



**WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

The Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, in Washtenaw ISD's Teaching and Learning Center Board Room at 1819 South Wagner Road in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM by President Mary Jane Tramontin

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

Mary Jane Tramontin, President
Steve Olsen, Vice President
Dorcas Musili, Secretary

The following member was absent:

Sarena Shivers, Treasurer
Diane Hockett, Trustee

Quorum was met.

Also present:

Naomi Norman, Superintendent
Cherie Vannatter, Deputy Superintendent
Brian Marcel, Associate Superintendent
Edward Manuszak, Executive Director of Early Childhood
Charlene Jones, MiSTEM Advisory Council Grant Director
Althea Wilson, Early Childhood Family Services Coordinator
Margaret Bett, Early Intervention Speech Pathologist
TJ Greggs, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Steve Olsen moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Executive Director of Early Childhood Dr. Edward Manuszak presented cards and children's artwork to the Board for Board Appreciation Month.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There was no public participation.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel reviewed the financial reports for November 2025.

EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE DIALOGUE: Superintendent Naomi Norman facilitated the Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (EISJ) discussion, sharing about the following:

- Superintendent Norman shared data on chronic absenteeism in Washtenaw County.

CONSENT AGENDA

Steve Olsen motioned, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education approve the minutes and Superintendent's recommendations in the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Voting yes: Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the December 9, 2025, regular meeting.

070-25-26

The Board approved the following employment recommendations:

- Amy Creten as a Flex Teacher.
- Anna Senkmajer as an Orientation and Mobility Provider.
- Christian Knox as a WMBK Project Specialist.
- Deanna Mudlof as a Teaching Assistant - Local Based Dexter.
- Elliot Crowley as a High Point Kitchen Staff Support.
- Justin Shepard as an ASD Teacher Assistant.
- Kathy Christensen as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist and Blind Low Vision Teacher Consultant.
- Linda Cousino as a YA Floater Teacher Assistant.
- Mia Lanier-Durkins as Coordinator of Experiential Learning.

071-25-26

The Board approved the following reclassification requests:

- Cassandra Kjar, current position: TA YA, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I. Recommended position: TA DHH, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I.
- Elizabeth Bottai, current position: TA for Chelsea Out Center, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I. Recommended position: Teacher Assistant – Wash News Out Center, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I.
- Laurie Ferris, current position: TA YA Red Oak, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I. Recommended position: TA YA Chelsea, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I.
- Melissa Krzysik, current position: TA Behavior Assistance, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I. Recommended position: TA Floater, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I.

072-25-26

The Board approved the following new position requests:

- CTE Business Specialist 3, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, salary level: Non-Affiliated, Grade 7 (230 days/yr), Worksite: TLC Building, Non-Bargaining.

073-25-26

The Board approved the following staff resignations:

- Carl Ebach, effective December 12, 2025.
- Priscilla Gillespie, effective December 18, 2025.

074-25-26

The Board authorized the administration to approve the TMP Hold Harmless Agreement, as presented.

075-25-26

The Board authorized the administration to approve the contract with Washtenaw County for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, as presented.

076-25-26

The Board authorized the administration to contract with Everett Evaluation Research & Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, as presented.

077-25-26

The Board authorized the administration to contract with Ypsilanti Community School in the amount of \$37,392.00, as presented.

078-25-26

The Board authorized administration to amend the contract with Justice Leaders Collaborative, as presented.

NEW BUSINESS – 27h Mentoring and Induction District Support Grant: MiSTEM Advisory Council Grant Director Dr. Charlene Jones discussed details of the 27h Mentoring and District Support Grant and what it will be used for.

Steve Olsen motioned, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to accept the 27h Mentoring and Induction District Support Grant in the amount of \$1,028,322.00, as presented.

Voting yes: Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Updated WISD Policies – First Read: Superintendent Naomi Norman shared the changes made to the following WISD policies: Policy #2623 – Student Assessment, Policy #5320 – Immunization, Policy #5330 – Use of Medication, Policy #5350 – Student Health, Well-Being, and Suicide Prevention. This was a first read, so no action was taken.

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS – There were no other items of business.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS:

Trustees of the Board of Education spoke about the following:

- Trustee Olsen suggested the Board read through Thrun's letter regarding 31aa funding.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – Superintendent's Report:

Administration spoke about the following:

- Superintendent Norman shared details about the lawsuit between Sheriff Dyer and the Washtenaw County Commissioners.
- Superintendent Norman met with leaders of the Literacy Coalition of Washtenaw County to discuss efforts to improve literacy in Washtenaw County and make use of County funding.
- Superintendent Norman discussed options for future long-term funding for Talent Together.
- Superintendent Norman shared that Launch Michigan has drafted a rewrite to the Michigan Merit Curriculum legislation.
- Superintendent Norman shared information from the joint Chiefs and Superintendent's meeting held on 1/9/2026.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dorcas Musili, Secretary
Washtenaw ISD Board of Education