

# Agenda of Regular Meeting

## The Board of Trustees Van Buren ISD

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A Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Van Buren ISD will be held February 4, 2026, beginning at 4:00 PM in the Van Buren Conference Center  
490 S Paw Paw Street  
Lawrence, MI 49064.

Items to be discussed, considered, or acted upon are listed below and may be taken in a different order. Unless removed, consent agenda items will be approved in a single action. The public is invited to attend. Individuals needing accommodations, wishing to provide public input, or asking questions regarding any item before the Board are encouraged to contact Superintendent Dave Manson at [dmanson@vbisd.org](mailto:dmanson@vbisd.org).

### **I. REGULAR MEETING**

- A. Approval of Draft Agenda (**ROLL CALL VOTE**)
- B. Consent Agenda - (**ROLL CALL VOTE**)
  - 1. Minutes

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The **Regular Meeting** of the Van Buren Intermediate School District Board of Education was held in person on **January 7, 2026**, in the Board of Education office and called to order at **4:00 PM** with all Board members present.

Makay moved to adjust the draft agenda, moving item D, Approval of Vacancy Appointment to Board of Education, to be the last item. Supported by Kent. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Faul moved to approve the January 7, 2026, draft agenda as presented. Supported by Makay. Roll call vote. Makay – yes, Faul – yes, Kent – yes, Weiss - yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Weiss moved to approve the Consent Agenda (***December 3, 2025, Minutes, Composite and Summaries***). Supported by Kent. Roll call vote: Faul – yes, Kent – yes, Weiss – yes, Makay – yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Due to no upcoming Board and Superintendent Travel, there was no need for a vote. The VBISD Board of Education plays a crucial role in shaping the educational experience for every student. From advocating for innovative programs to ensuring a safe and supportive learning environment, their leadership makes all the difference. School Board Appreciation Month, and every month, we're incredibly grateful for their continued commitment to excellence in education. We were honored to present each member with a warm sherpa blanket branded with our VBISD logo.

**Board Members' Updates:** Ms. Middaugh enjoyed an intergenerational event with senior citizens and preschool students at the Paw Paw Library. Board members celebrated another successful Bert Goens Learning Center Holiday Event, highlighted by the first ever student solo performance. The Board also hosted a productive work session and concluded the month by conducting interviews to fill the Board vacancy.

**Superintendent Updates:** Superintendent Manson gave an update on the following:

**Professional Learning:** *January professional learning will take place on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 19, 2026. The morning will be held virtually and will include the Great Job Award presentation along with district updates from multiple VBISD departments. In the afternoon, departments will engage in program specific professional learning.*

**Bright Futures Construction:** *Planning is advancing for the Special Services Building renovation and new construction. The updated design will house Early Childhood, Special Education, Technology, and Emergency Management programs. Recent meetings and a December site visit with Tower Pinkster and Owen Ames Kimball helped shape a welcoming, family centered design that includes therapy and evaluation spaces, offices, shared work areas, and the Arbor Credit Union.*

**31aa Grant Funding:** *VBISD rescinded acceptance of Section 31aa grant funding after the Michigan Court of Claims denied a motion challenging required waivers tied to mass casualty incident investigations. To preserve legal privileges while the case proceeds to appeal, the district withdrew from the funding prior to the December 30, 2025, deadline.*

**Administrative Mentoring Program:** *VBISD, in partnership with the West Michigan Education Research and Development Foundation, received forty-eight thousand dollars to launch an Administrative Mentoring Program that includes monthly group learning, one on one coaching, book studies, and future site visits. The three-year cohort model builds leadership skills aligned with national standards, progressing from foundational development to strategic impact.*

**Presentation: Help Me Grow and Great Start Collaborative:**

*The presentation highlights the work of Help Me Grow Van Buren and the Van Buren Great Start Collaborative in supporting families from prenatal through early elementary years. Through strong community partnerships, the initiative connects families to early childhood services, developmental screenings, parent education, and resources using a “one stop shop” approach. In 2025, the collaborative hosted and supported dozens of community events, provided extensive parent training, and strengthened family connections across Van Buren County, demonstrating measurable impact and continued growth in outreach and engagement.*

**The following departments provided updates to the Board and the community:**

***Special Education:*** *highlights ongoing professional learning, service delivery, and leadership efforts across VBISD. On January 19, staff will participate in technology safety training and an inclusive education keynote by Dr. Shelley Moore, reinforcing the district’s R.I.C.E. values. The report also outlines member district participation in center-based programs, demonstrating transparent use of Least Restrictive Environment services countywide. VBISD special education leaders recently presented at a statewide summit, sharing data driven strategies that focus on evidence-based practices, educator investment, resource development, and expanded data automation to improve student outcomes. Also a community focused highlight of the DHH VI Winter Family Fun Night, which strengthened family connections, accessibility, and belonging.*

***Technology:*** *The Technology Services report highlights continued countywide collaboration, professional development, and shared services support. Monthly County Tech Director meetings remain well attended and now include workshop-based discussions focused on common challenges, including cybersecurity best practices to strengthen district cyber readiness. The Technology Services team also participated in the Michigan Association for Educational Data Systems Fall Conference, where staff engaged in learning related to educational technology, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and systems administration, while also strengthening statewide partnerships. Additionally, the Technology Director provided updates at the December Board Work Session, showcasing the department’s work and shared services model that supports VBISD and local districts.*

***Early Childhood:*** *Early Childhood report highlights VBISD’s continued focus on inclusion, access, and coordinated early learning services across Van Buren County. The department expanded countywide AAC Foundations training to support communication access for young learners, families, and staff, reinforcing inclusive practices from birth through preschool. Data from Early On, Home Visiting, Community Playgroups, Build Up Michigan, Preschool Special*

*Education, and GSRP show strong participation, timely evaluations, and progress toward inclusive service delivery, with 100 percent of Early On services provided in natural environments and a majority of preschool students with IEPs served in general education settings. Enrollment trends reflect high demand for preschool programming, particularly GSRP, while ongoing data review is guiding targeted outreach, collaboration, and equity focused planning. The report also highlights meaningful family impact through parent feedback, underscoring the importance of relationship-based supports during early childhood.*

***Finance and Operations:*** *The Finance and Operations update outlines key legal, financial, and programmatic developments impacting VBISD. Following a Michigan Court of Claims ruling upholding the Section 31aa funding requirements, districts were required to decide by December 30, 2025, whether to retain school safety and mental health funds while accepting a statutory waiver of certain legal privileges, or to rescind participation to preserve those privileges while repaying funds through future state aid deductions. The report also notes that required annual web transparency reports for 2025–26 are now posted, medical hard cap contributions increased by 2.9 percent effective January 1, 2026 with no changes to plan offerings, and VBISD was awarded a 2025–26 Out of School Time Learning Grant, supporting expanded learning opportunities and informing future sustainability of the Van Buren Youth Initiative beyond ARPA funding.*

Weiss made the motion to approve the following resolution:

***RESOLVED***, that the Board of Education accepts the base bid from Kalleward in the amount of \$62,000 for eight fire doors and the bid from SA Morman in the amount of \$82,525 for the remaining 39 door panels.

Supported by Makay. Roll call vote. Makay – yes, Faul – yes, Kent – yes, Weiss – yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Faul made the motion to approve the following resolution:

***RESOLVED***, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the VBISD Administration, approves the hiring of Driesenga & Associates Inc. for the design & extension of Corwin Meadows Drive, for a total of \$72,735.

Supported by Kent. Roll call vote. Faul – yes, Kent – yes, Weiss – yes, Makay – yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Makay made the motion to approve the following resolution:

***RESOLVED***, that the Board of Education approve the network cabling project from Division 27 at a total price not to exceed \$41,386.08. (Actual cost to VBISD would be \$8,277.22 after 80% discount.)

Supported by Faul. Roll call vote. Kent – yes, Weiss – yes, Makay – yes, Faul – yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Kent made the motion to approve the following resolution:

***RESOLVED***, the VBISD Board of Education approves the non-union member pay adjustments with an effective date of January 12, 2026.

Supported by Weiss. Roll call vote. Weiss – yes, Makay – yes, Faul – yes, Kent – yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Weiss made the motion to approve the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the employment of the staff listed.

<u>New Employee</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Emily Wallace, Mental Health Clinician	\$51,137.00	12/08/2025

Supported by Makay. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Faul made the motion to approve the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the resignations/retirements of the staff listed.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Resignation/Retirement Date</u>
Tyler Hunt, IT Support Specialist	Resignation - 12/12/2025
Laura Getty, Speech and Language Pathologist	Retirement - 12/31/2025
Lissette Mira-Amaya, Mental Health Clinician	Retirement - 01/31/2026

Supported by Makay. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Makay made the motion to approve the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education moves to approve the appointment of **Roger Engle** to fill the vacant Board Trustee seat for the Van Buren Intermediate School District Board of Education for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2029, as of 5:15 pm on Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

Supported by Weiss. Roll call vote. Weiss – yes, Makay – yes, Faul – yes, and Middaugh – yes. Motion carried.

Makay made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Faul. Voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



John Weiss, Vice President  
Van Buren Intermediate School District  
Board of Education, Lawrence, Michigan



**VAN BUREN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**JANUARY 2026**

**VOUCHERS**

Imprest Fund	2,516,544.04
Payroll Fund	4,502,887.25
Purchasing Cards	59,699.15
EduStaff ACH	16,580.32

**PAYROLL SUMMARY**

General	1,179,778.12
Special Education	2,601,089.34
Vocational Education	722,019.79
Student Activity Fund	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,502,887.25</b>

**IMPREST VOUCHER SUMMARY**

FUND	CHECKS	TRAVEL	PURCHASING	TRFS/SALES	TOTAL
General	824,955.13	13,313.51	26,921.28	(19,888.25)	845,301.67
Special Education	1,358,663.80	24,465.32	10,598.99	7,432.49	1,401,160.60
Vocational Education	332,925.11	2,265.68	22,139.80	12,455.76	369,786.35
Student Activity Fund	-	-	39.08	-	39.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,516,544.04</b>	<b>40,044.51</b>	<b>59,699.15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,616,287.70</b>

**VAN BUREN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**JANUARY 2026**

**BUDGET TO EXPENDITURE COMPARISON 25-26**

FUND	BUDGET	ACTUAL & ENCUMBERED EXPENSES	UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	YEAR TO DATE VARIANCE
General	26,720,148	13,372,067	13,348,081	1,101,347
Special Education	49,024,500	20,944,920	28,079,580	5,610,017
Career Tech Education	18,211,942	8,281,432	9,930,510	1,583,369

**CASH FLOW SUMMARY**

	ENDING BALANCE 12/01/2025	CASH RECEIPTS	CASH DISBURSEMENTS	ENDING BALANCE 12/31/2025
General	4,700,890	2,123,988	2,472,632	4,352,247
Special Education	13,154,759	3,026,737	6,103,202	10,078,294
Career Tech Education	4,214,916	1,333,250	2,054,391	3,493,775
Student Activity Fund	33,075	22,844	22,807	33,112
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,103,641</b>	<b>6,506,818</b>	<b>10,653,031</b>	<b>17,957,428</b>

C. Board/Superintendent Travel (**ROLL CALL VOTE**)

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# Board of Education & Superintendent Travel

## *Pre-Approval*

Name	Date(s)	Location	Estimated Cost
Dave Manson	March 5 & 6, 2026	<b>MAISA Spring General Membership Meeting</b> 133 Evergreen Ave, East Lansing, MI 48823	\$400.00

## *Approved, Not Yet Attended*

Name	Date(s)	Location	Estimated Cost

## *Post Approval*

Name	Date(s)	Location	Actual Cost





## Upcoming Events and Key Dates Winter 2025 - 2026

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Board Attendance</i>
2/4	4p	VBISD School Board Meeting	Conference Center	Requested ▾
2/6	9:30a - 11:30a	Superintendent's Council	Conference Center	Informational Only ▾
2/18	9a & 1p	National Technical Honor Society Ceremony	Conference Center	Voluntary ▾
3/10	5p-7p	Educational Hero Awards	Conference Center	Requested ▾
3/11	4p	VBISD School Board Meeting	Conference Center	Requested ▾
3/14	TBD	March into Spring	Conference Center	Voluntary ▾

E. Public Comments  
II. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**  
A. Board Updates  
B. Superintendent Update

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## MEMO

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**DATE:** FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
**TO:** BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FROM:** SUPERINTENDENT OFFICE  
**RE:** MONTHLY UPDATE

**\*\*Professional Learning:** (Governance & Board Relations, Community Relations, Staff Relations, Business & Finance, Instructional Leadership)

On January 19, 2026, the VBISD recognized Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day and participated in a virtual professional learning day. The morning consisted of celebrations, superintendent updates and highlights from several programs and services. Below is a list of the topics covered during the morning session.

