction management and quality assurance services for the project for \$36,250.*

This motion, made by Edsall and seconded by Faris-Hylen, Passed.

**Discussion:**

Trustee Edsall inquired whether this project was part of the ongoing roof section replacements at MacDonald Middle School (MMS).

Lisa Allen, Director of Finance, explained that the MMS roof has developed multiple leaks over time that have been repaired as needed. However, the condition has now reached the point where full roof replacement is necessary. She noted that the project is included in the sinking fund budget and that the bid process was started early to secure the most competitive pricing.

Trustee Martin asked whether construction would take place during the summer and whether any portion of the project would be funded through the Bond fund.

Lisa Allen responded that the project will not be funded through the Bond fund. Superintendent Leyko added that roof replacement is not eligible for Bond fund dollars. She also noted that other projects—such as door lock upgrades, carpet,

concrete work, and parking lot improvements—are planned for this spring and summer.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

**VII.B. High School Germany Trip in the Summer of 2027**

Motion: 25-26/075: I move that the Board of Education approve the trip request from Robert Filter and Adam Orange for a high school trip to Germany in the summer of 2027.

This motion, made by Chambers and seconded by Martin, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

Robert Filter spoke about the upcoming exchange trip, celebrating 45 years of partnership with Siebold Gymnasium in Würzburg, Germany. This past summer, 14 students and 5 adults traveled to Germany, and in September, the school hosted 20 students and 2 teachers from the partner school. The program provides a valuable opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of international allies and friends in Europe.

Mr. Filter requested early approval of the trip so that students and families can plan financially as needed. The travel company also offers financial aid and scholarships for those interested. This program aligns with our mission of Building World Citizens, and he shared details about what the trip will entail for participating students.

**VII.C. Fiber Infrastructure Maintenance Agreement**

Motion: 25-26/076: I move that the Board of Education approve the annual Fiber Maintenance Agreement with FIBERLINK for \$28,000.

This motion, made by Tykocki and seconded by Edsall, Passed.

**Discussion:**

Christian Palasty, Director of Technology, Media Services, and Communication, spoke about three action items. Approval of these items represents the next step in a longer funding process, in which the district is responsible for only 20% of the total invoice.

The first item is the standard maintenance agreement for the fiber network owned by the district throughout the City of East Lansing. This network connects all district buildings back to the high school.

The second item involves replacing aging fiber infrastructure inside both the high school and middle school.

The final item is part of the district's ongoing rotation schedule to replace power supplies located in wiring closets throughout the buildings.

All three items are budgeted through the sinking fund.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

VII.D. **Fiber Installation**

*Motion: 25-26/077: I move that the Board of Education approve the Fiber Installation contract with Laketec in the amount of \$45,797.50.*

This motion, made by Chambers and seconded by Martin, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

VII.E. **Purchase of UPS Devices**

*Motion: 25-26/078: I move that the Board of Education approve the purchase of UPS hardware from MOSS in the amount of \$84,554.72.*

This motion, made by Edsall and seconded by Faris-Hylen, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

VII.F. **Hiring of Dorcas Shumake as Associate Principal, East Lansing High School**

*Motion: 25-26/079: I move that the Board of Education approve the contract for Dorcas Shumake as Associate Principal at East Lansing High School, effective January 27, 2026.*

This motion, made by Faris-Hylen and seconded by Chambers, Passed.

Chambers: Aye, Edsall: Aye, Faris-Hylen: Aye, Lyons: Aye, Martin: Aye, Torrez: Aye, Tykocki: Aye

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

Board members welcomed Dorcas Shumake and expressed their excitement about her stepping into the role. Ms. Shumake shared that she is happy to serve as the new Associate Principal at East Lansing High School.

**VIII. Committee Reports**

VIII.A. Academic and Technology Committee

The next meeting will be on February 2 at 12:00 pm in the HUB.

VIII.B. Facilities Committee

The next meeting will be on January 30 at 1:30 pm in the HUB.

VIII.C. Finance Committee

The next meeting will be on February 2 at 1:00 pm in the HUB.

VIII.D. Intergovernmental Relations

The next meeting will be on February 3 at 11:00 am in the HUB.

VIII.E. Personnel Committee

No report

VIII.F. Policy Committee

The next meeting will be on February 2 at 10:30 am in the HUB.

VIII.G. Ingham School Officers Association (ISOA)

The next meeting will be on February 4 at 8:00 am via Zoom.

**IX. Announcements**

IX.A. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education is February 9, 2026.

IX.B. Superintendent Leyko noted that the next regular Board meeting will be held at MacDonald Middle School. She also shared that the February 23 meeting may be held at the new administration building.

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

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President

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Secretary