



East Lansing Board of Education

509 Burcham Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823

Regular Meeting
February 9, 2026 - 7:00 PM
MacDonald Middle School Auditorium
1601 Burcham Dr
East Lansing, MI 48823



Agenda

I. Opening of Meeting

A. *Call to Order*

B. *Roll Call*

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

D. *Approval of Agenda*

Motion: I move that the Board of Education approve the agenda for the February 9, 2026, meeting as presented.

E. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: I move that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the following meeting as presented.

1. January 26, 2026, regular meeting

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I. **Opening of Meeting**

I.A. **Call to Order**

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

I.B. **Roll Call**

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

Student Representative Dijagah: Absent, Meghea: Absent

Superintendent Leyko: Present

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

The mission statement was read by Trustee Tykocki.

I.D. **Approval of Agenda**

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

I.E. **Approval of Minutes**

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

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

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

II. **Recognition**

There was no recognition reported.

III. **Student Representative Report**

There was no Student Representative report.

IV. **Superintendent's Report**

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

V. **Public Comment**

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

- Kristen Pfaendtner - Hiring of Dorcas Shumake as Associate Principal

VI. **Board Discussion**

There were no items for Board Discussion.

VII. **Action Items**

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

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

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

Discussion:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

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

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion:

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

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

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

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

All three items are budgeted through the sinking fund.

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

VII.D. **Fiber Installation**

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

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

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

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

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

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

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

Aye: 7, Nay: 0

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

VIII. Committee Reports

VIII.A. Academic and Technology Committee

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

VIII.B. Facilities Committee

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

VIII.C. Finance Committee

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

VIII.D. Intergovernmental Relations

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

VIII.E. Personnel Committee

No report

VIII.F. Policy Committee

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

VIII.G. Ingham School Officers Association (ISOA)

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

IX. Announcements

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

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

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

President

Secretary

II. Recognition

III. Student Representative Report

IV. Superintendent's Report

V. Public Comment

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

VI. Board Discussion

VII. Action Items

A. Religious and Cultural Calendar 2026-2029

Motion: I move that the Board of Education adopt the Religious and Cultural Calendar for the 2026-27, 2027-28, and 2028-29 school years.

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Religious and Cultural Calendar

East Lansing Public Schools are committed to honoring the rich cultural diversity of our students and community. The school calendar, adopted by the Board of Education, reflects this commitment. The dates listed below highlight major holidays observed by various religious and cultural groups in our district.

Whenever possible, administrators, teachers, coaches, and event planners will be mindful of these dates when scheduling activities. This includes major exams, exam reviews, tryouts, and significant events such as prom, graduations, banquets, and student elections.

If you would like a date or celebration considered for future inclusion, please contact the Superintendent’s Office at 517-333-7424.

Holiday		2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Muharram	Muslim	June 16, 2026	June 6, 2027	May 25, 2028
Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	September 4, 2026	August 25, 2027	August 13, 2028
Rosh Hashanah	Jewish	September 11 – September 13, 2026	October 1 – October 3, 2027	September 20 – September 22, 2028
Yom Kippur	Jewish	September 20 – September 21, 2026	October 10 – October 11, 2027	September 29 – September 30, 2028
Shardiya Navaratri	Hindu	October 11 – October 20, 2026	September 30 – October 9, 2027	September 19 – September 28, 2028
Dussehra	Hindu	October 20, 2026	October 9, 2027	September 27, 2028
Diwali	Hindu	November 8, 2026	October 29, 2027	October 17, 2028
Bodhi Day	Buddhist	December 8, 2026 April 9, 2026	December 8, 2027 April 9, 2027	December 8, 2028 April 9, 2028
Hanukkah	Jewish	December 4 – December 12, 2026	December 24, 2027 - January 1, 2028	December 12 – December 20, 2028
Christmas	Christian	December 25, 2026	December 25, 2027	December 25, 2028
Kwanzaa	African-American	December 26, 2026 – January 1, 2027	December 26, 2027 – January 1, 2028	December 26, 2028 – January 1, 2029
Chinese New Year	Buddhist/East Asian	February 6, 2027	January 26, 2028	February 13, 2029
Ash Wednesday	Christian	February 10, 2027	March 1, 2028	February 14, 2029
*Magha Puja	Buddhist	February 21, 2027	February 10, 2028	February 27, 2029
Persian Nowruz	Iranian	March 21, 2027	March 21, 2028	March 20, 2029
Holi	Hindu	March 22, 2027	March 11, 2028	March 1, 2029
Good Friday	Christian	March 26, 2027	April 14, 2028	March 30, 2029
Passover	Jewish	April 21 – April 29, 2027	April 10 – April 18, 2028	March 30 – April 7, 2029
Easter	Christian	March 28, 2027	April 16, 2028	April 1, 2029
Orthodox Easter	Christian	May 2, 2027	April 16, 2028	April 8, 2029
Ramadan	Muslim	February 7 - March 8, 2027	January 27 – February 25, 2028	January 15 – February 13, 2029
Eid al-Fitr	Muslim	March 9, 2027	February 27, 2028	February 14, 2029
Vesak	Buddhist	May 20, 2027	May 8, 2028	May 27, 2029
Eid al-Adha	Muslim	May 16 - 17, 2027	May 4- 5, 2028	April 23 - 24, 2029