- Examples of “Excellence in Action”
- Fiscal Updates
- Michigan Education Guarantee
- Current Construction Projects
- Wellness Program
- Workout Wellness Space
- Marketing Updates
- Budget Transparency
- Emergency Management
- Great Start Collaborative
- Van Buren Youth Initiative
- Strategic Planning Update
- Great Job Awards

During the afternoon, each program and department gathered for learning specific to their work. Overall, the day was well received in terms of the relevancy of the information provided and the structure of the presentation.

Also during the week of January 19, 2026, was the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators (MASA) Midwinter Conference. This annual professional development and networking event is designed to provide learning opportunities, leadership insights, and strategies to improve district practice and student outcomes. Held on January 21, 2026 through January 23, 2026, in Kalamazoo, featured a keynote presentation from Dr. Joe Sanfelippo, a retired superintendent and national speaker. Dr. Sanfelippo’s presentation focused on visionary leadership and school

innovation. Anne Marie Anderson, a three-time Emmy Award–winning broadcaster and author spoke on audacity and courageous leadership, helping leaders learn to act boldly in the face of uncertainty. In addition, the conference featured a full schedule of sessions and workshops around strengthening leadership capacity, including topics related to union negotiations, funding, artificial intelligence, and more, as well as regional meetings and networking opportunities.

**District Improvement: (Governance & Board Relations, Community Relations, Staff Relations, Business & Finance, Instructional Leadership)**

As mentioned in the above section, Katy Holverstott provided a brief presentation about the strategic planning process, with a specific focus on the “Why-What-How” framework was provided during the January professional development day. Also at this time, time was provided for staff to complete a district-wide survey that included the following questions:

1. Purpose Alignment (WHY)

*I understand the core purpose of the VBISD and how my role and department contribute to advancing that purpose across the region.*

2. Strategic Direction (WHY → WHAT)

*The programs and services provided by my department are clearly aligned with the VBISD’s overall priorities and intended outcomes.*

3. Values in Practice (HOW)

*The VBISD’s stated values are consistently reflected in how decisions are made, how work is prioritized, and how staff collaborate across departments.*

4. Culture & Collaboration (HOW → WHAT)

*There is effective communication and collaboration across departments that support coordinated action and shared impact.*

5. Impact & Improvement (WHAT → FUTURE)

*My department regularly reflects on data, feedback, and outcomes to inform improvements and strengthen our collective impact as an ISD.*

Strategic Reflection: Gaps

*Where do you see the most significant gaps or misalignments, and what changes or actions would most strengthen our collective impact moving forward?*

### Strategic Reflection Prompt: Strengths

*Based on your responses, what do you see as the VBISD's greatest strengths in aligning purpose (WHY), values and culture (HOW), and actions and services (WHAT)*

At the time of this report, 373 responses were submitted. Information from these responses will be combined with those from other stakeholders, including community members and students. This information will then be used to shape strategic priorities. A summary of this work will be presented to the board for feedback during the March board meeting.

### **\*\*Contract Negotiations: (Governance & Board Relations, Staff Relations, Business & Finance)**

Both union contracts are scheduled for negotiation this spring. Preparatory work, with a focus initially on the support staff contract, will begin this month to ensure that the organization is fully equipped for productive and timely discussions, including internal planning, data review, and coordination among key stakeholders.

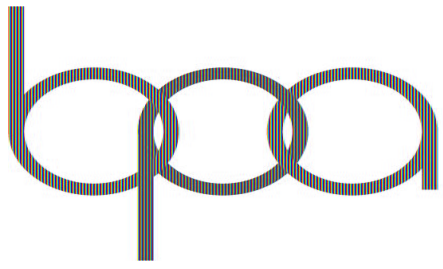
As mentioned in a previous report, Section 32p, Michigan's Early Childhood Block Grant under the State School Aid budget, intended to fund services and coordination for children from birth through early elementary grades, including Great Start Collaborative supports and related early childhood activities, was cut in the 2025-2026 state budget. While some ISDs have already cut these services, the VBISD remains committed and is working to find creative ways to continue the employment of these valuable staff members and their important work.

C. Department Updates

1. Presentation - VBTech/CTC

Student Organizations and Leadership Opportunities

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BUSINESS  
PROFES  
of AMERICA



# Career & Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs)

# CTE Leadership & CTSO Requirements

“All state-approved CTE programs are required to provide student leadership opportunities as an integral cocurricular part of their curriculum. A Career Technical Student Organization (CTSO) is a student leadership organization that provides an excellent framework for developing leadership skills. Students will understand leadership and communication for personal development, communications and speaking to groups, development of managerial skills, leading individuals and groups, and career success to gain leadership positions both in their community and their career. Much of the CTSO/Leadership work should be incorporated within classroom lessons and concepts providing students with knowledge and hands-on experience related to the course curriculum.” - *Michigan CTE Teacher Toolkit*

# Career & Technical Student Organizations



BPA is a highly regarded Career & Technical Student Organization for students pursuing careers in business, management, and technology related career fields.



DECA is an international, student run organization for Marketing students that prepares them for careers in marketing, management, finance and entrepreneurship.



The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America organization is a national Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) for middle and high school students, focusing on personal growth, leadership, and career preparation through Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) education.

# Career & Technical Student Organizations



FFA is a premier youth organization for middle & high students that focuses on premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. FFA prepares members for roles in science, business, and technology within agriculture.

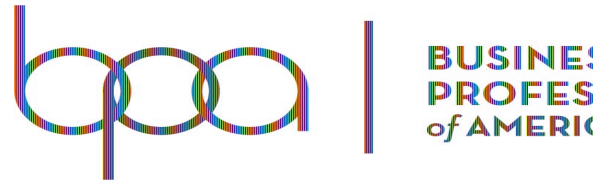


The Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society (MITES) is a professional organization of industrial technology educators established to encourage and recognize fine craftsmanship in the fields of industrial technology and career technical education.



SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives dedicated to preparing middle school, high school, and college students for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations.

# Staff & Student Testimonials



- What have you done as a part of your CTSO this year? What were the results?
- What activities/events still remain this year?
- What leadership skills have you learned as a part of this experience?
- What is the one thing that you will remember most about your CTSO experience?



# MEMO

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
**TO:** BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FROM:** ROBERT SMITH, DIRECTOR  
**RE:** CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD UPDATE

## AGRICULTURE CLASS

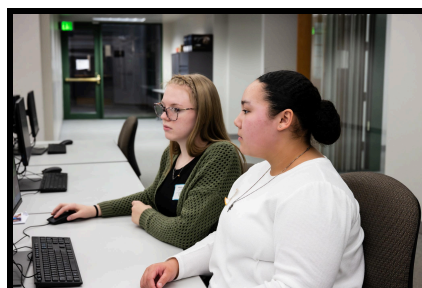
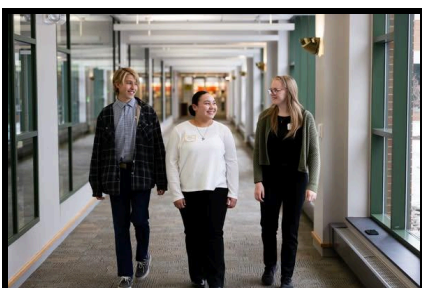
On December 4, 2025, Van Buren Tech's Agriculture & Natural Resources program visited Almena Pines to learn about Christmas tree production in Southwest Michigan, exploring year-round tree care practices, including planting, shearing, pest management, and general maintenance. Students also learned about wreath-making and selected and cut down the tree that was displayed in the Van Buren Tech lobby this season. They decorated the tree with lights and ornaments, including several pieces created by VBT Welding and Polymer Technologies programs.



## MARKETING, SALES & BUSINESS

On December 12, 2025 select students from VB Tech Marketing, Sales & Business spent the day at Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business for the 2025 JA Titan Business Challenge. Junior Achievement's Titan program is a simulation-based experience where students take on the role of business CEOs in the phone industry, making decisions about production, marketing, research and development, and corporate social responsibility to see how each choice shapes the success of their company.

Students also heard from keynote speaker James Liggins, Senior Counsel at Warner Norcross + Judd, who talked about the power of hard work and discipline, the value of overcoming challenges, and the importance of relationships and community. He encouraged students to view every challenge as a chance to learn and grow.



## ENGINEERING DESIGN

Van Buren Tech Engineering Design students Mason Weenink (Mattawan Consolidated School) and Zachary Danes (Bloomington Middle and High School) earned First Place in the high school division, as voted by the judges, at the Western Michigan University Innovation Expo. Their project, Mix It Up, was inspired by VBT Culinary Instructor Chef Josh Avery, who needed a simple way to pour ingredients into mixers without spilling. Zachary and Mason identified the need, developed a clear design solution, and built a prototype that demonstrated how their product could help in the kitchen. Their pitch was direct, well-organized, and showed exactly how their design addressed the problem.



Their design, prototype, and pitch earned First Place in the judges' vote, placing them at the top of a competitive group of about 20 high school teams. Their effort and professionalism stood out, and they represented Van Buren Tech well.

## 10TH GRADE VISITS & OPEN HOUSE

On December 15 we welcomed prospective students and families to Van Buren Tech for opportunities to experience our Career and Technical Education programs firsthand.

During our 10th-grade visits, students from our partner districts got a sneak peek at what next year could look like for them. After learning about the available VB Tech programs at their home schools, students selected three programs to visit based on their interests, helping them better visualize their future opportunities.

We also hosted our Prospective Student Open House for families and students considering enrollment for the 2026–2027 school year. Visitors met instructors, toured programs, and learned more about opportunities at Van Buren Tech, including Middle College. This accelerated option allows students to earn their high school diploma while completing up to an associate degree or college certification within three years, helping them save time and reduce future college costs while getting a head start on their postsecondary goals.



We are grateful to our partnering districts and to all the students and families who took the time to visit. We look forward to welcoming more students and showing them the Van Buren Tech difference, with hands-on learning, real-world experience, and opportunities that prepare them for successful futures.

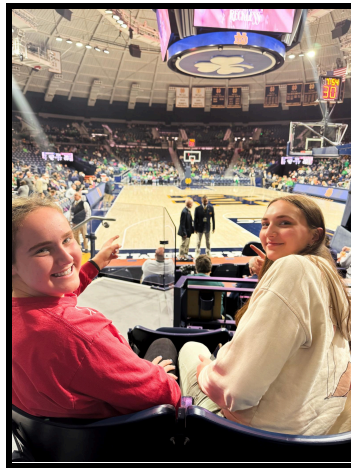


## SPORTS MEDICINE - NOTRE DAME TRIP

The Van Buren Tech Sports Medicine Program visited University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College on January 8, 2026. At Notre Dame, students toured the athletic training facilities, talked with members of the athletic training staff, and participated in an Olympic relay-style lab and a sports medicine quiz bowl, making the experience interactive and engaging.


At Saint Mary's College, students learned about the Exercise Science program, connected with admissions, and participated in a program demonstration. These experiences provided students with additional exposure to college campuses and insight into future opportunities in Sports Medicine.

