

Special Meeting of the Board of Education

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 6:00 PM

Library, 333 S. Pleasant Street, Pickford, MI 49774

I) Call to order

I)A. Roll Call of the Board

I)B. Pledge of Allegiance

I)C. Adoption of the Agenda

II) Public Comment

III) Action Items

III)A. Minutes - Superintendent Special Meetings
-- 5/28/25, 6/4/25, 6/5/25, 6/10/25, 6/11/25

III)B. CLOSED SESSION - M.O.M.A. 15.268 §8(a) -
Presentation of candidates for Superintendent.

III)C. Selection of Superintendent Candidates to
be Interviewed

IV) Board Comments & Discussion

V) Future Planning & Adjournment

V)A. Next regularly scheduled meeting - 7/21/2025 @
6:00 pm

V)B. Adjournment

**PICKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Library -- May 28, 2025 -- 5:30 P.M.**

I. Call to order by Tom Portice at 5:30 pm

- A. Roll Call of the Board
 - a. Absent - None
 - b. Present - Benson, Crimin, Firack, Forfinski, Portice, Snyder, Taylor
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Adoption of the Agenda –M/Forfinski, S/Firack to adopt agenda. Carried 7-0

II. Public Comment-There were no comments from the public

III. Action Items

- A. CLOSED SESSION – M.O.M.A. 15.268 §8(c) – M/Firack, S/Snyder that the Board of Education move into closed session in accordance with the Open Meetings Act 15.268 §8(c) for the purpose of presentation of the candidates for superintendent by Dr. John Scholten. Carried 7-0 on roll call vote. The Board entered closed session at 5:33p.m. The Board exited the closed session at 7:08 p.m. M/Crimin, S/Snyder to return to open session. Carried 7-0.
- B. Selection of superintendent candidates to be interviewed. Candidate #1 carried 5-2, Candidate #2 carried 6-1, Candidate #3 carried 7-0, Candidate #4 carried 7-0. 4 interviews to be offered between June 4, 2025 and June 5, 2025, starting at 5:30pm both dates. Candidate #1 Mike Ehinger, Candidate #2 Stephanie Eisenminger, Candidate #3 Randy Fountain, Candidate #4 Matt Johnson. Discussion with Dr. John Scholten about the questions that will be asked at the first round interviews. Discussion of how the candidate interviews would be sent to the school staff and to the public. Mr. Firack asked that the press release be sent to the local papers. Mrs. Cheri Bush is the point of contact for the district and will notify the staff, public and local papers of the upcoming interviews.

V. Board Comments & Discussion-There were no additional comments or discussion.

VI. Future Planning & Adjournment - The next special meetings scheduled for first round interviews on June 4, 2025 at 5:30pm and June 5, 2025 at 5:30pm. M/Firack, S/Snyder to adjourn the meeting at 7:42pm. Carried 7-0

Erik Taylor, Secretary

Tom Portice, President

**PICKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Library -- June 4, 2025 -- 5:30 P.M.**

I. Call to order by Tom Portice at 5:30 pm

- A. Roll Call of the Board
 - a. Absent - None
 - b. Present - Benson, Crimin, Firack, Forfinski, Portice, Snyder, Taylor
 - c. Many staff members and community members present.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Adoption of the Agenda

II. Public Comment-There were no comments from the public.

Dr. John Scholten introduced himself, gave instructions and question forms to the many staff members and community members in attendance.

III. Action Items

- A. Interview Mr. Mike Ehinger
The board introduced themselves and Tom Portice reviewed the interview procedures with the candidate.
Start interview: 5:33pm
End interview: 6:34pm

- B. Interview Mrs. Stephanie Eismenger - virtual interview
The board introduced themselves and Tom Portice reviewed the interview procedures with the candidate.
Start interview: 6:49pm
End interview: 7:49pm

V. Board Comments & Discussion-There were no additional comments or discussion.

VI. Future Planning & Adjournment - The next special meeting scheduled for first round interviews June 5, 2025 at 5:30pm. M/Benson, S/Firack to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Carried 7-0

Erik Taylor, Secretary

Tom Portice, President

**PICKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Library -- June 5, 2025 -- 5:30 P.M.**

I. Call to order by Tom Portice at 5:30 pm

- A. Roll Call of the Board
 - a. Absent - None
 - b. Present - Benson, Crimin, Firack, Forfinski, Portice, Snyder, Taylor
 - a. Many staff members and community members present.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Adoption of the Agenda - M/Benson, S/Snyder to adopt agenda. Carried 7-0

II. Public Comment-There were no comments from the public.

Dr. John Scholten introduced himself, gave instructions and question forms to the many staff members and community members in attendance.

