



Kalkaska Public Schools

*Board of Education Regular Meeting – MINUTES
Monday, July 27, 2026*

*Board of Education Room
315 S Coral Street
Kalkaska, MI 49646
5:30 p.m.*

Members Present: Mitch Saxton, Steve Ordway, Wendy Watson, Mary Scobey and Rachael Birgy

Staff Present: Superintendent, Rick Heitmeyer, Human Resource Director, David Tucker, Director of Business Services, Jeff Scroggins, Dean of Students, Kevin Malbouef and Executive Administrative Assistant, Cari Jo Roberts

Others Present: 1

1.	Call to Order
	The meeting was called to order by Rachael Birgy, at 5:30 p.m.
2.	Pledge of Allegiance
3.	Approval of/Amendment to the Agenda
	Motion by Steve Ordway, support by Wendy Watson, to approve the agenda as amended. *amendments: · Make KHS handbook a separate motion from KMS and elementary · Add hiring of professional staff, Loren Lombardi as a 3rd grade teacher at KUE Motion Carried 5 to 0.
4.	Consent Agenda Items
	Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Mary Scobey, to approve the following Consent Agenda Items: · Minutes from the regular meeting on June 22, 2026, as presented · Payment of General, Bond, and Athletic fund bills, as presented · Hiring of staff (pending cleared background checks): Professional Staff: · Loren Lombardi, 3rd grade teacher at KUE Motion Carried 5 to 0.
5.	Public Communication
	None.
6.	Superintendent Update (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)
	· Support Staff Contract Negotiations Update (5) (6) · Food Service Update (5) (6)

	- Alternative Education Relocation Update (4) (5) (6) - Blazer Bash, August 20, who wants to help?! - Teach!Michigan Rollouts Coming Soon (1) (2) (3) - Planning Meeting for Construction / Bond (May '27)(4) (5) (6) - THANK YOU to the Kalkaska Sheriff Department for another successful golf outing - \$14,327 was raised for KPS and Forest Area Schools (4) (5) (6) - KAEF Annual Golf Outing August 22 @ 8 a.m. @ Twin Birch Golf Course (flyer in Board packet) (4) (5) (6)
7.	Discussion Items
	a. Kalkaska Sheriff Department – School Resource Officer Contract
	b. Handbook Changes by Building
	c. Non-Homestead Operating Millage Headlee Rollback Override Resolution (November 2026)
	d. Rapid City Numbers – Consider Hiring a Self-Contained MS Teacher
	e. Library Agreement
	f. Three Lakes Association Grant Acceptance
	g. Board Policy Update – Vol. 40, No. 2
8.	Blazer Board Briefs
	<i>Resignations and Retirements:</i> Andy Urquhart, Assistant Soccer Coach
9.	Action Items
a.	<i>Kalkaska Sheriff Department – School Resource Officer Contract</i> Motion by Steve Ordway, support by Mary Scobey, that the Board of Education approves the Kalkaska County Sheriff’s Department contract to provide KPS with a school resource officer, as presented and discussed. Motion Carried 5 to 0. Ayes: Steve Ordway, Mary Scobey, Mitch Saxton, Wendy Watson and Rachael Birgy
b.	<i>Handbook Changes</i> Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Mitch Saxton, that the Board of Education approves the elementary and middle school handbook changes, as presented and discussed. Motion Carried 5 to 0.
b2.	<i>Handbook Changes</i> Motion by Mitch Saxton, support by Wendy Watson, that the Board of Education approves the high school handbook changes, as presented and discussed.

Vision — Inspiring excellence through perseverance, resilience, and individual success.

Mission — Supporting families to build successful students.

	Motion Carried 4 to 1.
c.	Non-Homestead Operating Millage Headlee Rollback Override Resolution Motion by Steve Ordway, support by Mary Scobey, that the Board of Education approves the operating millage proposal that will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance to be placed on the November election ballot per specific Thrun law provided language, as presented and discussed. Motion Carried 5 to 0. Ayes: Steve Ordway, Mary Scobey, Mitch Saxton, Wendy Watson and Rachael Birgy
d.	<i>Rapid City Middle School Self-Contained Teacher</i> Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Mitch Saxton, that the Board of Education approves the hiring of a self-contained K-8 teacher to educate our 6th through 8th grade students at Rapid City Elementary. Motion Carried 5 to 0.
e.	<i>Superintendent Approval to Negotiate Contract</i> Motion by Mary Scobey, support by Steve Ordway, that the Board of Education approves Superintendent, Rick Heitmeyer to negotiate a contract with the Kalkaska County Library for the rental of the annex building. Motion Carried 5 to 0.
f.	<i>Three Lakes Association Grant Acceptance</i> Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Mary Scobey, that the Board of Education approves and appreciates the gracious grants provided to several classrooms for the 2026-2027 school year for Student Environmental Outreach Program, as presented and discussed. Motion Carried 5 to 0.
g.	<i>Recommended Motion: Board Policy Update – Vol. 40, No. 2</i> Motion by Mary Scobey, support by Mitch Saxton, that the Board of Education approves the following policies: po0100, po1410, po2370.01, po2417, po2418, po3120.09, po4120.09, po4210, po5136, po6320, po6325, po7540.09, po8120.09 and po8402. Motion Carried 5 to 0. Ayes: Mary Scobey, Mitch Saxton, Steve Ordway, Wendy Watson and Rachael Birgy
10.	Board Updates
	• Glow, Grow, Know • Reminders of upcoming events:

	· Who wants to participate on construction / bond committee (looking for one board participant - we recommend someone from the FOP committee)? · Blazer Bash, please let Cari Jo know if you can help (August 20th 4-6pm)!
11.	Adjournment
	Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Steve Ordway, to adjourn. Motion Carried 5 to 0. Time adjourned: 6:22 p.m.