The day wrapped up with students attending the Notre Dame women's basketball game, cheering on the team as they earned a victory over Boston College.





## Memorandum

<b>Date:</b>	February 4, 2026	 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES
<b>To:</b>	VBISD Board of Education	
<b>From:</b>	Melissa Corona <i>Director of Instructional Services</i>	
<b>Subject:</b>	Instructional Services Update	

### Mission Statement:

Intentionally collaborate to use best practices to support the whole child and build capacity in students and staff in Van Buren County.

### Grow Your Own Highlights

The Grow Your Own grant will be sunsetting at the end of this year. The grant was a 3-year grant. We are working with all of our partners to ensure that any candidates that are able and willing to get into the program do. Additionally, we are putting processes and procedures into place to ensure that we sunset the program properly.

Our department currently supports 306 Grow Your Own candidates, with 92 graduates to date and 41 candidates set to graduate this May, including 32 undergraduate students. This will be our first round of candidates that entered into the program in 2023.

We launched a new Master's in Education cohort in partnership with the University of Olivet this January. The program is already off to a strong start, with four candidates enrolled and actively taking classes. Candidates have the option of getting a Masters in Elementary or Secondary if they already have a Bachelor's Degree (it can be in any field). This is called the Career Changer option. The second option is a Master's in Special Education. Candidates will be able to finish the Master's Degree before the end of our grant in December 2026.

### Project SHINE Highlight

During December and January, Project SHINE focused on building momentum, strengthening partnerships, and preparing for upcoming program implementation across multiple sites. A key area of growth during this period has been the expansion and success of hydroponic systems at both Maple Creek and the Paw Paw Cedar Street CTC campus. These systems have taken off, with students and staff actively engaged in growing, maintaining, and harvesting fresh produce. The hydroponics work has created meaningful opportunities for hands-on learning and has allowed students to see a direct connection between food production and the foods they eat.



Building on this success, Project SHINE is providing students with experiential nutrition exposure through activities such as a blender bike salsa event, which combines physical activity with food preparation, and a pizza celebration featuring basil grown in the hydroponic systems. These activities are designed to increase familiarity with fresh ingredients and encourage positive food experiences in an engaging, student-centered way.



Project SHINE is also preparing for an upcoming Community-Based Transition Center (CTC) workshop titled *Fitness and Nutrition*. This workshop will connect concepts of physical activity, nutrition, and real-world applications, reinforcing how wellness and food systems align with career pathways and life skills.

In addition, planning is underway for the first Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) rotation in Mattawan. This planning builds on prior classroom observations and is focused on ensuring that activities are developmentally appropriate, predictable, and supportive of sensory needs. Project SHINE

is prepared to begin teaching once the updated state curriculum is released.

The updated state SNAP-Ed curriculum is expected to be released the week of January 19, and staff are ready to move forward immediately upon release to ensure alignment with state guidance and a smooth start to programming.

Beyond school-based efforts, Project SHINE continues to strengthen community partnerships. In collaboration with the Van Buren Youth Initiative, Project SHINE is supporting the South Haven after-school cooking program by connecting students and staff to a hydroponic growing system. Produce from this system will be used both in the after-school program and in the school lunchroom, reinforcing connections between growing, cooking, and eating fresh foods while expanding access to local, school-based food sources.



Additionally, Project SHINE coordinated with the Superintendent's Office during the holiday season to support the collection and distribution of food to families in need for Christmas. This effort helped ensure that families had access to food during a critical time and reflected the district's broader commitment to student and family well-being.



Together, these efforts reflect Project SHINE's continued focus on sustainability, readiness, and collaboration as we move into the next phase of programming.

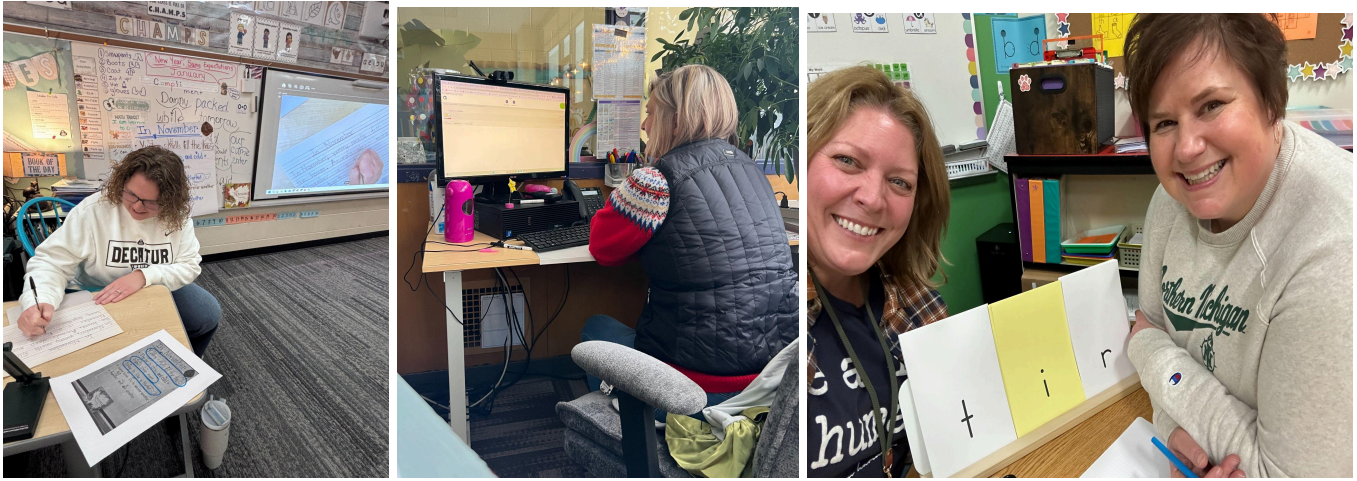
## **\*\*Literacy Coaching Highlights**

Our literacy coaches have started 2026 just like we ended 2025 by continuing to walk alongside all of our teachers and administrators!

The following list is not exhaustive, but helps create a picture of the wide range of work the literacy coaches are currently doing:

- \*Supporting implementation of new curricular Tier 1 Resources in five districts
- \*Working with six districts as they choose a new curricular Tier 1 Resource and plan its launch for Fall 2026
- \*Individually coaching teachers with goals focused on improving teacher practice and student achievement in nine districts and Wood School
- \*Providing and/or supporting professional learning in small group and large group settings at the elementary level in all eleven school districts, as well as Wood School
- \*Assisting seven schools during PLCs (Professional Learning Communities)
- \*Coaching interventionists and metacoaching local district coaches in all eleven local districts.
- \*Attending the Dyslexia Research Network Meetings; content will be used to design professional learning options for districts as they create a plan to educate teachers around dyslexia and comply with the requirements of PA 146.
- \*Multiple levels of support in secondary buildings in seven local districts

[Pathway to PA 146](#) continues throughout the rest of the school year. Our literacy coaches are collaborating with Jennifer Bloomfield, MTSS Consultant in the Instructional Services Department, on this very important professional learning, which will prepare our schools to meet the requirements of the K-12 Dyslexia Law when full compliance begins during the 2027-2028 School year. We have a very high level of engagement from our local districts, with ten local districts sending teams to our first session. Additionally, we had representation from Marcellus, Maple Creek Education Center, and VBISD's Special Education Department.



Left to right: Kattie Northrup modeling a writing lesson in a 1st Grade Classroom at Davis Elementary in Decatur; Angela Williamson, Interventionist at Lincoln Elementary in South Haven, doing a data dig with Tanya Miller (not pictured); Missy Vagts, Interventionist at Redwood Elementary in Hartford, meeting with Ana Marlett to discuss programming and strategies to work with students who are on Individual Reading Improvement Plans

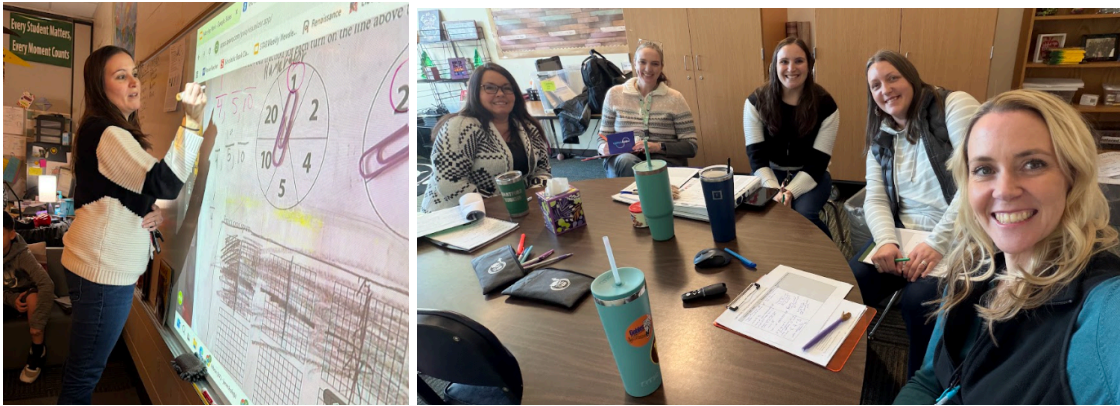
## Math Coaching Highlights

As of January 16, 2026; our two math coaches have logged over **950 hours** supporting local districts. 70% of this time has been spent in districts leading Math PLCs, leading professional learning, facilitating learning labs, meeting with administrators, meeting with grade level teams, coaching/consulting with individual teachers, and modeling or co-teaching a lesson. To date, 30% of our coaches' time has been spent doing VBISD work such as prepping professional learning presentations, attending professional learning as a learner, attending meetings at the state or department level, or prepping to co-teach or model lessons.

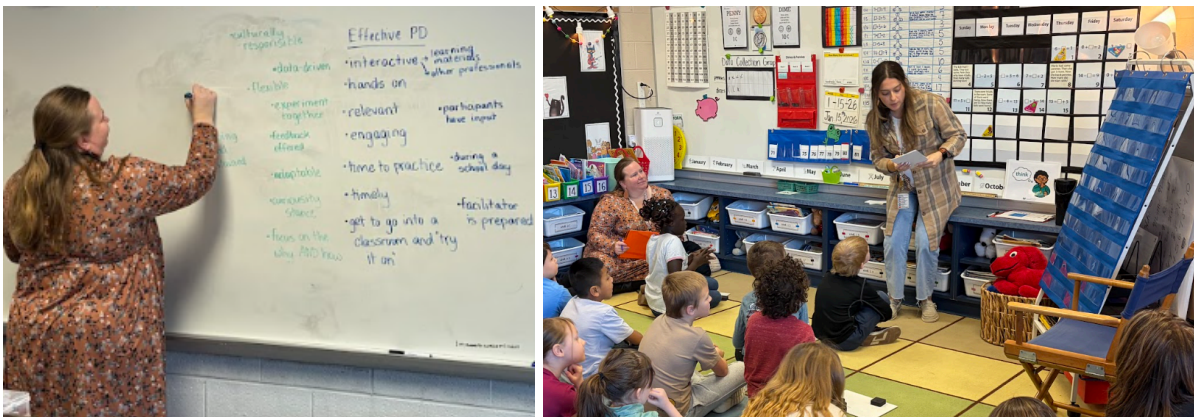
Growing in popularity, [Math Learning Labs](#) provide an opportunity for teacher teams to practice “[collective consideration and opportunistic experimentation in the midst of teaching mathematics](#)”. During a learning lab, teachers gather for shared learning and a classroom observation, followed by a debriefing conversation connecting the adult learning to the student learning that was observed. Teachers are given tools and routines, like a Teacher Time Out (TTO), as a way to allow all participants to share in the collective responsibility for a lesson instead of reflecting hypothetically afterward.

