

Manchester Community Schools - Board of Education Regular Meeting- In-Person;  
Manchester Jr/Sr High School - Auditorium,  
20500 Dutch Dr Manchester, MI 48158

March 17, 2025

**Unofficial Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting**

The Regular Board of Education meeting was called to order by President Sandra Wiitala at 6:01pm.

Members present: Sandra Wiitala, Michael Tindall, Jennifer Caszatt, Colleen Schoenfeld, Rebecca Harvey, Sarah Roth, Brandon Woods

Agenda was amended to add Board President Report under Discussion Items. Motion by Tindall, support Wiitala . Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

**OFFICIAL MEETINGS REPORTS**

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting on March 10, 2025 were approved. Motion by Tindall, support Schoenfeld. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting on March 11, 2025 were approved. Motion by Schoenfeld, support Tindall. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

Minutes of the Capital Improvement Committee Meeting on March 12, 2025 were approved. Motion by Tindall, support by Wiitala. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented. Motion by Tindall, support by Wiitala. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

**COMMUNICATION**

A. Public Questions/Comments - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. STEM Entrepreneurial Presentation - Students presented on their Entrepreneurial Business. They have had the opportunity to share about their business at the Capitol Building and at Washtenaw Community College. Teacher J. Walsh and the students from Bullseye Bakery, Subzero Sweets, BAAM, Fizz & Beans were present.
- B. Manchester Community Schools Athletic Complex Update and Change Order - That the Board of Education approved the Athletic Track Improvements Bond Project Change Order as presented. Motion by Schoenfeld, support Tindall. Roll Call Vote: (5-2) Yay( Sandra Wiitala, Michael Tindall, Jennifer Caszatt, Colleen Schoenfeld, Sarah Roth) Nay(Rebecca Harvey, Brandon Woods)
- F. Superintendent Search Update - The Board has met several times this month to begin the search process. The Board discussed hiring options and decided to move forward with MLI. The school has a Superintendent Search Tab that is located on the website that includes the Superintendent Search Timeline and Survey.

**PERSONNEL-**

A. New Hires

Department	Position	Name	As of Date	District	Contracted
Special Education	Student Support - Behavior	Luc Olson	3/17/2024		X

New personnel were accepted as presented. Motion by Tindall, support from Roth. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

B. Exiting

Department	Position	Name	As of Date	District	Contracted
Junior/Senior High	Principal	Wendy Bridges	3/28/2025	X	

Exiting personnel were accepted as presented. Motion by Harvey, support from Woods. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)

- C. Retiring - 1st Grade Teacher Ms. Suzanne Birgy’s retirement from Manchester Community Schools, at the completion of the 2024-2025 school year, June 6, 2025 was accepted. Motion by Harvey, support by Tindall. Roll Call Vote: All yes(7-0)

**DISCUSSION ITEMS/REPORTS**

- A. Klager / MECC - Klager’s Kid Heart Challenge was an absolute success! We celebrated 2 of our very own Heart Heroes who have special hearts and learned ways to take care of our hearts! Students practiced how to do hands-only CPR on stuffed animals and learned what to do in case of an emergency!We’re so proud of the little hearts that walk through our hallways everyday and the love and kindness they spread! Klager had a special visit from our mobile dentist, offering essential dental care to our students. Klager has partnered with Varsity Tutors to provide extra support and tutoring for all our students. We are thrilled to announce that Deidra LaPointefrom Klager Elementary has been honored as the Regional Teacher of the Year. Klager Elementary, in collaboration with the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) and the Manchester Early Childhood Center, successfully hosted Blockfest.
- B. Riverside -Thank you to Mrs. Punches, NHS students, and our staff for the PBIS event we had on Friday, February 28. A Special thanks to our PTO for making the Super-U Challenge assembly with Jason Abbott happen for our students at Riverside. It was a fabulous way to spend a Friday afternoon. Special thanks to Caty Navitskis for her generous monetary donation to the Riverside Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser. Riverside will be holding spring semester parent teacher conferences on Wednesday, March 19, from 5:00-8:00 PM.
- C. Jr-Sr High School - The student advisory committee met and is working on a proposal to get tables and benches outside between the school building and the barn. This would be a place for students to eat outside on a nice day as well as some academic learning. A big shout out goes to Miss Kezelian and the band programs for not only successfully hosting the district band festival, but receiving all one ratings! Another big shout out to Mr. Smith and the FFA for hosting the regional competition. Congrats to Dillon Neigebauer for placing 2nd to make it to the state competition. We hosted an information parent night for incoming 8th grade students at the high school. 75% of the 8th grade families were in attendance. Mrs. Zygnier and the student council are working on Spirit Week the week before Spring Break that includes a Staff vs Students basketball game/pep assembly. Staff are getting students prepared for upcoming State assessments to take place on April 8, 9, and 10.
- D. Athletics - Winter sports are completed. Wrestling had another successful season! Winning the conference, districts, and having 7 wrestlers advance to the individual state meet. Sammy Stewart and Blake Sloan won State Championships, Nathan Fletcher finished 4th, Nathan Meyer 6th, and Dylan Gauss, Easton Magnusson, and Vince Budd finished in the top 16. Congratulations to our wrestlers and to Coach Vlcek on a great season!! Boys Varsity basketball finished 6-17 and 5-12 in conference, losing a tough game to Blissfield in districts. Coach Bennett had a young team and improved throughout the season after a tough 0-7 stretch to start the year. The team was hampered by injuries but continued to make progress. Grant Johnson was named 2nd Team All-Conference and Phoenix Hulswitt was Honorable Mention All-Conference. Girls Varsity basketball finished 3-19 on the year. Coach Kastel had a young team with only 2 seniors out of their 9 players. The girls made

progress throughout the year and put up a good battle against Ann Arbor Greenhills in the districts. Ava Rentfro was named Honorable Mention All-Conference. Mackenzie Morgan qualified for the state meet in bowling and finished 11th in the state. Spring sports for high school started March 10th, middle school track will start March 31st. Spring schedules are on the athletic page of the school website. These schedules will update as we add games.

