



Approval Date: February 17, 2025

**FENNVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2025
BOARD ROOM – 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

This meeting of the Board of Education, in public, is for conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated within the agenda.

A. MEETING OPENING (Dr. Greer)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Greer at 7:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call

Mr. Manuel Sanchez	Present	Mr. Ross Thiele	Present
Mrs. Juliet Michele	Present	Mr. Toby Hutchins	Present
Mrs. Natalie Bosby	Present	Mr. Paul Hapke	Present
Mrs. Angie Pena-Smith	Present		

4. Additions to the Agenda

None

B. RECOGNITION OF THE BOARD

The board was presented with a gift of thanks to show appreciation for their dedication, passion, and countless hours devoted to the district.

C. STUDENT OF THE MONTH PRESENTATION (Sept – June)

- Fennville Elementary School – Aaron Cardona by Mrs. Ayotte
- Fennville Middle School – Benett Maccune by Mr. Armstrong
- Fennville High School – Alejandra Solis-Sarat by Mr. Lombard

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2025

1. President

Juliet Michele nominated Manuel Sanchez for President, and Paul Hapke self-nominated. A ballot election was conducted, and the majority voted in favor of Manuel Sanchez as President for the Board of Education for 2025.

2. Vice President

Toby Hutchins nominated Juliet Michele for Vice President, with support from Natalie Bustillos. Manuel Sanchez nominated Ross Thiele, for Vice President with support from Angie Pena-Smtih. A ballot election was conducted, and the majority voted in favor of Ross Thiele as Vice President for the Board of Education for 2025.

3. Secretary

Manuel Sanchez nominated Toby Hutchins; supported by Paul Hapke for Secretary.

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There were no further nominations.

Motion by Hapke, supported by Thiele, to appoint Mr. Hutchins to the position of Secretary for the Board of Education 2025.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

4. **Treasurer**

Manuel Sanchez nominated Juliet Michele; supported by Ross Thiele, for Treasurer.

There were no further nominations.

Motion by Hutchins, supported by Thiele, to appoint Mrs. Michele to the position of Treasurer for the Board of Education 2025.

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Loren Barnes, a member of the Advisory Task Force with Site Logic, noted that depending on Action #1, the superintendent's involvement will be significant and time-consuming. He recommended that a board member begin attending the task force meetings. The next Advisory Task Force meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2025.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Hutchins, supported by Michele, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Minutes for December 16, 2024, Regular Meeting
3. Treasurer's Report for December 2024
4. Summary of Bills for December 2024
5. Accept retirement of Ryan Ondersma at the conclusion of the 2024/25 contractual year
6. All Regular meetings to be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room unless otherwise posted. Special Meetings will be scheduled as necessary. Listed below are the Dates of Board Meetings:

Monday, February 17, 2025

Monday, March 17, 2025

Monday, April 21, 2025

Monday, May 19, 2025

Monday, June 16, 2025*

Monday July 21, 2025

Monday August 18, 2025

Monday, September 15, 2025

Monday, October 20, 2025

Monday, November 17, 2025

Monday, December 22, 2025

*Budget Hearing to precede Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

7. All Board Work Session meetings to be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room unless otherwise posted. Listed below are the Dates of Board Meetings:

Monday, February 10, 2025

Monday, March 10, 2025

Monday, April 14, 2025

Monday, May 12, 2025

Monday, June 9, 2025

Monday July 14, 2025

Monday August 11, 2025

Monday, September 8, 2025

Monday, October 13, 2025

Monday, November 10, 2025

Monday, December 15, 2025

8. Designate official depositories for all District Funds to be Allegan Community Federal Credit Union, Huntington Bank, and the Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund Plan.
9. That the Board of Education continue to use the Debt Retirement Account at Huntington Bank for the purpose of depositing taxes and for bond payments, continue to use the Sinking Fund Account at Huntington Bank for the purpose of depositing taxes and for payment of allowable Sinking Fund expenses, and continue to use the Community Recreation Fund Account at Huntington Bank for the purpose of depositing taxes and for payment of allowable Community Recreation Fund expenses.
10. Authorize signatories for all accounts as indicated, and as funds are deposited in the designated depositories as presented in this Agenda, and further, that the previously approved signatories continue to be in effect until such time that the new signature authorization cards are completed:
 - a. All General Fund and Community Recreation and Debt Fund and Sinking Fund Accounts – any two of the following persons: Board President, Board Vice President, Board Secretary, Board Treasurer, Superintendent, and the appointed CFO and Controller for the District.
 - b. All School Service Fund Accounts (School Lunch) and Student Activity Fund Accounts – the following persons: Board President, Superintendent, and the appointed CFO and Controller for the District.
11. Authorize immediate deposit of school funds in established depositories without the Treasurer's signature, and further, that the Superintendent or designee be authorized to transfer funds between Board-approved institutions and accounts in accordance with accepted business procedures, and in the best interest of the District, commensurate with the Board of Education Policy.
12. Authorize the following positions to use District purchase cards in conducting District business: Superintendent, High School Principal, Middle School Principal, Elementary Principal, Director of Teaching and Learning, Athletic Director, Food Service Director, Director of Operations, Technology Director, Mechanic, Maintenance Lead, Executive Secretary, and Homeless Liaison.
13. Designate the CFO, Controller, and /or designee as the District's Electronic Transfer Officers.
14. Authorize the CFO and Controller for the District to assume specified responsibilities of the Board Secretary.
15. Designate the Superintendent to assume specified responsibilities of the Board Secretary.
16. Authorize the Superintendent to sign contract documents on behalf of the District and the Board of Education.
17. Appoint the Executive Secretary to serve as deputy to the Secretary of the Board for coordinating all school election efforts with the County Clerk and appropriated agencies.
18. Appoint the Executive Secretary to coordinate the postings of all public notices of public meetings.
19. Retain the firm of Thrun Law Firm, P.C. of Lansing, Michigan and Scholten Fant, P.C. of Grand Haven, Michigan, as General Board Counsel, and further that the Superintendent