Pictured below is Redwood Elementary’s 5th grade teacher, Kristin Janecko, teaching a game involving multiplying fractions. Also pictured below are our participants in a debriefing conversation where we connected what we saw in the classroom to our previous learning about informal methods of collecting

evidence of student learning and shared the effectiveness of the TTO routine.



Pictured below on the left is Julie Combs, a VBISD math consultant, notating participant comments regarding research-based professional learning for teachers during a recent learning lab at Gobles Elementary. Pictured on the right is Gobles Elementary's 1st grade teacher, teaching a lesson that connects the familiar doubles addition facts with new doubles +1 addition facts. Some of the learning lab participants can be seen sitting among the students as they practice deliberately noticing and purposefully questioning what students understand about how they can use the facts that they already know to solve new facts.



## **\*\*Adult Ed Multilingual Highlights**

### **Curriculum & Facilities Enhancement**

We are excited to launch the **StandOut (4th Generation)** curriculum published by National Geographic next month. This resource will be used to support leveled, small-group instruction. Our staff participated

in professional development last week, focusing on the implementation and planning of these new materials.

We are committed to providing a professional and welcoming learning environment for our adult learners. We purchased furniture for our sites. All of our sites will be furnished with new, adult-appropriate tables and chairs by the end of January.

### **Enrollment & Academic Achievement**

Our program currently serves **71 enrolled learners**. We are seeing the growth in our GED partnerships with Bangor Career Academy and Paw Paw Adult Education:

- **GED Progress:** Seven learners have already earned or are actively working toward their GED credits this academic year.
- **Higher Education Transition:** We are proud to share that one of our learners has officially registered at KVCC to pursue her Phlebotomy certification this spring.
- **Measurable Skill Gains (MSG):** Our data shows significant growth compared to last year. Currently, **21% of our enrolled learners** have already reached the 40+ hours required for post-testing. Last year, we did not hit this milestone until the spring, which speaks to the high level of engagement this term.

### **Student Support & Success Coaching**

Our Success Coach, Gaby Olivás Días, remains instrumental in helping our learners navigate and overcome personal and systemic barriers. Throughout January, Gaby has provided intensive support in:

- Employment and GED assistance.
- College registration for KVCC.
- Proactive wellness check-ins to ensure every learner has the resources necessary to reach their individual goals.

### **Community & Partnership Highlights**

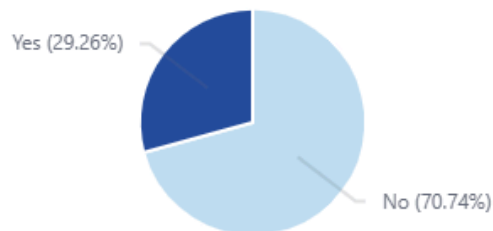
The sense of community remains a cornerstone of our program.

- **Holiday Spirit:** Through a generous partnership with Spirit of Christmas, we matched families that needed extra support with sponsors who provided warm clothing, food, and gifts.
- **Social Connection:** Before the winter break, we hosted a Posada for all three sites. It was a joyful evening that allowed our students and staff to gather for dinner, games, and fellowship, strengthening the bonds across our entire program.

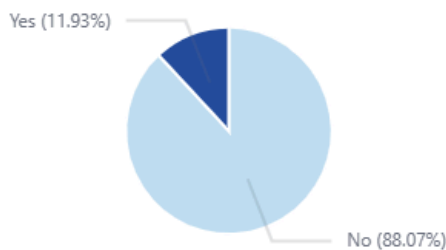
## Mental Health Clinician Highlights

The Mental Health Clinician (MHC) team continues to serve the youth of Van Buren County with expertise, dedication, and passion. As of the writing of this report, 666 students have been referred. A total of 651 students have been open to services. A total of 11 suicide risk screens have been completed. The graphics below are taken from the PHQ9 screening tool, which is a screen for depression. This is just part of the important work that the MHC team does everyday with our students.

PHQ-A: Have you EVER, in your WHOLE LIFE, tried to kill yourself or made a suicide attempt? ⓘ



PHQ-A: Has there been a time in the past month when you have had serious thoughts about ending your life? ⓘ



The team welcomed intern Emily Wallace, who joined the MHC to replace Jessica Roy. Emily brings valuable experience from her work in Child Protective Services and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy. Emily has already made a meaningful impact and is doing an outstanding job supporting students across Van Buren County while contributing her expertise to the team.

The MHC team is also experiencing its first retirement, as Lissette Mira-Amaya concludes her service on January 31, 2026. We extend our deepest gratitude to Lissette for her years of dedication to students in the Bloomingdale district and for the depth, wisdom, and warmth she brought to the team.

Our most recent hire is Van Buren County's own Deborah Kelly. Deborah brings extensive experience as a children's therapist, along with more than 10 years of service as a Child Protective Services worker within Van Buren County. She is married to Austin Kelly, a VBISD employee who serves as a construction

trades instructor. Deborah and Austin share two children together, and Deborah is also a devoted bonus parent to two of Austin’s older children. Deborah will officially join the MHC team on February 2, 2026.

The MHC team remains actively engaged with the Youth Advisory Panel (YAP), serving as adult advisors while supporting youth leadership and advocacy. The panel continues its work to elevate student voice across multiple areas. Most recently, youth participants were published through their involvement in Bronson’s Community Health Needs Assessment. The panel is also prepared to deliver an evidence-based anti-bullying program to upper elementary and middle school students across participating districts. Currently, YAP members are determining their focus for the remainder of this school year and into the next. Planning is underway for the next Whole Child Summit, scheduled for March 3, 2026.

The Youth Collaborative remains active in addressing youth mental health needs, substance use and misuse, and anti-bullying efforts throughout Van Buren County. The Collaborative is currently preparing for the inaugural Van Buren Mental Health Walk. Pending final planning details, the walk is anticipated to take place on October 10, 2026, in recognition of World Mental Health Awareness Day. Additional details will be shared as planning progresses.

In her role as MHC Supervisor, Paula Kana’an is also leading a State of Michigan Clinical Community of Practice (COP). She is partnering with coordinators from Berrien ISD and Mecosta-Osceola ISD to establish regional collaboration models across the state. These regions aim to share trainers and costs to expand access to evidence-based professional development. The long-term goal of the Clinical COP leadership is to ensure that students statewide—regardless of geographic location—have access to high-quality, evidence-based mental health treatment modalities.

In collaboration with the Clinical COP, Data COP, Medicaid COP, and the Michigan Department of Education, planning is underway for the first-ever Coordinators State Convening. This event will take place on June 1, 2026, at C.O.O.R. ISD and will bring together all 52 state coordinators. The convening will provide an opportunity to share best practices, learn from one another, and align vision across ISDs and RESAs to strengthen statewide excellence in school-based mental health programming.

### **Van Buren Youth Initiative Highlights**

During the October–December reporting period, the Van Buren Youth Initiative (VBYI) continued to expand high-quality out-of-school-time (OST) programming across Van Buren County through partnerships with South Haven Center for the Arts, Luc’s Light, His Place, and Van Buren Tech. Programming served middle and high school students from multiple districts and the homeschool community, resulting in over 1,600 instances of participation. Student evaluations consistently reflected strong outcomes related to connection, engagement, and inspiration, with students describing programs as welcoming, fun, and supportive spaces where they could build skills, relationships, and confidence.

While transportation remains the most significant barrier to equitable access, due to driver shortages and the lack of sustainable funding beyond ARPA, VBYI has implemented adaptive strategies to reduce

barriers where possible. These include adjusting program start times to better align with school dismissal and working closely with partners to improve communication and outreach following the transition of the VBYI Facebook page to the Van Buren ISD Instructional Services platform. VBYI continues to collaborate with the ISD marketing team and community partners to strengthen program visibility and access.

VBYI is launching and expanding several high-impact programming initiatives. A new round of cooking classes at South Haven High School is underway, and another 8-week cycle of career-connected classes at Van Buren Tech will begin soon. VBYI is also supporting a Hip Hop History class at Luc's Light, an exciting collaboration with Kalamazoo Valley Community College and a syndicated recording artist, bringing high-quality instruction and culturally relevant content to students in Van Buren County.

Looking ahead, sustainability planning is focused on leveraging the \$1,012,860 32n Out-of-School Time (OST) Grant awarded to Van Buren ISD. While the current funding supports school-based programming in eight districts and the ISD Migrant Summer Program, primarily serving elementary and middle school students, the grant can also support community-based OST sites. VBYI plans to apply for future 32n funding cycles to transition community partners currently supported by ARPA funds. Notably, the ARPA-funded VBYI Coordinator position has provided the capacity necessary to pursue this work and directly contributed to securing over \$1 million in new OST funding, demonstrating a strong return on investment and a clear pathway toward long-term sustainability.



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## MEMO

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**DATE:** FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
**TO:** BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FROM:** BRITANI OLDS, ADMINISTRATOR FOR HUMAN RESOURCES  
**RE:** HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

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**HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE - (Leadership, Communication Skills, Resourcefulness, Creativity, and Innovativeness, Professional Preparation, Decision Maker, Planner and Organizer.)**

**\*Staff Recognition**



I would like to recognize Brittany Millan Torres on the completion of her Master's degree in Workforce Education, Development, and Leadership from Western Michigan University. As a participant in the Grow Your Own program, Brittany demonstrated a strong commitment to professional growth and educational leadership. She successfully completed her internship this past fall in Stephanie Reed's classroom at VB Tech, where she further strengthened her instructional and leadership skills. We are extremely proud of her accomplishments!

**\*Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency System Transition**

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) is transitioning to a new tax and benefits system called MiUI, which will replace the current Michigan Web Account Manager (MiWAM). Kara Duffy and I have been working together to plan for this system transition. There has been change of dates, but as of right now the MiUI Release 1 will go into effect February 23, 2026. We will have everything completed from our side well before February 23, so I expect a smooth transition.

## **Business Office Fun and Engagement**

December was a busy month for the business office, but we were able to sneak in a team lunch and white elephant gift exchange! The game did not disappoint (well, maybe for some who had their gift stolen), but was certainly fun and entertaining.



Memorandum	
<b>Date:</b>	February 4, 2026
<b>To:</b>	VBISD Board of Education
<b>From:</b>	Angie Gutiérrez <i>Administrator of Multilingual and Migrant Services</i>
<b>Subject:</b>	Multilingual/Migrant Services Update



### **SWMMRC Christmas Basket Event**

The Southwestern Michigan Migrant Resource Council (SWMMRC) successfully hosted its 25th Annual Christmas Basket Event, serving 275 migrant and seasonal farmworker families from Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties. The event was held at the Van Buren Intermediate School District Conference

Center and provided an opportunity for celebration, connection, and community support.

Families received food and hygiene supplements, including staples donated by Burnette’s and the Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency. A new Rice and Beans Drive, supported by local libraries, businesses, and an anonymous donor, resulted in the distribution of over 700 pounds of rice and 700 pounds of beans.

In addition to material support, families participated in holiday activities including visits with Santa, family photos, children’s crafts, and refreshments. InterCare, Inc. provided flu shots and health screenings, while partner agencies shared educational resources.

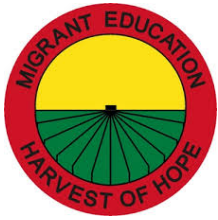
Teachers, recruiters, support staff, and family members from the VBISD Multilingual/Migrant Program and other agencies played a critical role by assisting with packing food and gifts, supporting families during the event, and delivering Christmas baskets to families who were unable to attend in person.

This donor-funded event was made possible through the collective efforts of SWMMRC members, volunteers, and community partners, including MSU Extension, MDHHS

Farmworker Outreach, United Farmworker Foundation, Michigan Labor & Economic Opportunity, VBISD Multilingual Program staff, the VBISD Great Start Parent Coalition, and local volunteers. Special recognition is extended to the Bangor and Hartford Pageant Court Royalty for their volunteer support throughout the event.