- E. Special Education - I am thankful for the welcoming reception extended by the staff and community. As we build trust, engagement, and collaboration, we will be able to focus on continuous improvements when developing IEPs. A professional development activity focused on Special Education Compliance, Policies, and Procedures was provided on March 5, 2025. The feedback was positive and reflective. Staff are receiving regular updates as warranted on initiatives and procedures from WISD. A change in practice pertains to the transition of Early-On students from Part C to Part B of the regulation which requires an IEP to be convened prior to a child's 3rd birthday, which is requiring adjustments in our practice and related timelines for timely early childhood transition.
- F. Technology -CRDC Compete. Thank you to Katie, Tracy, Regina, Darcy, Carla, Laura, and everyone who assisted with pulling data for the Civil Rights Data Collection report. And a shoutout to Darcy and her commitment to identify areas for improvement with our reporting processes. Over spring break we will be moving much of our technology out of Klager to prepare for the summer.
- G. Business Office - As we start to plan for the upcoming 2025-2026 fiscal year, there are a lot of changes on the horizon. Administrative teams have been creating schedules and preparing, the Michigan legislative branches have been releasing some preliminary budget information, ORS has released their contribution rates, which all help aid us in our preparations. Meetings with admins will start next month to dive deeper into each department. More information will be forthcoming as we continue to develop our plans and budgeting.
- H. Building & Grounds - Keeping very busy.
- I. Student - Food Service - Road Trip this month featured; a Road Trip in February. Choices included Texas Nachos, Chicago Style Hot Dogs, Oklahoma Pulled Pork Sandwich. Florida Toasted Cuban Sandwich, Nashville Hot
- J. Chicken Sandwich, and New Orleans Shrimp Po' Boy.
- K. School Nurse - Sent out district wide email to parents/guardians on the importance of updating medical alerts for students with any allergy or medical problem and requesting updated action plans be completed. Also in the same email included letting students know all staff is trained on first aide, which includes epi pens and we have them located at all 3 buildings. Attended the monthly Manchester Wellness Coalition Meeting. Started planning for spring sports physical clinic. Created information to share at kindergarten round up for parents to be prepared in what they need to submit health wise when registering their child for kindergarten/young 5s.
- L. PTSA - None
- M. PTO - The PTO searching for new board members for the 2025/2026 school year. Any interested persons should please attend the next PTO meeting on Friday, April 4th at 3:20 pm, in the Klager Cafeteria. You can also email the board at [pto@mcs.k12.mi.us](mailto:pto@mcs.k12.mi.us)  
Upcoming events:  
Assemblies:
  - April 4th - Klager- "The Girl who Swallowed a Cactus" presented by EMU
  - May TBD – Klager "Leadership Looks Like" presented by Bridgewater Equestrian Support Service.Donuts with Grownups:
  - April 17th – 7-8 am – Klager cafeteria
- N. Board -

- Presidents Board Report- Manchester hosted a Band festival on March 6,7,8. Most board members were in attendance as either supporters or volunteers. The Board School Improvement Committee was invited to attend the regular Klager School Improvement meeting on March 10th. Michael Tindall and I attended and were able to hear updates on School Improvement plans, work toward readiness for new K-12 Literacy Laws, discuss professional development successes and opportunities, MTSS (multi tiered support systems, the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP), and district wide Teacher survey results. We appreciate the time given to bring us up to speed on some of the language and guidelines and look forward to opportunities to help in any way we can. I attended my first WASB Board of Directors meeting on March 13th at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District. It was a quick meeting and then I attended professional development after about 8:30. The training focused on Dyslexia and the new literacy laws that will be in effect in 2027. Klager held a Carnival on Friday the 14th where students and families played games, won raffle baskets, enjoyed concessions, and won prizes. The event was VERY well attended, the parking lot was full. I worked the prize table and thoroughly enjoyed interacting with students and parents throughout the night. Thanks to Ms Yekulis and the many Teachers, staff and volunteers that worked so hard to put the Carnival together, worked the event and stayed late to clean up. It was a great success and I look forward to helping again next year.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. Woods - Parent concerned with choosing the correct leadership for our schools.

#### UPCOMING DATES

- March 18, 2025 Kindergarten Information Night 6:00pm
- March 21, 2025 K-12 Full Day  
K-6 Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:00pm
- March 21 2025 - End of Third Marking Period
- March 24, 2024 – March 28, 2025 - No School – Spring Break
- April 18, 2025 - No School - Good Friday
- April 21, 2025 - Board of Education Meeting - 6:00pm

OTHER - None

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Roth, support by Schoenfeldto adjourn meeting at 7:49pm. Roll Call Vote: All yes (7-0)