

**HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
3886 Van Buren Street
September 10, 2026
5:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Bolhuis, Chanski, DeWitt, Hall, Hemmes, Hooper, Sneden

Administrators Present: Armstrong, Baer, Bush, Crete, Heagle, Geerling, Matthews, McClure, Meersma, Mesbergen, Mucha, Stefanich, Szymanski, Thomas, VanderJagt, Verwys, Waldie

President Chanski called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hooper, supported by DeWitt, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Board Recognition

The board recognized the following transportation employees for their recent accomplishments:

- Macabe Scholtens – 2026 Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation Region 8 Driving Championship – 1st Place Driver and Rookie of the Year
- Laurie Sneden – 2026 Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation School Bus Attendant of the Year

Knights of Columbus Presentation

Grand Knight Michael Zomerlei from the Knights of Columbus presented a donation to the Special Education Department.

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of People Present

No one requested to address the board.

Action Items – Consent Agenda

Motion DeWitt, supported by Hall, to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Approval of Minutes
 - Work Session – August 24, 2026
2. Hudsonville Christian Shared Time Agreement 2026-2027
3. Presentation of Bills

The following is an analysis of the payments:

Payroll	\$3,681,013.19
Benefits	2,134,862.00
Accounts Payable	<u>959,147.36</u>
Total General Fund	\$6,775,022.55

Ayes: All

Motion Carried

Administrative Hire Recommendation

Motion by Sneden, supported by Hall, to approve the recommendation by Dr. VanderJagt to hire Whitney Krusniak as the Early Childhood Principal/Director of Early Childhood Programs. Ayes: All

Motion Carried

Student Council Report

Bella Jelsma, senior, reported that money raised from their blood drives was donated to I Understand, a non-profit organization that provides compassionate comfort, hope, and understanding to those affected by suicide or mental/brain health illness and pain. They also gave money to purchase a new app to track staff spirit points. She reported that this year's homecoming theme is Hoco-Chella, and she announced the Court members.

Building Reports

Alward Elementary Principal Heidi Mucha reported that the start of the school year has been great. She shared that a goal of the staff is to make a positive phone call to all parents by the end of September, sharing positive feedback about their child. She shared that their parent club is preparing for their annual walk-a-thon and one of the prizes for students is to be a Principal for the Day. Mrs. Mucha is looking forward to the day off.

South Elementary Principal Mark Heagle shared that teachers have been assessing students over the last couple of weeks to determine what they need academically, emotionally, and behaviorally. He shared how every staff member's interaction with each student matters.

Baldwin Street Middle School Principal Ryan Crete shared that it's an exciting time of year getting to know their new seventh grade students. The staff is focusing on making learning experiences more meaningful for students. Additionally, he extended an invitation to the board to attend upcoming fall unified sports events.

High School Assistant Principal Delia Bush shared that the high school did an overhaul on their freshman orientation, allowing incoming students to go through their schedule and hear informational topics during each class visit. They also held a new student breakfast to welcome new students in all grade levels. She reported that the revised cell phone policy implementation is going well.

Superintendent Report

Dr. VanderJagt reflected on the tragic events of 9/11 twenty-five years ago. He reported that he met with officials from the City of Hudsonville to discuss the speed of vehicles on VanBuren Street near Park Elementary and Hudsonville Christian Middle School. A traffic study will be conducted. He reported that the first Inner-School Advisory Parent Committee meeting would take place on Friday.

Adjournment

Motion by Hooper, supported by Bolhuis, to adjourn at 5:42 p.m. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Robin VandenBerg, Recording Secretary for the Board of Education