The SWMMRC is grateful for the continued community support that allows this donor-funded event to honor and support the essential contributions of migrant and seasonal farmworker families.





## **Limited Services Resource Bags: Equitable, Standards-Aligned Support for Migratory Learners**

Limited Services Resource Bags are intentionally designed to support our migratory learners across developmental stages, with materials tailored to each age and grade level. Alma Robles, our lead Summer School teacher, designed these bags and the lessons for each grade level. The Migrant HOME team, along with recruiters, delivers these to families, who then go through the lessons with the students.

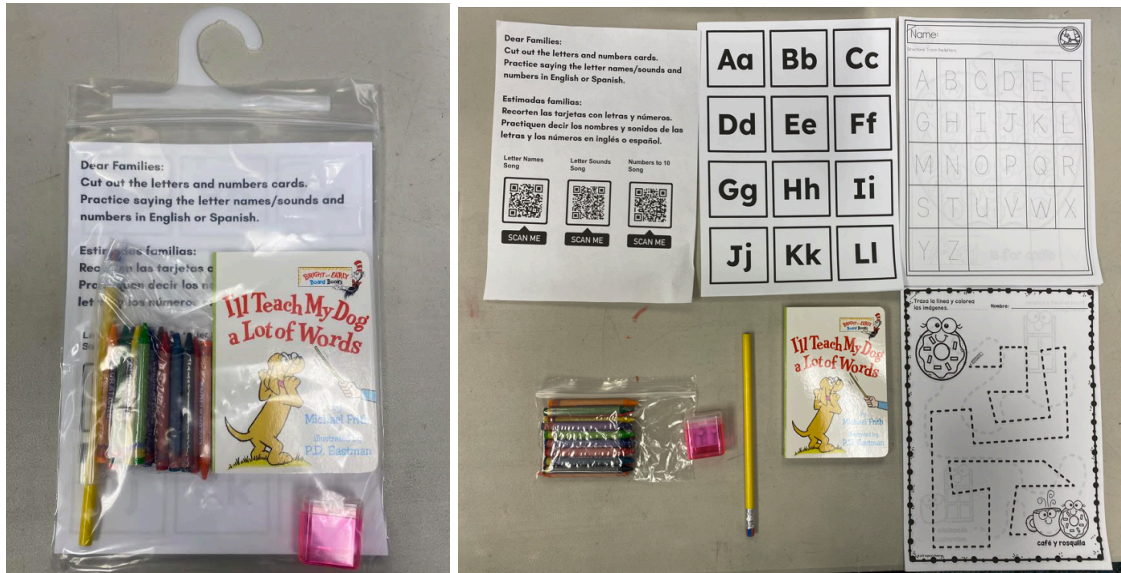
These resources serve students as young as two years old and extend through high school, providing families with meaningful tools to support early learning, continued academic growth, and engagement at home. We even designed some bags for our at-risk youth who are currently not attending school (Out-of-school youth). Each resource bag includes age- and grade-appropriate books, writing utensils, drawing or writing journals, and structured reading and math activities aligned to Common Core Standards. Reading and math packets are grade-specific and developmentally appropriate. For students in kindergarten through second grade, materials focus on alphabet knowledge, phonics, and sight word practice. For students in grades three through twelve, packets include reading passages, vocabulary development, and comprehension activities. Math practice is aligned to skills assessed through the Delta Math Screener, including number sense, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, and introductory algebraic concepts. Writing journals are included across all grade levels to provide students with a space for self-expression and written practice.

High-interest and accessible books are a core component of each resource bag. Preschool students receive bilingual board books; kindergarten and first-grade students receive decodable texts; and students in grades two through twelve receive books at or below grade level to promote independent reading and confidence. The selection of texts is intentional, to provide books that students can successfully read and are motivated to engage with.

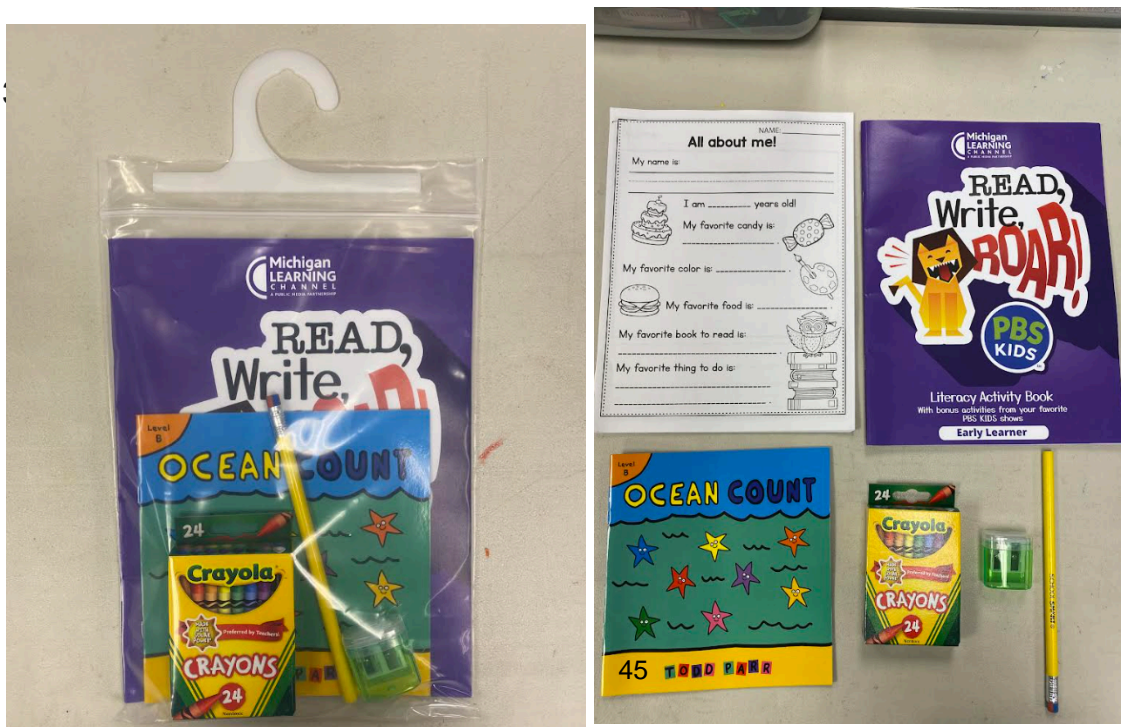
Resource bags are differentiated by age group. PK2 and PK3 bags include a family resource page with QR codes linking to instructional videos (alphabet letter names and sounds, numbers to 10), bilingual word cards (colors, numbers, shapes), two bilingual books, an alphabet coloring book, and jumbo crayons. PK4 and PK5 bags include the family resource page, alphabet and number cards, a reading and math activity packet, a drawing journal, and writing utensils. K–12 bags include a grade-specific reading and math activity packet, a book aligned to the student’s reading level, a writing journal, and writing utensils.

These Limited Services Resource Bags reflect our commitment to equitable access, family partnership, and high-quality instructional support for multilingual learners across all grade levels.

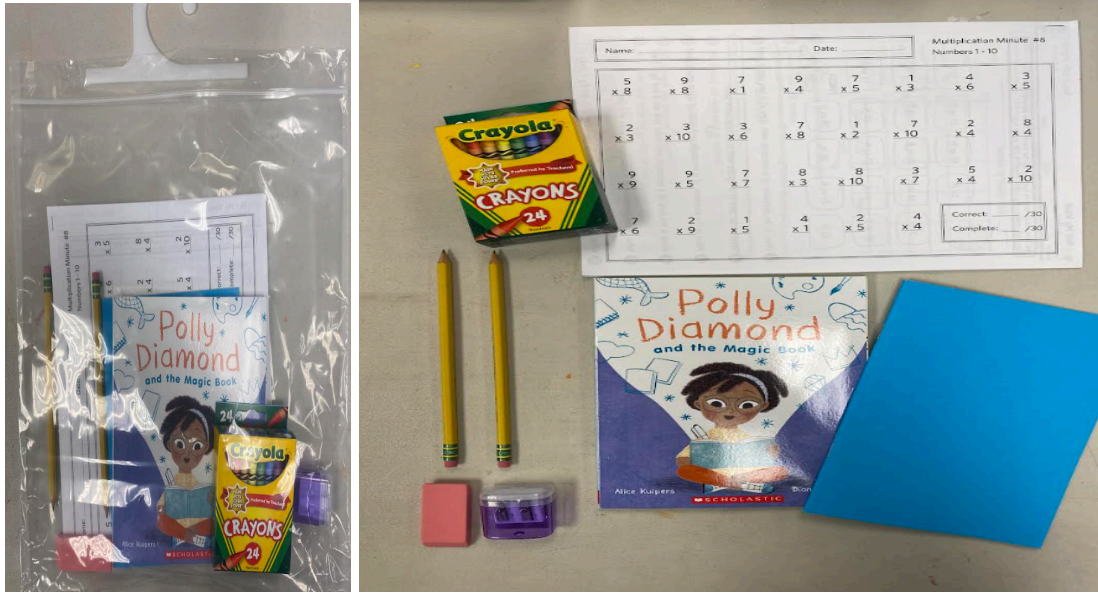
### P5 Bags:



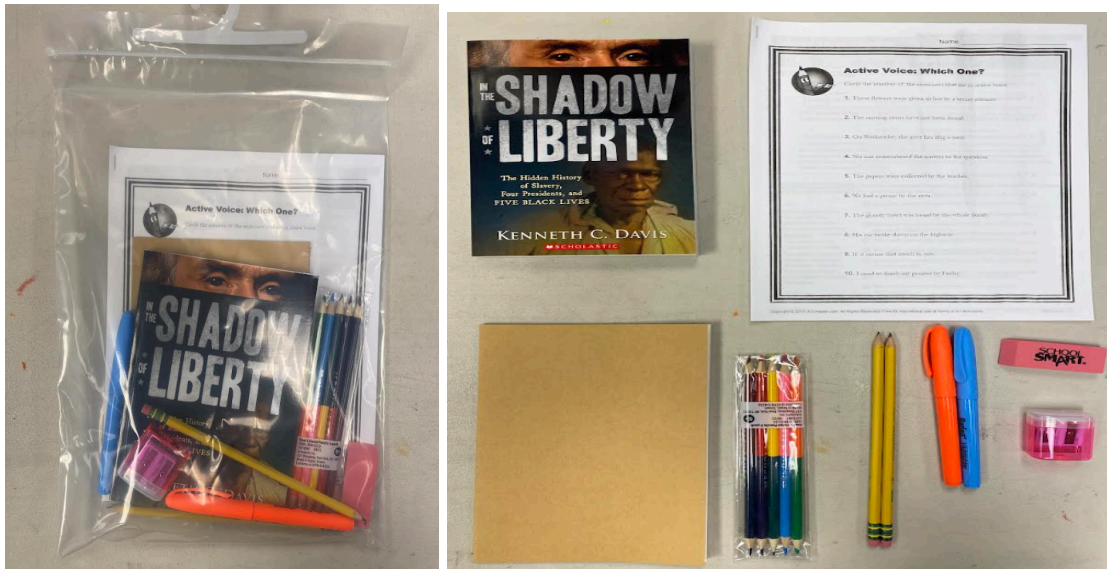
### Kindergarten:



