



BOARD OF EDUCATION of the LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL DISTRICT
15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 (734) 744-2510

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of November 17, 2025

President Bradford convened the meeting at 6:31 pm

Members Present: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland

Members Absent: Johnson

Recognition of
American
Education Week

It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District designate November 17-21, 2025 as the 104th annual observance of American Education Week.

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility, and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, public education employees work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, schools unite entire communities, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District do hereby proclaim November 17 – 21, 2025 as the 104th annual observance of

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

And urge all citizens to make a commitment to public education and to the future of our children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education take this special occasion to thank Livonia Public Schools employees, parents, and community volunteers for the work they do to educate and support the children of our school district.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland

Nays: None

Recognition of
Educators and

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. MacFarland that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School

Support Staff of the Year

District adopts resolutions for the 2025-2026 Educators and Support Staff of the Year:

Jessica Thimm

WHEREAS, The Trustees of the Board of Education are desirous of recognizing and promoting excellence in education in this school district; and

WHEREAS, Jessica Thimm, sixth-grade teacher at Cooper Upper Elementary, and an 8-year employee of Livonia Public Schools, has distinguished herself by being named Elementary Educator of the Year for 2025-2026 by a district-wide committee; and

WHEREAS, In achieving that recognition, it is evident that she is an exceptional educator, going far beyond the expected range of her duties to meet the needs of students, colleagues, parents, and others; and

WHEREAS, Jessica exhibits, daily, that she is a tireless advocate for students, a collaborative leader among staff, and a role model for positivity and integrity at Cooper Upper Elementary and in Livonia Public Schools through her heartfelt commitment to students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Jessica Thimm for being named Elementary Educator of the Year for 2025-2026 and for the dedication and loyal service she has rendered to Livonia Public Schools, her students, and the community.

Leah Gagnon

WHEREAS, The Trustees of the Board of Education are desirous of recognizing and promoting excellence in education in this school district; and

WHEREAS, Leah Gagnon, Health Sciences teacher at the Livonia Career Technical Center, and a 9-year employee of Livonia Public Schools, has distinguished herself by being named Secondary Educator of the Year for 2025-2026 by a district-wide committee; and

WHEREAS, In achieving that recognition, it is evident that she is an exceptional educator, going far beyond the expected range of her duties to meet the needs of students, colleagues, parents, and others; and

WHEREAS, Leah is deeply committed to providing professional instruction in the field of health sciences, while purposefully and genuinely building relationships with her students through creative lessons and personal guidance as they contemplate careers in the Health Sciences field.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Leah Gagnon for being named Secondary Educator of the Year for 2025-2026 and for the dedication and loyal service she has rendered to Livonia Public Schools, her students, and the community.

Melissa Bater

WHEREAS, The Trustees of the Board of Education are desirous of recognizing and promoting excellence in education in this school district; and

WHEREAS, Melissa Bater, a paraprofessional at Franklin High School, and a 12-year employee of Livonia Public Schools, has distinguished herself by being named Support Staff of the Year for 2025-2026 by a district-wide committee; and

WHEREAS, In achieving that recognition, it is evident that she is an exceptional educator, going far beyond the expected range of her duties to meet the needs of students, colleagues, parents, and others; and

WHEREAS, Melissa exemplifies compassion, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to student success by providing individualized academic and emotional support to empower her learners to grow in confidence, independence, and achievement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Melissa Bater for being named Support Staff of the Year for 2025-2026 and for the dedication and loyal service she has rendered to Livonia Public Schools, her students, and the community.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland

	Nays: None
District Update from the Superintendent	Superintendent Oquist shared highlights of activities and events happening around the District as well as many District points of pride.
Audience Communications	None
Consent Agenda	<p>It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following Consent Agenda items:</p> <p>V.A. *Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 11, 2025 V.B. *Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2025 VI.A. *Purchase of Bulk Salt</p> <p>Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland Nays: None</p>
Approval of 2026 Bond Contracts	<p>It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Acosta that the board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation from Plante Moran Realpoint and Clark Construction Company to award contracts and project budgets for Phase 5, Bid Package #1 of the 2026 renovations at Garfield, Niji-Iro, and Webster schools, in the total amount of \$9,918,227, including construction costs, fees and contingency.</p> <p>Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland Nays: None</p>
*Approval of Purchase of Bulk Salt	The Board of Education annually considers the purchase of bulk salt within a single consent agenda vote, which was unanimously approved.
Approval of Purchase of Hydration Stations	<p>It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of hydration station for various buildings in the district from Spartan Construction Inc, Livonia, MI for a total cost of \$483,000.</p> <p>Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland Nays: None</p>

Approval of Purchase of Lockdown Shades	<p>It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mr. MacFarland that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase and installation of lockdown safety shades from Taylor Nightlock, Clio, MI for a total cost of \$45,095.68.</p> <p>Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland Nays: None</p>
Approval of Purchase of Physical Education and Field House Fans	<p>It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of portable fans for the gymnasiums and field houses at all Upper Elementary, Middle and High Schools. The fans will be purchased from Big Ass Fans, located in Lexington, KY at a total cost of \$113,874.00</p> <p>Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland Nays: None</p>
Approval of Purchase of District Generator for Central Office Complex	<p>It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation to purchase a stationary generator from Innovated Energy Controls, LLC, Howell, MI in the total amount of \$435,000.</p> <p>Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland Nays: None</p>
Teacher for Tenure	<p>It was unanimously agreed upon to remove this item from the agenda due to an error.</p>
Retirement	<p>It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt resolutions of appreciation for services rendered by:</p>

Amy Brillhart

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Amy Brillhart will retire from the district on January 19, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, Amy Brillhart has devoted 28.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Garfield Elementary, Washington Elementary, Hull Elementary, Roosevelt Elementary, Nankin Mills Elementary, Holmes Middle School and Stevenson High School as a teacher; and,

WHEREAS, She has made many contributions to the educational profession and has touched the lives of countless students during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby congratulate Amy Brillhart on her years of service to the educational profession and expresses publicly its sincere appreciation and offers its best wishes for her retirement.

Julie Ertman

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Julie Ertman will retire from the district on January 6, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, Julie Ertman has devoted 12.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a special education paraprofessional at Coolidge Elementary and Webster Elementary; and,

WHEREAS, She has given conscientious, careful, and loyal service to the students, staff, and community during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby express its deep appreciation to Julie Ertman for her countless contributions to our school system and extends best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding retirement.

Jennifer Esparza

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Jennifer Esparza will retire from the district on November 25, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, Jennifer Esparza has devoted 25.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to students as a teacher at Riley Middle School and Emerson Middle School and as the activity director and senior class advisor at Franklin High School; and,

WHEREAS, She has made many contributions to the educational profession and has touched the lives of countless students during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby congratulate Jennifer Esparza on her years of service to the educational profession and expresses publicly its sincere appreciation and offers its best wishes for her retirement.

Jane Padovini

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Jane Padovini will retire from the district on December 31, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, Jane Padovini has devoted 30.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of the Adult Education Program as a teacher; and,

WHEREAS, She has made many contributions to the educational profession and has touched the lives of countless students during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby congratulate Jane Padovini on her years of service to the educational profession and expresses publicly its sincere appreciation and offers its best wishes for her retirement.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading:
Removal of Bylaw
of the Board
ABCB – Board
Member
Qualifications and
Oath of Office

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mr. MacFarland that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee for the removal of Bylaw of the Board ABCB – Board Member qualifications and Oath of Office.

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATIO
BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS**

**ABCB
JANUARY 21, 2014
NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

A school elector is eligible for election or appointment to the Board of Education. An individual is eligible for election to the School Board if the individual is a citizen of the United States and is a qualified and registered elector (registered voter, 18 years of age or older, and residing in Livonia Public Schools School District).