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be authorized to solicit such legal counsel as the Board or as the Superintendent may from time-to-time deem necessary.

20. Retain the auditing firm of Maner Costerisan, P.C. for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Motion carried: 7-0 Unanimous

G. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

1. Superintendent Report – Dr. Doug Greer
 - a. Community Advisory Task Force Update
 - i. Feb 10 – Recommendation
 - ii. Mar 17 and Apr 21 needed with Thrun if warranted
 - b. Superintendent Reflections

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT AGREEMENT

Motion by Hutchins, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education approve the Separation Agreement between the district and Dr. Doug Greer and accept Dr. Greer's resignation as Superintendent. This agreement reflects a mutual decision made in the best interests of the district, and the Board affirms that Dr. Greer's leadership has been marked by integrity, dedication, and significant contributions to Fennville Public Schools.

Roll Call

Ayes: Michele, Pena-Smith, Hapke, Bosby, Hutchins

Nays: Thiele, Sanchez

Motion Carried: 5-2

2. APPROVAL OF INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTMENT

Motion by Hutchins, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education appoint Albert Lombard as Interim Superintendent, to serve in this role until a permanent superintendent is appointed. Mr. Lombard is the district's most veteran administrator, having served Fennville Public Schools for over 20 years in multiple capacities.

Roll Call

Ayes: Michele, Pena-Smith, Hapke, Bosby, Hutchins

Nays: Thiele, Sanchez

Vote: 5-2

3. APPROVAL OF AN ADDITIONAL BOARD WORK SESSION

Motion by Hutchins, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education establish an additional work session on January 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room and not to replace any approved Work Sessions established in the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried: 7-0

4. APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES (Roll Call Vote)

Motion by Hapke, supported by Hutchins, that the Board of Education appoint the designated members to serve on the following standing committees for 2025:

- a. MASB Delegate Assembly
 - i. Delegates
 1. Bosby
 2. Hutchins
 - ii. Alternates

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1. Michele
2. Pena-Smith
- b. Allegan County School Board Association Delegate
 - i. Delegates
 1. Ross Thiele
 - ii. Alternates
 1. Michele
- c. Fennville Educational Foundation Representative
 - i. Delegate:
 1. Pena-Smith

Roll Call

Ayes: Michele, Pena-Smith, Hapke, Bosby, Hutchins, Thiele, Sanchez

Nays: None

Vote: 7-0 Unanimous

I. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Dan Rastall thanked Dr. Greer for his contributions to the district and welcomed Albert Lombard, expressing his eagerness to work together.

J. MEETING CLOSING

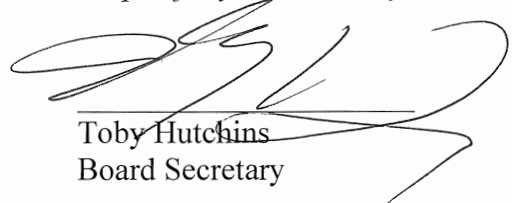
1. Upcoming meetings
 - Board Work Session on Monday, February 10, at 6:00 pm with Site Logic and the Community Advisory Task Force.
 - Regular Board Meeting on Monday, February 17, at 7:00 pm
2. Comments from the Board Table
 - Manuel Sanchez and Angie Pena-Smith thanked Dr. Greer for his work and dedication to the district.
3. Adjournment

Motion by Hapke, supported by Michele to adjourn. (7:50 p.m.)

Motion Carried: 7-0 Unanimous

Recorded by Executive Secretary, Marileen Pitts

Respectfully submitted by,


Toby Hutchins
Board Secretary