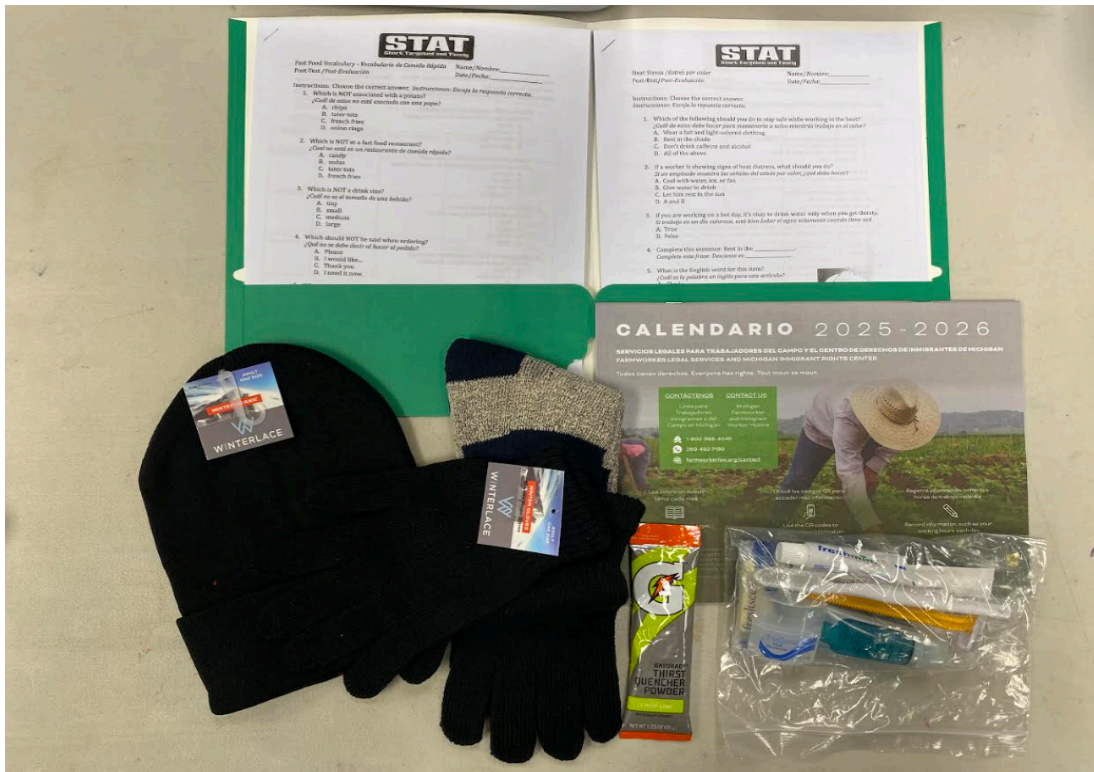
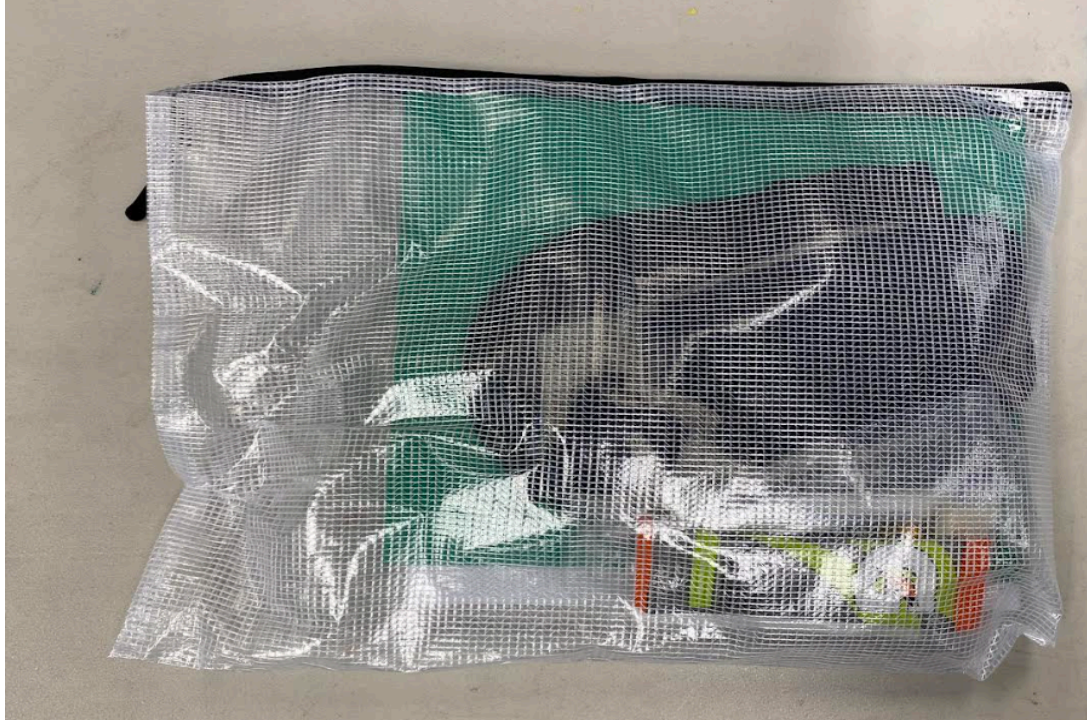
### Third Grade:



### High School:



**OSY (Out-of-School Youth):**



**STAT**  
 Student Test Assessment Tool  
 First Period Vocabulary - Vocabulario de Clase de Primer Período  
 First Text / First Diccionario

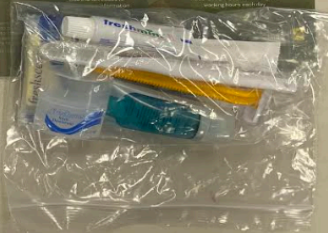
Nombre/Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fecha/Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Choose the correct answer. Instrucciones: Elige la respuesta correcta.  
 ¿Cuál de estas es una fruta? ¿Cuál de estas es una fruta? ¿Cuál de estas es una fruta?

- Which is NOT associated with a fruit? ¿Cuál de estas no está asociada con una fruta?
  - A. apple
  - B. watermelon
  - C. french fries
  - D. watermelon
- Which is NOT a fast food restaurant? ¿Cuál de estas no es un restaurante de comida rápida?
  - A. Wendy's
  - B. KFC
  - C. McDonald's
  - D. Dunkin' Donuts
- Which is NOT a drink size? ¿Cuál de estas no es un tamaño de una bebida?
  - A. small
  - B. medium
  - C. medium
  - D. large
- Which should NOT be said when ordering? ¿Cuál de estas no debería decirse al hacer el pedido?
  - A. Please
  - B. Thank you
  - C. Thank you
  - D. I want to eat

**CALENDARIO 2025-2026**  
 SERVICIOS LEGALES PARA TRABAJADORES DEL CAMPO Y EL CENTRO DE DERECHOS DE INMIGRANTES DE HOUSTON  
 FARMWORKER LEGAL SERVICES AND IMMIGRANT RIGHTS CENTER  
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CONTACTÉNGENOS / CONTACTEUS  
 Houston, TX  
 281-440-1100  
 houston@farmworker.org





## "VB Teach: Breaking Barriers: Innovative Strategies for Engaging Migratory and Multilingual students"

On December 5, I had the opportunity to spend the day with the Careers in Education classes at Van Buren Tech. Students who participated are aspiring elementary and secondary teachers, special education teachers, school counselors, preschool teachers, and ESL teachers. Throughout the day, we explored multilingual and migrant education programming, with a focus on the academic, instructional, and social-emotional supports students need to be successful. We also discussed engagement strategies educators can use to ensure multilingual and migrant families feel welcomed and included, regardless of their future role in education.

The presentation highlighted VBISD's multilingual and migrant services, including school-year, summer, and home-based programming, and examined Van Buren County's demographics to better understand the unique needs of these student populations. I shared examples of summer migrant programming and community partnerships that remove barriers and create meaningful learning experiences. Students also learned practical, culturally responsive strategies for family engagement and communication, emphasizing relationship-building, flexibility, and accessibility. I really enjoyed spending time with these future educators.





## Section 41 State Aid – Overview and Local Impact

Section 41 of the State School Aid Act provides targeted funding to Michigan school districts serving multilingual learners with the greatest English language development needs. This funding is supplemental and is not intended to replace required core instructional services. English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction is a Tier 1, general education responsibility and must be funded through general education dollars.

Section 41 funds may be used to support multilingual learners whose WIDA ACCESS scores range from 1.0 to 3.9, representing emerging to developing levels of English proficiency. To be eligible for funding, districts must demonstrate compliance with state instructional minute requirements:

- 300 minutes per week for students scoring 1.0–1.9
- 150 minutes per week for students scoring 2.0–4.7

Districts not currently meeting these requirements must submit a four-year plan outlining how they will reach full compliance.

In Van Buren County, Section 41 funding plays a critical role in supporting multilingual learners during the most intensive phase of language acquisition. Funds are used to provide supplemental instructional supports, targeted professional learning for educators, and WIDA-aligned instructional materials, while ensuring continued access to grade-level content.

During the current year, districts within the Van Buren Intermediate School District received a total of \$795,304.00 in Section 41 funding. These resources help ensure consistent, intentional instruction that promotes language development, academic growth, and equitable learning opportunities across districts.

2026 Preliminary Allocations:

Bloomingdale	121,430	Lawton	20,333
Bangor	96,909	Lawrence	33,001
Covert	129,509	Mattawan	19,747
Decatur	40,872	Paw Paw	22,385
Gobles	21,728	South Haven	68,565
Hartford	219,186	*VBISD*	1,639

\*Multilingual students who attend Special Education Programs at VBISD Centers



## **Update on Multilingual Learner and Special Education Collaboration: Development of a District-Wide Protocol for Identifying Suspected Disabilities in Multilingual Learners**

The Multilingual and Special Education collaboration at VBISD has been working diligently to develop a district-wide protocol for identifying suspected disabilities in multilingual learners. The committee is composed of Laura Kronk, Multilingual Coach and Consultant; Anna Fawley, Diagnostic Teacher Consultant; Nate Nelson, School Psychologist; and Gaylia Elias, School Psychologist.

During the initial phase of this work, the committee engaged in extensive learning, information gathering, research, and collaborative decision-making to establish the foundation of the protocol. In the second phase, which took place throughout the current school year, the committee met monthly to develop an initial draft of the protocol. This protocol is designed to guide district Child Study Teams through a structured, research-based decision-making process when addressing academic and/or behavioral concerns for multilingual learners.

While the protocol does not rely on a single assessment or recommend one specific tool, it incorporates multiple research-based measures to support informed decision-making. These tools help districts understand expected language development at varying proficiency levels and consider critical factors such as time spent receiving instruction in the student's native language, family history, and other relevant contextual variables.

The protocol draft is currently undergoing peer review. As the committee enters the third phase of implementation, plans are underway to collaborate with the Professional Learning Coordinator to design a county-wide rollout strategy, with the goal of implementation during the 2026–2027 school year. The committee believes that establishing a comprehensive and consistent system will strengthen districts' ability to appropriately identify and support multilingual learners based on their individual needs and challenges.



## **Multilingual Consultant/Coaching Update**

During the current school year, Laura Kronk, Multilingual Learner Coach and Consultant, has played an active and impactful role in supporting local school districts across Van Buren ISD. She has been a key participant in the VBISD Multilingual and Special Education Committee, contributing to the development of a district protocol to guide special education decision-making for multilingual learners.

Laura Kronk has supported numerous professional learning collaborations across the county, including work with Paw Paw High School, Decatur Elementary, Bloomingdale Elementary, and Pullman Elementary. In addition, she has provided targeted coaching to newly hired VBISD multilingual learner teachers to support the development of their instructional practice, as well as coaching support to new multilingual learner teachers in districts outside of the VBISD consortium.

Her coaching work has extended to general education teachers across grade levels and content areas, ranging from high school biology to upper elementary English language arts. Laura Kronk has also co-led the regional Van Buren Multilingual Education Network meetings, facilitating collaboration among VBISD and neighboring counties to develop sustainable tools and support for multilingual education.

Additionally, Laura Kronk provides comprehensive WIDA professional learning for teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators across all districts. She also offers technical assistance related to WIDA, including support for the annual English language proficiency assessment and guidance for district and building test coordinators. Through this work, she has maintained strong professional relationships and open communication with educators and administrators who seek her expertise.