Acceptance of Office; Constitutional Oath

Within five business days after an election, each member-elect shall be notified of the election. Within ten business days after notification of election or appointment to the Board, each person shall file with the Secretary of the Board an acceptance of the office to which the person has been elected or appointed. Each person elected or appointed to the Board shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this state, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education according to the best of my ability."

LEGAL REF.: MCL 168.302; 168.492; 380.11a

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading:
Removal of Bylaw
of the Board
ABCC – Board
Member Method
of Election

It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee for the removal of Bylaw of the Board ABCC – Board Member Method of Election.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD DISTRICT ORGANIZATION BOARD MEMBER TERM OF ELECTION TO OFFICE METHOD OF ELECTION

**ABCC
NOVEMBER 13, 2017
NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

Members of the Board of Education shall be elected biennially during even year general elections (the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November) to serve for a term of four years on a rotation ~~rotating~~ basis. The term shall commence on January 1 of the year immediately following the election and continue through December 31 of the fourth year.

The school district shall conduct the election of School Board members as detailed above and special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law and by resolutions adopted by the Board.

Buildings and facilities of the school district may be made available to the City of Livonia and to the City of Westland at such times as the cities conduct elections. School election precincts may be revised as necessary based on the needs of the District or upon consideration of requests from the City of Livonia or the City of Westland.

LEGAL REF.: MCL, 168.302; 380.11a(7)(8)

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading:
Removal of Bylaw
of the Board
ABCD – Board

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy

Member Method
of Election

Committee for the removal of Bylaw of the Board ABCD – Board
Member Method of Election.

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
BOARD MEMBER METHOD OF ELECTION
NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

**ABCD
June 4, 2012
Reviewed 11/2013**

The school district shall conduct the election of School Board members every other year in even years and special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law and by resolutions adopted by the Board.

The Board shall cooperate with the City of Livonia and the City of Westland officials in conducting all elections. Buildings and facilities of the school district shall **may** be made available to the City of Livonia and to the City of Westland at such times as the cities shall conduct elections. When necessary, school election precincts shall **may** be revised to conform to **as necessary based on the needs of the District or upon consideration of requests from** the City of Livonia and **or the** City of Westland precinct revisions.

LEGAL REF.: Public Acts 232 and 233 of 2011; MCL 168.758(c)

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading:
Bylaw of the
Board AA –
District Legal
Name

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language per the attached document for: Board Bylaw AA – District Legal Name.

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
DISTRICT LEGAL NAME**

**AA
NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

The official name of the school district shall be Livonia Public Schools School District. The school district shall be organized and conducted as a general powers school district as presented in The Revised School Code, as amended.

LEGAL REF.: Constitution of the State of Michigan, Art. 8, Sec. 2; MCL 380.1131

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading:
Bylaw of the
Board ABB –
Board Powers
and Duties

It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for Board Bylaw ABB – Board Powers and Duties.

(Of note - During the Second Reading, the phrase “in conjunction with the Superintendent” was added to #6 School Facilities after “the Board,” so the sentence now begins: “The Board, in conjunction with the Superintendent, ...” This revision was read into the record to clarify the Board’s scope of duties.)

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD

ABB

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

NOVEMBER

17, 2025

The Board of Education exercises its powers and duties only in properly called meetings, where a majority of the Board constitutes a quorum to transact business. Except when performing a specific duty as directed by the Board, the decisions, speech and actions of a single member of the Board are not reflective of nor binding on the entire Board or school district.

The mandatory and implied granted powers and duties of the Board are defined by law. The Board considers that its most important functions fall into the following categories:

1. Hiring and Evaluating the Superintendent: The Board is responsible for hiring the Superintendent to carry out the operations of the school district. The Board is responsible for evaluating the Superintendent according to the goals set by the Board in collaboration with the Superintendent and in accordance with State law.
2. Policymaking: The Board is responsible for the development and revision of Board policy. These policies shall be carried out by the administration. The Board shall evaluate the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.
3. Strategic Planning and Goal Setting: The Board is responsible for visionary strategic planning and goal setting and does so in conjunction with the Superintendent.
4. Allocation and Oversight of Financial Resources: The Board is responsible for the adoption of a budget based on allocated funding for personnel expenditures, school facilities and operations, materials, and equipment to enable the district to carry out the educational program. The Board is responsible to ensure a proper audit is completed annually.
5. Personnel: The Board shall ensure that the District employs the staff necessary to carry out the educational program. The Board shall approve negotiated bargaining agreements which include salaries and salary schedules and other terms and conditions of employment.
6. School Facilities: The Board, in conjunction with the Superintendent, is responsible for determining school facility needs, and communicating these needs to the community. The Board is responsible for purchasing, leasing or selling sites, for approving building sites and approving building plans and renovations that will support and enhance the educational and extra-curricular programs.
7. Communication With the Public: The Board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping local citizens informed about the schools and for being available to receive feedback from the public.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland

Nays: None

Second Reading:
Bylaw of the
Board ABCA –
Board Member
Qualifications and
Method of
Election

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Acosta that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for Bylaw of the Board ABCA – Board Member Qualifications and Method of Election.

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS &
METHOD of ELECTION**

ABCA

November 17, 2025

The Board of Education shall consist of seven members elected or appointed according to provisions contained in The Revised School Code, as amended.

An Individual is eligible for election to the Board of Education if the individual is a citizen of the United States and is a qualified and registered elector (registered voter, 18 years of age or older, and residing in Livonia Public Schools School District boundaries).

Members of the Board of Education shall be elected biennially during even year general elections (the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November) to serve for a term of four years on a rotating basis. The term shall commence on January 1 of the year immediately following the election and continue through December 31 of the fourth year.

The school district shall conduct the election of Board of Education members as detailed above and in special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law and by resolutions adopted by the Board.

Within five business days after an election, each member-elect shall be notified of the election. Within ten business days after notification of election or appointment to the Board, each person shall file with the secretary to the Board an acceptance of the office to which the person has been elected or appointed.

Each person elected or appointed to the Board shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this state, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education according to the best of my ability."

LEG REF: MCL 380.384 MCL 168.302; 168.492; 380.11a,
MCL, 168.302; 380.11a(7)(8)

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland

Nays: None

Second Reading:
Bylaw of the
Board AC –
School Grade
Configuration

It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt board Policy language for Bylaw of the Board: AC – School Grade Configuration.

(Of note, During the Second Reading, the title was changed from "Board Policy AC" to "Bylaw of the Board AC" to align with Board of Education Policies and Procedures. This change was read into the record for consistency.)

**BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PLAN
SCHOOL GRADE CONFIGURATION
2025**

AC

NOVEMBER 17,

The school grade configuration is organized as follows:

Pre-K
Lower Elementary Schools - Grades Kindergarten through Four
Upper Elementary Schools - Grades Five and Six
Middle Schools - Grades Seven and Eight
Senior High Schools - Grades Nine, Ten, Eleven, and Twelve
Post-Secondary

The district reserves the right to have different grade configurations for magnet schools.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 388.684; 380.1277; 380.1282

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, MacFarland
Nays: None

First Reading:
Board Policy JD –
Student Code of
Conduct

Mr. Etue and Mrs. Keatts read aloud the Personal Electronic Devices portion of Board Policy JD as this is the only section of the Board Policy JD that is being changed. The full Policy will be read at the second reading on December 15, 2025.

**BOARD POLICY
STUDENTS
STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

**JD
May 2, 2022
DECEMBER 15, 2025**

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

~~Personal electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets, laptops, smartwatches, e-readers, and any device capable of sending, receiving, or storing digital data are permitted on school property.~~

~~Personal Electronic communication devices (ECDs) such as cell phones, tablets, computers, and any/all other forms of technology will not be permitted for use during instructional time unless as approved by the classroom teacher or the building school administration. Students may not use ECDs on school property or during school sponsored activities to access and/or view internet websites that are otherwise blocked or prohibited for students at school.~~

