BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTH BRANCH EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER
6655 JEFFERSON, PO BOX 3620
NORTH BRANCH, MICHIGAN 48461-3620

The regular meeting of the North Branch Board of Education was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2025 in the board room located in the North Branch Educational Services Center, 6655 Jefferson, North Branch, Michigan.

President Deshetsky called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call indicated the following Board members present:

Members Present:	Daniel Deshetsky, President
	Cory Mabery, Vice President
	Patrick Henne, Treasurer -- absent
	Cheryl Howell, Secretary
	Jason Cullin, Trustee
	Maria Hoebeke, Trustee -- absent
	Andrew Hebberd

Others Present:	James D. Fish	Superintendent
	Melissa Montgomery	Director of Finance & Human Resources
	Amber White	Director of Curriculum & Instruction
	Douglas Lindsay	North Branch High School Principal
	Dane Terauds	Ruth Fox Middle School Principal
	Nik Hopp	North Branch Elementary Assistant Principal

Community Members – 8

Election of Officers

Cory Mabery nominated Daniel Deshetsky for President

Moved by Howell, supported by Mabery to close nominations for President and that a unanimous ballot is cast for Daniel Deshetsky.
Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent

Cheryl Howell nominated Cory Mabery for Vice-President

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Cullin to close nominations for Vice-President and that a unanimous ballot is cast for Cory Mabery.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Mabery aye, Deshetsky aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent

Daniel Deshetsky nominated Patrick Henne for Treasurer

Moved by Howell, supported by Mabery to close nominations for Treasurer and that a unanimous ballot is cast for Patrick Henne.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent

Cory Mabery nominated Cheryl Howell for Secretary

Moved by Mabery, supported by Hebberd to close nominations for Secretary and that a unanimous ballot is cast for Cheryl Howell.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent

Moved by Mabery, supported by Howell the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Howell aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Student Report – Nicholas Caldwell gave the Board of Education an update of all the events and activities happening at the high school.

Presentation – P.A.T.S. Award – River Janes, North Branch Elementary student, for her generous donation of her birthday money to a needy family at Christmas time.

Board Committee Reports – none

Comments from the Public – None

Consent Agenda -
Moved by Hebberd, supported by Mabery the Board of Education approve the consent agenda including the approval of the December 9, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, review of the December Account Payables in the amount of $876,388.85, review of the December Food Service Bills in the amount of $48,706.72, review of the December Financial Report and acknowledge the resignation for retirement of Ruth Fox Middle School Secretary, Deanna Brusie with regret and best wishes.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Howell aye

5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Items for Discussion/Action –
Moved by Howell, supported by Mabery the Board of Education approve the employment of Lisa Bazinaw as an Early Childhood & Childcare Coordinator.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Cullin the Board of Education approve the employment of Anessa St. Andrew as a 7.5 hour secretary as a secretary at Ruth Fox Middle School.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Cullin, supported by Hebberd the Board of Education approve the employment of Danielle Fritch as a 7 hour special education paraprofessional at North Branch Elementary.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Hebberd, supported by Mabery the Board of Education approve the employment of Nancy Welch as a 2.5 hour aide at North Branch Elementary.
Roll Call Vote: Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Mabery, supported by Howell the Board of Education approve the employment of Sandra Gommesen as a 2.5 hour aide at North Branch High School.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Hebberd, supported by Deshetsky the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting dates for 2025 as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Hebberd the Board of Education adopt the 2025 District/Superintendent shared goals as stated:

1. North Branch Area Schools and the Board of Education will teach, measure, and continuously improve instruction aligned with state standards for increased student achievement and College and Career readiness.
2. North Branch Area Schools and the Board of Education will evaluate and enhance opportunities for students by adopting and executing a budget that prioritizes teaching and learning in a safe environment while improving the district's financial stability.
3. North Branch Area Schools and the Board of Education will validate the importance of every staff member as critical to the success of the district and will maintain partnerships of integrity and trust within the North Branch Community.
4.

Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Deshetsky aye, Hebberd aye, Mabery aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Mabery the Board of Education approve the designation of Thrun Law Firm for the district's legal counsel, the firm of Taylor Butterfield PC of Lapeer for all real estate transactions and other local matters.
Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Mabery, supported by Hebberd the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Expressing Support of Pre-Labor Day Start as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Hebberd aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Comments from the Public – none

Comments from Board Members – The board members made comments.

Meeting break at 8:30 pm

Back in session at 8:34 pm

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Howell the Board of Education enter into closed session at 8:34 pm for the purpose of NBEA negotiations discussion.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Mabery aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

The board returned to open session at 9:15 p.m.

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Hebberd the Board of Education approve the minutes from the closed session.
Roll Call Vote: Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Hebberd aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Mabery, supported by Howell the Board of Education adjourn at 9:16 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Hebberd aye, Cullin aye, Mabery aye, Deshetsky aye,
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Cheryl Howell

Cheryl Howell, Secretary