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, July 14, 2025 in the board room located in the North Branch Educational Services Center, 6655 Jefferson Road, 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 -- absent
	Patrick Henne, Treasurer
	Cheryl Howell, Secretary
	Jason Cullin, Trustee
	Maria Hoebeke, Trustee
	Andrew Hebberd, Trustee

Others Present:	James D. Fish	Superintendent
	Melissa Montgomery	Director of Finance & Human Resources
	Amber White	Director of Curriculum & Instruction
	Dane Terauds	Ruth Fox Middle School Principal

Community Members – 23

Moved by Henne, supported by Cullin the North Branch Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Henne aye, Hebberd aye, Cullin aye, Hoebeke aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Student Report – none

Presentations –
North Branch Lions Club – The Board of Education thanked the North Branch Lions Club for their $10,000 donation towards the Early Learning Childhood Center's playground.

North Branch Junior Equestrian Team – Marie Curell presented a trophy and spoke of the accomplishments of the junior equestrian team and each team member spoke about the events they competed in.

Board Committee Reports – Finance Committee Meeting (July 10, 2025) – Daniel Deshetsky reviewed the minutes of the meeting with the Board and gave a brief summary.

Comments from the Public – relating to agenda items -- none

Consent Agenda -
Moved by Hebberd, supported by Howell the North Branch Board of Education approve the consent agenda including the approval of the June 23, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, review the June Account payables in the amount of $1,119,951.54, review the June Food Service Bills in the amount of $86,866.82, and acknowledge the resignations of Mitchell Beatty, Ruth Fox Middle School teacher and Angelique Thompson, North Branch Elementary School teacher with regrets and best wishes as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Henne aye, Deshetsky aye, Hoebeke aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Howell aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Items for Discussion/Action –
Moved by Henne, supported by Cullin the North Branch Board of Education approve the employment of Jenna Titcombe as an ELA teacher at North Branch High School
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Hebberd aye, Hoebeke aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Hebberd the North Branch Board of Education approve the employment of Elizabeth Kozlowski as a Science teacher at North Branch High School and Ruth Fox Middle School (one position between both buildings).
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Henne, supported by Hoebeke the North Branch Board of Education approve the School District depositories to be Independent Bank East Michigan – North Branch, ChoiceOne Bank, Tri-County Bank, Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus and PNC Bank as their 2025-2026 Depositories.
Roll Call Vote: Cullin aye, Howell aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye, Hoebeke aye, Hebberd aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Howell, supported by Cullin the North Branch Board of Education approve the designation of Melissa Montgomery as school election assistant and recording secretary for the 2025-2026 school year.
Roll Call Vote: Hoebeke aye, Cullin aye, Henne aye, Deshetsky aye, Hebberd aye, Howell aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Hebberd, supported by Henne the North Branch Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 proposed fees and rental charges for the district facilities and grounds as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Hoebeke aye, Henne aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Howell the North Branch Board of Education acknowledge the contract with the Firm of Anderson, Tuckey, Bernhardt & Doran as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Henne aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Hoebeke aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Howell, supported by Hoebeke the North Branch Board of Education approve the 2025 Tax Rate Request form as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Henne aye, Deshetsky aye, Cullin aye, Hebberd aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Henne, supported by Deshetsky the North Branch Board of Education approve and adopt the School Bond Loan Annual Loan/Repayment Activity Application Resolution as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Henne aye, Hebberd aye, Hoebeke aye, Deshetsky aye, Cullin aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Howell, supported by Hoebeke the North Branch Board of Education approve the 2025-26 Parent/Student Handbooks for the North Branch High School, Quest High School, Ruth Fox Middle School, North Branch Elementary School as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye, Howell aye, Hebberd aye, Hoebeke aye

Moved by Henne, supported by Howell the North Branch Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 North Branch Area Schools Employee Handbook as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Henne aye, Hebberd aye Hoebeke aye, Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Hebberd, supported by Cullin the North Branch Board of Education approve the addition of Boys' Volleyball as a Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) sanctioned sport, effective with the 2025-2026 school year as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Hebberd aye, Henne aye, Hoebeke aye, Deshetsky aye, Cullin aye, Howell aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Communications –Ruth Fox Middle School Principal, Dane Terauds, gave updates about their Summer Camps, Math Club, Garden Club and 7th and 8th grade virtual learners coming in to work on their courses. Superintendent Jim Fish gave updates and spoke about the upcoming School Talk issue.

Comments from the Public – none

Comments from Board Members – The board members made comments.

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Henne the Board of Education adjourn at 8:15 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Cullin aye, Hoebeke aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye
6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Cheryl Howell

Cheryl Howell, Secretary