~~In accordance with the district's LIVNET policy (appropriate use of technology), use of personal electronic devices to access or view internet content that is blocked or prohibited for students is not allowed on school property or during school-sponsored activities.~~

~~See Administrative Procedures - JD - Personal Electronic Devices for additional information.~~

First Reading:
Board Policy JAB –
Nondiscrimination

**BOARD POLICY
NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE
BASIS OF HANDICAP ~~DISABILITY~~- SECTION 504**

**JAB
JUNE 6, 2016
December 15, 2025**

on the Basis of
Disability –
Section 504

The School District, in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations, ~~the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and applicable federal and state law~~, is committed to providing a free appropriate education to each qualified ~~handicapped~~ ~~student with a disability~~ within its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the ~~handicap~~ ~~disability~~.

The administrative rules establish the procedure in which the School District may meet this commitment. The School District may, as an alternative or in combination with this procedure, follow the provisions established for identification, evaluation, and placement of students under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA).

This Board Policy and the Administrative Procedure have been developed and adopted for the purpose of complying with the School District's educational services obligations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations, and it is not designed or intended, nor should it be construed, to grant broader rights or remedies. This Board Policy and Administrative Procedure do not, and should not be construed to, create rights or remedies enforceable in contract or by any law other than Section 504 and its implementing regulations.

The School District's administration may issue interpretative memoranda and adopt directives and procedures to implement this Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Board Policy, and Administrative Procedure.

The Director of Student Services is designated as the School District's Section 504 Educational Services Coordinator. As such, the Director of Student Services is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the School District's obligations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, its implementing regulations, Board Policy, and the Administrative Procedure. A student or parent/guardian, who believes that the School District has violated its obligation under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or its implementing regulations, Board Policy, or the Administrative Procedure, may file a written complaint with the School District's Section 504 Coordinator within ten (10) calendar days of the alleged violation. The Coordinator will meet with the person who filed the complaint and conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint. If the Coordinator determines that a violation has not occurred, the Coordinator shall, in writing, so advise the person who filed the complaint and the School District's Superintendent.

If the Coordinator determines that a violation has occurred, he/she shall put his/her determination in writing, propose a fair resolution of the complaint and deliver the determination to the person who filed the complaint and the School District Superintendent. The person who filed the complaint on the School District may appeal the Coordinator's determination to the Superintendent by so notifying the Superintendent in writing within ten (10) calendar days of the Coordinator's determination. The Superintendent may conduct additional investigation of the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint. The Superintendent shall affirm or reverse the Coordinator's decision and, if warranted, implement the Coordinator's proposed resolution or a modification thereof. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

A person is not required to use the procedure outlined above and may instead file a complaint directly with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, 600 Superior Avenue East, Suite 750, OH 44114-2611.

31aa Resolution
Passed by LPS

Superintendent Oquist addressed the community and reported that on November 11, 2025, during a public special meeting, the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education voted to:

1. Adopt a resolution to opt out of 31aa funding.

2. Authorize Superintendent Oquist, in her official capacity, and the District, as an entity, to join a lawsuit seeking an injunction against the implementation of this legislation.

Key points of discussion leading to the unanimous vote on November 11 include:

- Concerns with ambiguity and far-reaching language
- More clarification is needed, especially related to the terms used in the legislation.
- Significant Concerns with Waiving Privileges
- No clarity provided whether this legislation is in perpetuity or sunsets
- No other state in the nation has this type of legislation
- Not willing to sign away Constitutional rights of LPS staff and students
- Disappointment in our legislature for their egregious decisions tied to mental health and school safety
- We understand the intent of the legislation and in no way are looking to shirk our responsibility or accountability.
- Superintendent Oquist, Deputy Superintendent Francis and the Board of Education reiterated the Districts' collective commitment to transparency if ever there was a mass casualty event.

The Board Resolution Reads:

Livonia Public Schools

COUNTY OF WAYNE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

At a special meeting of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "School District"), held in the School District on November 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: Members: Karen Bradford, Crystal Frank, Colleen Burton, Mark Johnson, Liz Jarvis, Dave MacFarland

ABSENT: Members: Madeline Acosta

RESOLUTION DECLINING OPT-IN FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY GRANT UNDER SECTION 31aa(2)

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Colleen Burton and supported by Member Liz Jarvis.