III. Action Items

- A. Interview Mr. Matt Johnson
Tom Portice reviewed the interview procedures with the candidate.
Start interview: 5:34pm
End interview: 6:30pm

- B. Interview Mr. Randy Fountain
The board introduced themselves and Tom Portice reviewed the interview procedures with the candidate.
Start interview: 6:35pm
End interview: 7:30pm

V. Board Comments & Discussion- 10 minute recess. M/Forfinski, S/Snyder

Meeting resumed at 7:42pm. Dr. Scholten presented additional questions and feedback the public would like the board to consider. Board discussion started at 8:00pm. Each candidate was discussed with board members giving positive and negative feedback from all four interviews.

Board vote for second round interview:

Mike Ehinger: Yes - 3, No - 4

Stephanie Eisenmenger: Yes - 4, No - 3

Randy Fountain: Yes - 6, No - 1

Matt Johnson: Yes - 3, No - 4

Second round interviews offered to Stephanie Eisenmenger and Randy Fountain scheduled for June 10, 2025 at 5:30pm. Dr. Scholten to compile questions for the second round interviews. Board discussed what questions to use and gave feedback to Dr. Scholten for the second round interview process.

VI. Future Planning & Adjournment - The next special meeting scheduled for second round interviews June 10, 2025 at 5:30pm. Next regular meeting scheduled for June 23, 2025 at 6:00pm. M/Benson, S/Firack to adjourn the meeting at 8:58pm. Carried 7-0

**PICKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Library -- June 10, 2025 -- 5:30 P.M.**

I. Call to order by Tom Portice at 5:30 pm

- A. Roll Call of the Board
 - a. Absent - None
 - b. Present - Benson, Crimin, Firack, Forfinski, Portice, Snyder, Taylor
 - a. 15 members of public, Mrs. Bush, Mr. Rairigh and Mr. Johnson present
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Adoption of the Agenda - M/Benson, S/Snyder Carried 7-0

II. Public Comment-There were no comments from the public.

III. Action Items- Tom Portice reported that Stephaine Eismenger declined to interview.

- A. Interview Mr. Randy Fountain
 - Tom Portice reviewed the interview procedures with the candidate.
 - Start interview: 5:35pm
 - End interview: 6:49pm
 - Recess until 7:00pm
- B. Candidate was discussed with the board members giving positive and negative feedback.
- C. Motion made to employ Randy Fountain - M/Firack, S/Crimin Carried 6-1

V. Board Comments & Discussion-No further discussion

VI. Future Planning & Adjournment - The next regular meeting scheduled for June 23, 2025 at 6:00pm. M/Snyder, S/Crimin to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Carried 7-0

Erik Taylor, Secretary

Tom Portice, President

**PICKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Library -- June 11, 2025 -- 5:30 P.M.**

I. Call to order by Tom Portice at 5:30 pm

A. Roll Call of the Board

a. Absent - None

b. Present - Benson, Crimin, Firack, Forfinski, Portice, Snyder, Taylor

a. Cheri Bush, Kyle Rairigh, Tonya Brace, Wendy Halsey, Lindsey Kronemeyer, Beth Nelson, Arielle Haske, Daraka Hudecek, Allison Taylor also present

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Adoption of the Agenda - M/Benson, S/Crimin Carried 7-0

II. Public Comment-There were no comments from the public.

III. Action Items- Tom Portice reported that Randy Fountain rejected the offer of Superintendent of Pickford Public Schools.

A. Board discussed reposting the position right away with the posting ending on July 4th at 4:00pm. Review of candidate special meeting to be determined at a later date. Board discussed how to better promote the school. Dr. Scholten will reach out to recruit potential candidates. Kyle Rairigh will continue to serve as the interim as long as needed at the current per diem reimbursement rate starting on July 1, 2025. Discussion on the re-application process for previous candidates. Determined that previous candidates can reapply for the position. Motion to repost the superintendent position with a closing date of July 4, 2025 at 4:00pm. - M/Forfinski, S/Snyder Carried 7-0

V. Board Comments & Discussion-No further discussion

VI. Future Planning & Adjournment - The next regular meeting scheduled for June 23, 2025 at 6:00pm. Next special meeting to be determined at a late date. M/Snyder, S/Forfinski to adjourn the meeting at 5:57pm. Carried 7-0

Erik Taylor, Secretary

Tom Portice, President