Union City Community Schools

"Educating and Preparing Each Child for Their Future"

Union City, Michigan 49094 / Superintendent's Office (517) 741-3300 – Fax (517) 741-5205

Board of Education Agenda

Monthly Board Meeting	High School Media Center
Monday, October 19, 2026	6:30 PM

I. Call to Order
   a. Pledge of Allegiance
   b. Opening Statement
      Welcome to the Union City Community Schools Board meeting. Our meeting agenda is available for you to follow. The expectation for our board meeting is to follow this agenda closely. We operate under the Open Meetings Act and utilize Roberts Rule of Order to govern our discussion and decision-making process. There is an opportunity for public comment during our set agenda. We welcome the public to express their opinions during this time of our agenda. If there are questions about the agenda or the board meeting process, please seek out one of the Board members for clarification.

II. Addition or Deletion of Items on the Agenda

III. Consent Agenda
   a. Approval of Minutes
      1. Regular Minutes 9/21/26

IV. Correspondence

V. Comments From the Audience on Agenda Items
   a. Public Comments Statement
      This is the section of the meeting in which the public may make comments or share their opinions about items on the agenda. We ask you to limit your comments to no longer than 5 minutes per person to allow others the opportunity to speak. This is an opportunity for the Board to listen to your concerns. It is not Board practice to act on the concerns voiced during this meeting to allow for the Board to do further research.

VI. Action Items
   a. Hiring of Rebecca Kinney
      Board action is required to approve the hiring of Rebecca Kinney as a middle school special education teacher.
   b. Middle School Volleyball trip to MSU
      Board approval is required for the Middle School Volleyball team to travel to the Breslin Center, East Lansing to watch a volleyball game.
   c. Middle School Youth in Government Trip
      Board approval is required for the middle school Youth in Government Trip to Lansing November 22 - 24, 2026.
   d. Board action is required to approve the financials for the months ending August 31, 2026 and September 30, 2026

VII. Discussion Items
   a. Scholarship Granting Organizations
      The State of Michigan is debating opening up a Federal Tax Credit program for Scholarship Granting Organizations

VIII. Information Items
   a. Hiring of Jessica Bentley

Jessica Bentley has been hired as a sub cook for all three buildings.

b. Construction Updates
   Dr. McKerr will provide an update on the state of the Grant / Bond project.
c. Educator Curiosity Fund — Coming Soon!
   Dr. McKerr will provide an introduction to the Educator Curiosity Fund and how our teachers can utilize this unique opportunity.
d. Literacy Under the Lights Review
   Dr. McKerr will provide a recap of the event from 10-12-26

IX. Public Comment

a. Public Comment Statement
   This is the section of the meeting in which the public may make comments or share their opinions about Union City Community Schools. We ask you to limit your comments to no longer than 5 minutes per person to allow others the opportunity to speak. This is an opportunity for the Board to listen to your concerns. It is not Board practice to act on the concerns voiced during this meeting to allow for the Board to do further research.

X. Board Roundtable

XI. Adjournment

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 in agenda items five (V) and nine (IX).

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the meeting or hearing, please contact, Rhonda Reese at 517-741-8091 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible

Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, September 21, 2026 6:30 PM Eastern

High School Media Center
430 St. Joseph Street
Union City, MI 49094

Call to Order

President Amber Herman called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Amber Herman:	Present
Darin LaBar:	Present
Jennifer Gautsche:	Present
Paul Arlt:	Present
Tyler Burgett:	Present
Archie Mears:	Absent
Kate Stanton:	Present

Addition or Deletion of Items on the Agenda

The Board of Education approves the removal of agenda item VI.b, presentation by Erin Ormsby. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Consent Agenda

The Board of Education approves the Consent Agenda as presented. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gaustche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Correspondence

None

Comments From the Audience on Agenda Items

None

Information Items

Construction Update
8th Grade Trip to Trine University
Hiring of Olivia Olmsted as an LRE Paraprofessional
Hiring of Amiya Hendrickson as a one-on-one Paraprofessional
Financial Reports Memo

Action Items

Closed Session

The Board of Education adjourns to closed session for the purpose of discussing student discipline per Section 8(b) of the Open Meetings Act. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Board President, Amber Herman adjourned to closed session at 7:40pm.

The Board of Education comes back to open session. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Board President, Amber Herman called the meeting back to order at 8:00pm.

Student Return to School Plan

The Board of Education approves the return to school plan as presented. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Student Handbooks

The Board of Education approves the Student Handbooks as presented. This motion, made by Jennifer Gautsche and supported by Paul Arlt, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

High School Curriculum Guide

The Board of Education approves the High School Curriculum Guide as presented. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Donation

The Board of Education approves the Donation from Global Methodist Church Women's Group to the elementary as presented. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Discussion Items

Closed Session

The Board of Education adjourns to closed session for the purpose of discussing the purchase or lease of real property per Section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Kate Stanton, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Board President, Amber Herman adjourned to closed session at 8:16pm.