WHEREAS, the Legislature under Section 31aa(2) of the State School Aid Act (MCL §388.1631aa(2)) has allocated a portion of the 2025-26 appropriated State School Aid funding as non-competitive grant funding available to public schools for use on activities improving mental health and student safety ("Section 31aa(2) Grant Funding"),

WHEREAS, the Section 31aa(2) Grant Funding requires a public school to opt-in and agree to various terms in order to receive the funding ("Section 31aa(2) Opt-In");

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Education ("MDE") has developed a *Mental Health and School Safety Grant (31aa(2)) Opt-In Form FY26* template, attached hereto as Exhibit A, which sets forth all of the terms required to receive the Section 31aa(2) Grant Funding ("Section 31aa(2) Opt-In Form");

WHEREAS, the Section 31aa(2) Opt-In Form must be submitted to the State on or before November 30, 2025;

WHEREAS, Section 31aa(9) of the State School Aid Act (MCL §388.1631aa(9)) further requires, as part of the Section 31aa(2) Opt-In, that if a "mass casualty event" occurs on school grounds or at a school sponsored event, the public school must agree to: (i) be subject to and comply with a comprehensive investigation of the mass casualty event; and (ii) waive any privilege that may otherwise protect information from disclosure in the event of a "mass casualty event";

WHEREAS, the definitions for the terms "comprehensive investigation" and "mass casualty event" are set forth in the Section 31aa(2) Opt-In Form and MCL 388.1631aa;

WHEREAS, the School District understands, respects and supports the Legislature's desire to provide transparency and accountability in the aftermath of a school tragedy but various legal concerns, questions and unknowns have been identified by the School District's legal counsel regarding the Section 31aa(2) Grant Funding which could expose the School District, its students and staff, to future liabilities and other adverse consequences,

WHEREAS, the School District is aware that a coalition of school districts and intermediate schools districts are proposing to file a lawsuit against the State challenging the constitutionality of various aspects of the Section 31aa Grant Funding including the waiver of privilege requirement under Section 31aa(9); and

WHEREAS, the School District has determined that it is not in its the best interest of the School District, its students and staff to Opt-In to receive the Section 31aa(2) Grant Funding

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN THAT:

1. The School District has determined, in consultation with its legal counsel, based on the liability exposure and other concerns, that it is not in the best interest of the School District to Opt-In to receive the Section 31aa(2) Grant Funding.

2. The School District further authorizes participation in the proposed lawsuit against the State and such other defendants as may be appropriate, challenging the constitutionality of Section 31aa(2) and (9).

3 All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

Ayes: (6) K. Bradford; C. Burton; L. Jarvis;
Dave MacFarland; C. Frank; M. Johnson

Nays: (0)

Absent: Madeline Acosta

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Karen Bradford
Secretary, Board of Education

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of Livonia Public Schools School District, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on November 11, 2025, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

Karen Bradford
Secretary, Board of Education

Superintendent Oquist and the Board of Education will continue to share legally appropriate updates with the community as they arise.

Hearing From
Board Members

Mr. MacFarland again congratulated the Teachers and Support Staff of the Year recipients and shared his pride for the LPS community. Mrs. Jarvis shared that the Holmes Middle School Robotics team recently won two local competitions qualifying the team for State's Competition this weekend. Mrs. Jarvis encouraged Kindergarten families to enroll in the LPS Education Foundation Competitive Edge program by 12/31/25 and wished the community a Happy Thanksgiving. Mrs. Acosta shared her gratitude for the District and her colleagues. President Bradford shared her gratitude for having good people looking out for the best of the community and extended a heartfelt Happy Thanksgiving greeting on behalf of the Board of Education.

Adjournment

President Bradford adjourned the meeting at 8:58pm.

Off./Supt./tg