**III. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of 2026 Region 6 MASB Board of Directors Candidate  
**(ROLL CALL VOTE)**

54

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## MEMO

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DATE: FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FROM: DAVID D. MANSON, SUPERINTENDENT  
RE: APPROVAL OF REGION 6 MASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2026 CANDIDATE

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The Van Buren Intermediate School District Board of Education has one (1) ballot to vote for the Region 6, 2026 MASB Board of Directors representative. The following candidates are running for this position:

Region 6 (Three-Year Term)

- Charlie Fulbright - Battle Creek Public Schools
- TiAnna Harrison – Kalamazoo Public Schools
- Elizabeth O’Dell – St Joseph County ISD

***RESOLVED***, the Van Buren Intermediate School District Board of Education approves casting a vote for \_\_\_\_\_ as the Region 6 MASB Board of Directors 2026 Representative.



MASB  
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION  
OF SCHOOL BOARDS

A large, dark blue circular graphic with a white border. At the top, there are three white stars of varying sizes. Below the stars, the text "BOARD of DIRECTORS ELECTIONS" is written in white, with "of" in a smaller, italicized font. At the bottom of the circle, the year "2026" is displayed in white text on a brown rectangular background.

★ ★ ★  
**BOARD *of* DIRECTORS ELECTIONS**  
**2026**

# MASB Bylaws – Article IV – Membership

**Section 2.** Active Members. The board of education of any public school district in Michigan may become an active member of the Association. Active members of the Association shall be divided into eight regions. The regions shall be designated according to intermediate school district boundaries. The regions shall be as follows:

**Region 1.** Copper Country ISD, Delta-Schoolcraft ISD, Dickinson-Iron ISD, Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD, Marquette-Alger RESA and Menominee County ISD.

**Region 2.** Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona ESD, Charlevoix- Emmet ISD, Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, COOR ISD, Iosco RESA, Manistee ISD, Northwest Education Services and Wexford-Missaukee ISD.

**Region 3.** Ionia County ISD, Kent ISD, Mecosta-Osceola ISD, Montcalm Area ISD, Muskegon Area ISD, Newaygo County RESA, Ottawa Area ISD and West Shore ESD.

**Region 4.** Bay-Arenac ISD, Clare-Gladwin RESD, Clinton County RESA, Gratiot-Isabella RESD, Midland County ESA, Saginaw ISD and Shiawassee RESD.

**Region 5.** Genesee ISD, Huron ISD, Lapeer County ISD, Sanilac ISD, St. Clair County RESA and Tuscola ISD.

**Region 6.** Allegan Area ESA, Barry ISD, Berrien RESA, Branch ISD, Calhoun ISD, Heritage Southwest ISD, Kalamazoo RESA, St. Joseph County ISD and Van Buren ISD.

**Region 7.** Eaton RESA, Hillsdale County ISD, Ingham ISD, Jackson County ISD, Lenawee ISD, Livingston ESA, Monroe County ISD and Washtenaw ISD.

**Region 8.** Macomb ISD, Oakland Schools and Wayne RESA.

**Active members shall also be divided into the following seven groups based on pupil membership.**

**Group I** All intermediate districts;

**Group II** School districts with a pupil membership of 0 - 1,400;

**Group III** School districts with a pupil membership of 1,401 - 2,500;

**Group IV** School districts with a pupil membership of 2,501 - 5,000;

**Group V** School districts with a pupil membership of 5,001 - 11,000;

**Group VI** School districts with a pupil membership of 11,001 - 40,000; and

**Group VII** School districts with a pupil membership more than 40,000.

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## Region 5 (Three-Year Term)

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## Region 6 (Three-Year Term)

<b>Charlie Fulbright</b>	<b>Battle Creek Public Schools, Calhoun County</b>	9
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Note: Incumbents are **bolded**

# Board of Directors' Elections – Candidate Information and Email Voting Procedures

This year, six seats on the MASB Board of Directors are up for election.

The MASB Board of Directors is comprised of 23 members, including three at-large directors. Sixteen directors shall be elected from the eight regions, with two elected from each region; and one director per group shall be elected from Groups V, VI and VII. Directors are elected by active member school boards and, each year, several seats are up for election. The MASB President will nominate a member to serve as an at-large director, subject to Board approval.

## Board Limitations:

Article VIII, Section 6 of the MASB Bylaws permits only one director to be elected or appointed from any one local or intermediate school district board.

According to MASB Bylaws Article VIII, Section 8, if any nomination for the Board of Directors is unopposed, the Board of Directors shall declare the unopposed candidate elected without conducting an election for the uncontested group or region.

**This year, the following seats on the MASB Board are up for election (one seat each, three-year terms unless otherwise noted): Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. If you're unsure of your district's region or group, please see the list on page 2.**

- **Region 2 will continue to be represented by Kenneth Stahl, McBain Rural Agricultural School, (unopposed, no ballots will be sent)**
- **Region 3 will continue to be represented by Jill Fennessy, Tri County Area Schools, (unopposed, no ballots will be sent)**
- **Region 4 will continue to be represented by Matthew Showalter, Gratiot-Isabella ISD, (unopposed, no ballots will be sent)**

**Voting in Regions 1, 5 and 6** will take place via an online ballot. No local district/ISD funds can be used to campaign for anyone running for a seat. To help your board make an informed decision, the following pages contain background information and statements from each of the candidates.

Each district received ONE ballot, which was emailed to the superintendent secretary on record with MASB on **Friday, Jan. 23, 2026**. These ballots **CANNOT** be forwarded to anyone else. Once your board makes a decision on which candidate it wishes to vote for, please convey this information to your superintendent secretary.

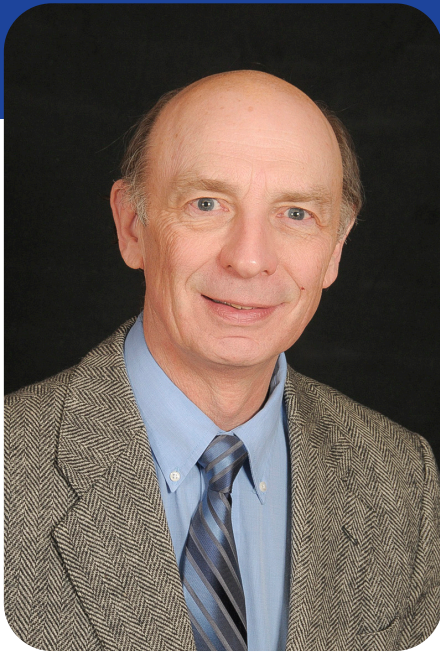
Completed ballots must be cast and confirmed by the superintendent secretary by **1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2026**.

Unofficial election results will be available by calling 517.327.5915 after 2 p.m. on the deadline date. They will also be sent out via email that afternoon. Official results will be approved at the March 20, 2026, Board of Directors' meeting, which newly elected directors should plan to attend.

## To summarize:

- Ballot deadline is **1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2026**.
- MASB would like to remind all candidates for the MASB Board of Directors that no school district funds can be used for campaigning during the election. This rule prohibits a candidate from using their school district email account to send messages to other school board members. Therefore, a personal email account must be used for campaigning purposes when running for the MASB Board of Directors. If you have any questions about what may or may not constitute an expenditure of school district funds, please contact MASB's Legal Counsel **Brad Banasik, J.D.**, at **bbanasik@masb.org** or **517.327.5929**.
- An electronic file containing the physical addresses and email addresses for the voting group or region shall be made available to each candidate running for election to the board of directors. The revokable license to use the addresses shall be limited to contacting school board members to share information about the MASB Board of Directors' election.
- Have questions? Contact **Brooke Wooley** at **517.327.5915** or **bwooley@masb.org**.

# Region 1 (Three-Year Term)



**Brad Baltensperger** INCUMBENT

**Houghton-Portage Township Schools, Houghton County**

**Time served  
on this board:**

**38** years

**Offices held:**

President, Vice  
President, Secretary,  
and Treasurer

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember

Master Diamond

Master Platinum

President's Award of Recognition

## Election Statement:

The Michigan Association of School Boards is a leading voice for public education in Michigan. It provides leadership development services for school board members across the state so they can do their jobs. MASB also brings the concerns of school boards to the legislature and the media. The Board of Directors helps guide these activities.

Upper Peninsula schools struggle with many challenges—high transportation costs, teacher shortages, unpredictable funding, and multiple issues of particular concern to small and rural school districts. MASB is THE critical resource helping board members find solutions. I am proud that the organization has undertaken several important initiatives to assist UP board members in their leadership roles, including a wide range of online courses, incentives for participation in MASB events, and the Upper Peninsula Advocacy Summit this fall in Marquette.

I have served on the Houghton-Portage Township School Board for a number of years. I also helped establish the Copper Country Association of School Boards, so that area board members would have opportunities to celebrate public education and to discuss issues of mutual concern with one another. MASB is committed to strategies and policies that support student learning and help board members govern wisely to enable all students to succeed. If re-elected to the MASB Board of Directors, I will continue to speak up for the needs of UP schools so we can all respond to the challenges of our local communities in providing excellent education for our students.

# Region 1 (Three-Year Term)



## JJ Johnson-Reeves

### Escanaba Area Public Schools, Delta County

**Time served  
on this board:**

**3** years

**Offices held:**

Secretary

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Advocacy Skills Specialty Certification

Community Relations Certification

Data Skills Specialty Certification

Finance Certification

Leadership Certification

### Election Statement:

Michigan’s public schools stand at a pivotal moment as districts respond to evolving student needs, workforce demands, and community expectations. I believe deeply that public education is the foundation of a thriving and equitable society. I am committed to ensuring that every district—large or small, rural or urban—has the support, resources, and vision necessary to help students succeed. This includes strengthening the systems that serve students, empowering the educators who lead classrooms, and equipping school boards with the tools, training, and advocacy needed for effective governance.

My professional background and board service have prepared me to contribute meaningfully at the statewide level as a member of the MASB Board of Directors. As the owner of a small personal-lines insurance agency serving the educational community, I have developed strong experience in budgeting, policy and procedure development, risk management, and community-centered leadership. In addition, my service as Secretary of the Escanaba Area Public Schools Board of Education has reinforced the importance of sound governance, transparency, and trust-building with families and stakeholders. These roles have strengthened my ability to listen thoughtfully, collaborate across differing perspectives, and make decisions grounded in both data and compassion—always keeping students at the center of the work. I bring a leadership mindset that is both pragmatic and aspirational, rooted in real-world experience and driven by a belief that our systems can and must improve.

The challenges facing public education in Michigan are well known: recruiting and retaining exceptional educators, addressing student mental health needs, ensuring equitable and sustainable funding, and preparing students for a rapidly changing economy. MASB plays a vital role in helping districts meet these challenges through high-quality governance training, strong legislative advocacy, and a commitment to continuous improvement. I am seeking a seat on the MASB Board of Directors to help strengthen the partnership between local boards and the statewide organization that supports them. I will bring a steady, solutions-focused voice dedicated to elevating board governance, championing public education, and ensuring that MASB remains a trusted and effective resource for every district in Michigan. It would be an honor to serve and advance MASB’s mission on behalf of Michigan’s students, families, and communities. Our students deserve nothing less than our most courageous thinking and our most determined actions.

# Region 5 (Three-Year Term)



## Richard Hill

**Kearsley Community Schools, Genesee County**

**Time served  
on this board:**

**30** years

**Time served on  
another board:**

**8** years

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award  
Award of Merit  
Award of Distinction  
Master Boardmember  
Master Diamond  
Master Platinum  
President's Award of Recognition  
Community Relations Certification  
Data Skills Specialty Certification  
Finance Certification

### **Offices held:**

President, Vice President,  
Secretary and Treasurer

## **Election Statement:**

For the past 30 years, I've had the opportunity to serve our local School District Board of Education, Kearsley Community Schools. After retiring from GM in April 2016, I ran and was elected to our Genesee County Intermediate School District Board of Education in 2017.