The Board of Education comes back to open session. This motion, made by Jennifer Gautsche and supported by Paul Arlt, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Board President, Amber Herman called the meeting back to order at 8:34pm.

Public Comment

None

Board Roundtable

31aa Open Discussion, Busses, Cell Phone Policy

Adjournment

The Board of Education adjourns the meeting. This motion, made by Darin LaBar and supported by Jennifer Gautsche, was carried.
Paul Arlt: YEA, Tyler Burgett: YEA, Jennifer Gautsche: YEA, Amber Herman: YEA, Darin LaBar: YEA, Kate Stanton: YEA.
YEA: 6 NAY:0

Board President, Amber Herman adjourned the meeting at 8:44.

Union City Community Schools

430 St. Joseph Street
Union City, MI 49094
jthomas@unioncityschools.org
Ph: 517.741.5381
Fax: 517.741.8513

Jamie Thomas
Principal

September 29, 2026

Dear Members of the Board of Education,

It is with great excitement and confidence that I recommend the following candidate for employment at Union City Middle School:

Mrs. Rebecca Kinney - Special Education Teacher

Included with this letter are the candidates' resume/employment information.

Mrs. Kinney comes to us with a wealth of knowledge experience as a retiring retired teacher who is not ready to hang up her certification just yet. She brings clear expectations, a desire for developing relationships with & helping students, and a love for working with children. Mrs. Kinney has a positive mindset, an excitement to work with students, and is eager to be a part of the Union City Middle School team.

After interviews and checking references, it is without hesitation I recommend Mrs. Kinney for the open Special Education teaching position at Union City Middle School.

Best regards,

Jamie Thomas

Field Trip Request Response

Printed on: 10/2/2026

Information:

Submitted By: Darcy Lepper
Submitted On: 09/24/2026 08:13 AM
Status: Approved

Response Action History

#	Action	By	Time
2	**Status changed from Received to Approved**	Deb Brauker	09/24/2026 08:52 AM
3	**The automation Under 50 Miles has looped the following faculty into the response: • Patrick McKerr**	Not recorded	09/24/2026 08:13 AM
1	**Submission Recorded**	Not recorded	09/24/2026 08:13 AM

Trip Title

MSU Volleyball

Requesting Staff Member

Darcy Lepper

If this trip is under 50 miles, please select your building principal. If your trip is over 50 miles, please select the superintendent.

Selected people:

• Patrick McKerr

Destination Address

Breslin Center, Breslin Student Events Center, 534 Birch Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824

Trip Date

2026-10-11

Departure Time

11:00

Return Time

17:00

Number of Students

25

Number of Chaperones

4

Transportation Type

Selected options:

- Bus

Purpose of Trip/Learning Objectives

Middle school volleyball to watch MSU play.

Additional Instructions or Information

None

Field Trip Request Response

Printed on: 10/13/2026

Information:

Submitted By: Douglas Diamond

Submitted On: 10/13/2026 03:52 AM

Status: Received

Response Action History

#	Action	By	Time
2	**The automation Under 50 Miles has looped the following faculty into the response: • Patrick McKerr**	Not recorded	10/13/2026 03:52 AM
1	**Submission Recorded**	Not recorded	10/13/2026 03:52 AM

Trip Title

Michigan Youth In Government Middle School Fall Conference

Requesting Staff Member

Douglas Diamond

If this trip is under 50 miles, please select your building principal. If your trip is over 50 miles, please select the superintendent.

Selected people:

• Patrick McKerr

Destination Address

Crowne Plaza Hotel 925 S. Creyts Road Lansing, MI 48917

Trip Date

2026-11-22

Departure Time

10:00

Return Time

14:00

Number of Students

29

Number of Chaperones

3

Transportation Type

Selected options:

- Bus

Purpose of Trip/Learning Objectives

Youth in Government is a program in which students write and submit bills to be acted on at the state Middle School Youth in Government conference held in Lansing on November 22-24. For three days middle school students take over the Capitol area in Lansing, they are separated into all different aspects of the law making process from policy makers, debaters, Representatives and Senators to committee members. Students will work in the actual capitol building and various other governmental buildings in the downtown Lansing area. This is a great opportunity for students to get a first hand look at how government works and represent Union City Schools in a positive way.

Additional Instructions or Information

It will only let me put one date on this form but we will be leaving for Lansing on November 22 and will return on November 24.