

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

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

Administrators Present: Armstrong, Baer, Crete, Heagle, Geerling, Kessel, Krusniak, McClure, Meersma, Mesbergen, Mucha, Stefanich, Szymanski, Taylor, Thomas, VanderJagt, Verwys, Waldie

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hall, supported by Sneden, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Teaching and Learning Feature

High School Assistant Principal Joe Kessel and students Chris Norburg, Ana Sanders, and Alayna Baker shared their experiences participating in the Eagle Cafe and School Store Independent Study course. These opportunities allow students to apply business, marketing, customer service, and operational skills. These student-run businesses build leadership, teamwork, and real-world workplace experience.

Board Recognition

The board recognized Mia McClure, sophomore, for achieving a hole-in-one on October 28 at the American Dunes Golf Club. Varsity Coach Sara Gardner shared the exciting details of the day's event.

All In, All Year Recognition

On behalf of the board of education, Dr. VanderJagt recognized this month's "All In, All Year" recipients, Kim Halbrehder, Chris Morse, Sandy Roelofs, and Craig Steentra. "All In, All Year" describes a staff member who demonstrates consistent commitment, ownership, and service to students, families, and colleagues – every day of the year, not just during high-visibility moments. These staff members' actions, efforts, and energy support and maintain a positive culture for all those they interact with.

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of People Present

No one requested to address the board.

Action Items – Consent Agenda

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

1. Approval of Minutes
 - Regular Meeting – September 10, 2026
 - Work Session – September 21, 2026
2. Trip Request – High School, Europe, June 13-26, 2028
3. Riley Street Middle School East Coast Trip Date Revision – June 12-18, 2027

4. Teacher Tenure Status

The following staff were approved for teacher tenure status:

Brian DePotty	Olivia Prince
Stephanie Gamble	Caitlyn Thayer
Ian Hewett	Kailey Schrauben

5. Georgetown Hot Water Heater

Approval for a boiler replacement by B&V Mechanical for \$67,000.00.

6. Presentation of Bills

The following is an analysis of the payments:

Payroll	\$34,272,157.12
Benefits	2,422,537.10
Accounts Payable	<u>1,640,648.49</u>
Total General Fund	\$8,335,342.71

Ayes: All

Motion Carried

Summer Tax Resolution

Motion by Hall, supported by Hooper, to approve the Summer Tax Resolution as presented by Mark Mesbergen, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Human Resource Item

Motion by DeWitt, supported by Sneden, to approve the following certified hire as recommended by Anne Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources:

Nathan Forster

Position: English Teacher, High School

Ayes: All

Motion Carried

Discussion Item – Pool Scoreboard

Dr. VanderJagt reviewed a recommendation to purchase a new scoreboard and scoring system at the competitive pool from Riegle Timing Consultants for \$80,156. If approved, this purchase will be paid by the bond fund.

Student Council Report

Bella Jelsma, senior, shared all the fun homecoming week activities, including spirit days, the powder puff football game, lunch games, nomination of the king and queen for court, and team members, cheerleaders, and superfans visiting elementary and intermediate schools on Friday.

Building Reports

Bauer Elementary Principal Josh Meersma reflected on their open house in August and the excitement of welcoming new students and parents. He shared that their new staff is off to a great start. This year, they have increased flexibility for staff meetings and have had great conversations and planning for student interventions. Mr. Meersma thanked his Parent Club for their support and shared he had a good time being the “volunteer” for the dunk tank during their walk-a-thon.

Forest Grove Elementary Principal Joe Szymanski shared that this week is their book fair week and students are very excited about it. Mr. Szymanski shared his appreciation for their parent club for providing free books to students who couldn’t afford to purchase one. He reported that their walk-a-thon raised over \$17,000. The students are looking forward to a future celebration day for their fundraising efforts. He thanked the Education Foundation for the grant for a Chompsaw that cuts cardboard without a blade into various shapes. He shared that students are having fun creating with the tool.

The 5/6 Building Principal, Melanie McClure, reported that staff and students are loving homecoming week, and she invited the board to attend their assembly on Friday. She shared the excitement of participating in Unified Sports and thanked Mrs. Kinsman and Mrs. Ernstes for supporting the teams. The 5/6 Building will be starting the Amazing Shake program. The program teaches students how to give a proper handshake, make eye contact, and learn to carry on conversations with peers and adults. She encouraged board members to be judges at the end of the first pilot group.

High School Assistant Principal Joe Kessel reported that staff and students have been enjoying homecoming week and are looking forward to the game and dance. To date 1,600 homecoming dance tickets have been sold so far to date. He shared that students are preparing for testing to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship in a couple of weeks. He congratulated teacher Mrs. Chloe Bellinger for being selected as the 2026 Michigan Family and Consumer Science Rising Star.

Superintendent Report

Dr. VanderJagt shared the importance of voting on or before November 3. He shared information on the Non-Homestead Operating Millage Renewal and the Sinking Fund Millage Renewal, and the two open seats for the Board of Education. He encouraged others to remind their neighbors and friends to vote.

Adjournment

Motion by Hall, supported by Bolhuis, to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. Ayes: All
Motion Carried

Robin VandenBerg, Recording Secretary for the Board of Education