As a Board member, I'm able to work with Administration, Teachers, School Staff, Students, Parents, the community, and County to provide ongoing educational opportunities for all Students. When joining both Boards of Educations, my three goals are: provide a safe and healthy environment for all employees and students, work to drive continuous improvement with our student learning, and maintain a strong financial fund equity.

Much like our Administration and Teachers, I've been a big supporter of professional development. In 2021, I was recognized by the MASB Executive Director for achieving the MASB President Award of Recognition. I've decided to run for the MASB Board of Directors in 2026. I feel that with my experience and leadership acquired with GM and my School Board experience, I can provide value to the MASB Board of Directors. My style is simple; work cooperatively with my colleagues, listen to others, ask questions, review the data, and do what's best for our students and School Districts.

If any Board would like to meet with me, please call me. I am asking for your support to give me this opportunity. Thank You, Richard Hill

# Region 5 (Three-Year Term)



**James Johnson** INCUMBENT

**Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools, Genesee County**

**Time served  
on this board:**

**12** years

**Time served on  
another board:**

**5** years

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember

Master Diamond

Master Platinum

President's Award of Recognition

Advocacy Skills Specialty Certification

Data Skills Specialty Certification

**Offices held:**

President, Vice President,  
and Treasurer

## Election Statement :

Greetings, fellow school board members, it was a pleasure and an honor to serve as your 2024–2025 State President. As your current Past President and Region 5 representative, I have embraced this role with dignity and honor, driven by an unwavering passion for the success of public education. As your Regional Director, I have served on and chaired the Government Relations committee, Resolutions and Bylaws committee and on various National School Board committees.

My leadership training, combined with years of professional and vocational experience, has prepared me to serve as your MASB Region 5 Director with focus, strength, and vision. As an Information Technology Director, I bring a unique ability to solve complex problems. A skillset that has proven invaluable in navigating the challenges facing public education today. Over the past few years, as a director, I have had challenges that cultivated new perspectives while yet remaining steadfast and resilient, ensuring that our collective voice grows stronger with every challenge. As your representative, I lead with professionalism, respect, and a spirit of collaboration. I believe in making collective progress not only effective but enjoyable. Together, we can continue strengthening your district where your student thrives, and every school board member feels empowered to lead with confidence.

As I converse nationwide on the challenges facing school boards everywhere, one truth stands out: the safety of our schools is not just a priority; it is a promise we must keep. Every child deserves to walk into a classroom feeling secure, supported, and ready to learn. In Michigan, that also includes access to clean, safe drinking water in every school. These are not luxuries; they are the foundations of a healthy learning environment. When students feel protected physically, mentally, and emotionally, they can unlock their full potential.

True board governance is not created in Lansing; it is shaped at the local board tables, where decisions directly impact students, educators, families, and communities. Therefore, I want to thank you for your leadership and fervent dedication to public education while being the voice for the children that you represent.

I respectfully request your support, and that of your board, by re-electing James Johnson as the Region 5 representative on the MASB Board of Directors, to ensure continued strong advocacy for your district. Together, we will succeed!

# Region 6 (Three-Year Term)



**Charlie Fulbright** INCUMBENT

**Battle Creek Public Schools, Calhoun County**

**Time served  
on this board:**

**7** years

**Offices held:**

President, Vice  
President, and  
Treasurer

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember

Master Diamond

Advocacy Skills Specialty Certification

Community Relations Certification

Data Skills Specialty Certification

Finance Certification

Leadership Certification

## Election Statement:

I am interested in being a Director of MASB for Region 6 because I believe public education is fundamental in our state and country. Especially in this last year, and the next three years, I feel it is important to have not only diversity on local and state boards, but strong leaders. I believe my experience and dedication are just that.

I have been on my local board for 7 years and on the MASB board for two years. During my time on my local board, I have been a Trustee, Treasurer, Vice President and President. I have continued my own personal learning from day one of being on the board, and I have achieved the Level 5 Master Diamond Award, as well as all five Specialty Certifications. I have also been a committee member of the Government Relations Committee and Resolutions and Bylaws Committee for MASB and in the 2025 Annual Leadership Conference I was a counter for the delegate assembly.

I am willing and able to step up when needed to better our public education community. I have attended the National School Board Association (NSBA) to expand my knowledge and growth to bring back tools and ideas for not only my local board, but MASB and our state. I feel I bring a perspective that no one else can being an out gay man. I would love to continue my advocacy, growth and leadership by being your Region 6 Director.

# Region 6 (Three-Year Term)



## TiAnna Harrison

**Kalamazoo Public Schools, Kalamazoo County**

**Time served  
on this board:**

**12** years

**Offices held:**

President, Vice  
President, Secretary  
and Treasurer

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember

Master Diamond

Master Platinum

Advocacy Skills Specialty Certification

Data Skills Specialty Certification

### **Election Statement :**

My name is TiAnna Harrison, and I currently serve as Board President of Kalamazoo Public Schools. Since my appointment to the board in 2014 and reelection in 2020, I have served in every officer role, including Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

As a board leader in a diverse, urban district, I have worked alongside my colleagues to strengthen governance practices, ensure financial stability, advance equity-centered policies, and support student achievement and well-being. These experiences have reinforced my belief that strong, well-trained boards are essential to strong public schools.

I am deeply aligned with MASB's mission to promote effective governance, board member development and advocacy for local control. I believe school boards must be equipped with the tools, training and policy support needed to meet the unique needs of their communities while navigating complex statewide challenges. I am seeking a seat on the MASB Board of Directors to contribute my experience, collaborative leadership style and commitment to equity in support of school boards across Michigan. I am passionate about advancing policies that empower locally elected boards, support educators, and improve outcomes for all students.

Thank you for your consideration.

# Region 6 (Three-Year Term)



**Elizabeth O'Dell** INCUMBENT

**St. Joseph County ISD, St. Joseph County**

**Time served  
on this board:**

**28** years

**Offices held:**

President, Vice  
President, Secretary  
and Treasurer

**MASB Certification:**

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember

Master Diamond

## Election Statement:

The MASB is our collective voice on education at the state level, and it allows board members to be informed about educational issues. I think the Director for the Region's role is to ensure that our voice is heard as the MASB discusses issues and concerns.

I have been an active St. Joseph County ISD member for 28 years. I have held various positions, from member to president. Each position has allowed me to grow.

I have worked with the parent-teacher association, band, and athletic booster clubs. I have served on the special education advisory committee. I have enjoyed serving as a delegate to MASB membership meetings in my county. Through this process, I have learned what various boards are concerned about as they present resolutions and amendments to the Board of Directors, which has deepened my understanding of how our collective needs are connected.

My children and I are products of public education. I obtained my bachelor's degree from Ball State University and my graduate degree from Western Michigan University. I am not new to service, advocacy, and listening. I have and will continue to strive to assist others to make positive change. I am a retired CEO of St. Joseph County Community Mental Health, I use my time to volunteer in my church, for the American Red Cross Disaster Relief, as a substitute teacher, as well as working with a variety of social action services through my sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

After serving for one year, I am convinced that the position is to advocate for the needs of our small and large communities. I am a champion for public education, and with your vote, I can continue to serve this region at the next level.



***The mission of the Michigan Association of School Boards is to provide high-quality educational leadership services for all Michigan boards of education, and to advocate for an equitable and exceptional public education for all students.***

**INFO@MASB.ORG | MASB.ORG | 517.327.5900**

**1001 Centennial Way, Suite 400 • Lansing, Michigan 48917-8249**

B. Approval to Hire Two Additional ESL Teachers (**ROLL CALL VOTE**)

68

**Date:** February 4, 2026

**To:** VBISD Board of Education

**From:** Angie Gutiérrez, Administrator of Multilingual and Migrant Services

**Subject:** Approval to Hire Two Additional ESL Teachers

Bloomington Public Schools has joined the Van Buren ISD Title 3 Consortium. As part of this partnership, Bloomington will fund two full-time ESL teaching positions through a shared services agreement. As a result, I am asking the board for approval to post for two full-time ESL teachers.

**RESOLVED**, the VBISD Board of Education approves the posting of two full-time ESL positions for the 25-26 school year, funded by consortium districts.



**Date:** February 4, 2026

**To:** VBISD Board of Education

**From:** Melissa Corona, Director of Instructional Services

**Subject:** **Approval of Mental Health Clinician Posting (3-5 days per week)**

**BACKGROUND:**

Students' mental health continues to be a critical need across Michigan. Through Section 31n funding, Van Buren ISD currently employs 21 Mental Health Clinicians who provide direct support to general education students across Van Buren County. Each clinician serves an average caseload of 25–30 students, offering essential mental health services that help students succeed academically and emotionally.

Due to recent staffing changes, we have a need to fill coverage equivalent to three days per week. While this need is part-time, the district recognizes that recruiting for a part-time clinician may be challenging. Therefore, we are requesting board approval to post the position with flexibility to offer either a part-time or full-time role, allowing the district to secure a qualified candidate who can best meet student and district needs.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

***RESOLVED***, the VBISD Board of Education approves the addition of a part-time, potentially full-time Mental Health Clinicians.

D. Approval of the Purchase of Four (4) 2027 School Buses (**ROLL CALL VOTE**)

72

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## MEMO

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**DATE:** FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
**TO:** BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FROM:** TERRY LECHENET  
**RE:** **APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) SCHOOL BUSES**

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Business Office recently used the MSBO/MAPT bus purchase program to place a bid for four (4) school buses (3) with air conditioning and lifts and (1) for Field Trips. Delivery will be in mid to late spring of 2026/27. Three bus bids were received and reviewed by Terry Lechenet, Transportation Supervisor, who is recommending we accept the bid from Hoekstra Transportation as the best fit for our current fleet operations.

Holland Bus Company \$708,745.00

Midwest Transit \$737,736.00

Hoekstra Transportation \$673,425.00

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**RESOLVED**, that the board of education approve the purchase of four (4) 2027 school buses for special education from Hoekstra Transportation at a total cost of \$673,245.00.

E. Approval of New Staff Employment (**Voice Vote**)

74

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## MEMO

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**DATE:** FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
**TO:** BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FROM:** BRITANI OLDS, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR  
**RE:** **APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT OF NEW STAFF**

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### **BACKGROUND**

Following is a list of new staff, their position, salary and start date. Copies of resumes are attached.

<b><u>New Employee</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Start Date</u></b>
Erik Hurson, IT Support Specialist	\$38,500.00	01/12/2026
Logan Wagner, Adaptive PE Teacher	\$47,948.00	01/12/2026
Dorothy Stakley, Business Management Instructor	\$82,838.00	01/22/2026
Layla Kingston, School Social Worker	\$86,885.00	01/26/2026
Deborah Kelly, Mental Health Clinician	\$68,841.00	02/04/2026

*\*Salary may be prorated based on start date*

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Resolved** that the Board of Education approve the employment of the staff listed above.



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## MEMO

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**DATE:** FEBRUARY 4, 2026  
**TO:** BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FROM:** BRITANI OLDS, ADMINISTRATOR FOR HUMAN RESOURCES  
**RE: STAFF RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**

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### **BACKGROUND**

Following is a list of retirements and resignations. Copies of letters are attached.

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Resignation/Retirement Date</u></b>
Elizabeth Hicks, Regional Supervisor	Resignation - 01/23/2026

### **RECOMMENDATION**

***Resolved*** that the Board of Education accept the resignations of the staff listed above.

Attachments

#### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

##### A. Adjournment

##### 1. Motion to Adjourn Meeting (**VOICE VOTE**)

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda."

It is the policy of the Van Buren Intermediate School District that no discriminatory practices based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, disability, genetic information or any other status covered by federal, state, or local law be allowed during any program, activity, service, or in employment. Inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies should be directed to Barbara Matthews, Director of Finance & Operations or Dave Manson, Director of Special Education, 490 S. Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, MI 49064, 269-674-8091.