Explanatory Notes

Ash Wednesday – Begins Christian Lent; symbolized by ashes.
Bodhi Day – Buddhist observance of the Buddha’s enlightenment.
Chinese New Year – Lunar New Year celebrated across East Asia.
Christmas – Christian holiday marking Jesus Christ’s birth.
Diwali – Five-day Hindu Festival of Lights celebrating good over evil.
Easter – Christian celebration of Jesus Christ’s resurrection.
Eid al-Adha – Marks the end of Hajj; honors Abraham’s act of faith.
Eid al-Fitr – End of Ramadan; multi-day celebration.
Good Friday – Christian observance of Jesus’ crucifixion.
Hanukkah – Eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights.
Holi – Festival of Colors welcoming spring.
Krishna Janmashtami – Celebration of Lord Krishna’s birth.
Kwanzaa – Seven-day celebration of African-American heritage.
Magha Puja – Honors the Buddha’s early disciples.
Muharram – Islamic New Year begins.
Navratri/Dussehra – Nine-day festival honoring the divine feminine.
Passover – Seven- or eight-day Jewish celebration of the Exodus.
Persian Nowruz – Iranian New Year, beginning at the spring equinox.
Ramadan – Month of fasting, prayer, and reflection in Islam.
Rosh Hashanah – Jewish New Year; start of the High Holy Days.
Vesak – Buddhist celebration of Buddha’s birth, enlightenment, and passing.
Yom Kippur – Jewish Day of Atonement; fasting and prayer.

Jewish and Muslim holy days begin at sundown on the first day indicated.

***Observance of this day can vary based on region. Dates are based on the lunar calendar and should be check every year.**

Hindu holidays were determined from <https://www.india.gov.in/calendar> with additional resources from <https://publicholidays.in/>

Adopted by the Board of Education:

B. Budget Calendar

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Motion: I move that the Board of Education adopt the budget calendar for developing the East Lansing Public Schools 2026-27 budget as presented.



East Lansing
Public Schools

MEMORANDUM

TO: ELPS Board of Education, Dori Leyko, Superintendent

FROM: Lisa Allen, Director of Finance

SUBJECT: Action Item – Budget Calendar

DATE: February 9, 2026

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt the budget calendar for developing the East Lansing Public Schools 2026-27 budget as presented.

Background:

Section 141.434 of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act states, “The chief administrative officer shall transmit the recommended budget to the legislative body according to an appropriate time schedule developed by the local unit.” Attached is the projected timeline for developing the 2026-27 Budget. The Finance Committee met on February 2, 2026, and reviewed the attached budget calendar.

EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2026-27 Budget Calendar

Updated: 1/28/26

January 16, 2026	January Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference
February 2, 2026	Finance Committee Meeting- review 2025-26 First Budget Revision
February 11, 2026	Governor's State budget proposal
February 11, 2026	Supplemental Count Day
February 23, 2026	Board Meeting- action on 2025-26 First Budget Revision
February 25, 2026	Governor's State of the State Address (budget priorities)
March 2, 2026	Finance Committee Meeting- initial 2026-27 budget forecast
late March 2026	Buildings to confirm to the business office the number of returning students and kindergarten numbers (develop SOC)
April 6, 2026	Finance Committee Meeting- review 2026-27 budget development
April 13, 2026	Board Meeting- Information item on administrative recommendation on SOC slots
April 27, 2026	Board Meeting- action on SOC slots
May 4, 2026	Finance Committee Meeting- review 2026-27 budget development
May 11, 2026	Board Meeting- action on 2025-26 Final Budget Revision
mid May 2026	May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference
June 1, 2026	Finance Committee Meeting- review 2026-27 budget recommendations
June 8, 2026	Notice of Public Hearing published in local newspaper (Truth in Taxation, at least 6 calendar days prior to hearing)
June 22, 2026	Board Meeting- Public Hearing on the 2026-27 Budget followed by adoption (by law, the Board must adopt the budget by June 30)

VIII. **Committee Reports**

- A. Academic and Technology Committee
- B. Facilities Committee
- C. Finance Committee
- D. Intergovernmental Relations
- E. Personnel Committee
- F. Policy Committee
- G. Ingham School Officers Association (ISOA)

IX. **Announcements**

- A. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education is February 23, 2026. The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the new ELPS District Administration Building located at 6160 Towar Ave, East Lansing.

X. **Adjournment**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dori Leyko
Superintendent*