BOARD OF EDUCATION of the LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL DISTRICT
15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 (734) 744-2510

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2025

President Bradford convened the meeting at 6:33 pm

Members Present: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland

Members Absent: None

Point of Pride Presentation – High School Peer Connections Programs	Mrs. Jenkins introduced a student-led presentation highlighting peer connection programs at Churchill, Franklin, and Stevenson High Schools. Student Representatives, Teacher Mentors/Advisors and Principals from Charger Connection (CHS), Patriots Relate (FHS), and Link Crew (SHS) shared initiatives designed to support incoming first-year students by pairing them with upper class students to foster relationships, reduce anxiety, and promote inclusivity and well-being.
District Update from the Superintendent	Superintendent Oquist shared school activities, athletics program achievements, and other highlights and District points of pride.
Audience Communications	None
Consent Agenda	It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following Consent Agenda Items: V.A. *Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 22, 2025 Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None

Acceptance of Financial Statements 2024-2025	It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the 2024-2025 audit report as presented by the audit firm of Plante Moran. Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Approval of Purchase of PA and Classroom Audio Systems	It was my moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation to replace the District's current school PA and classroom audio system with the EPIC platform from VSC, Novi, MI in the amount of $4,141,312, which includes $200,000 contingency. Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Approval of Purchase of IT Network Server	It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation to award the IT Network Server Project to CDW, Inc., located in Chicago, IL, in the total amount of $125,550, based on REMC pricing. Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Approval of HVAC Repairs	It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District authorize the emergency repairs to resolve air conditioning failures caused by design issues, at a cost not to exceed $1,100,000. Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Approval of Purchase of Athletics Bleachers	It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Johnson that the board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation to purchase two sets of bleachers for Stevenson high School's practice field, from Southern Bleacher Company, Inc., located in Graham, Texas for at total amount of $35,850.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

Approval of 35M Grant Purchases	It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School district approve the recommendation to purchase *Into Reading 2025,* print and digital materials for fifth grade students and teachers, professional development on the new materials and small group instructional books for K-4 and 5-6 bookrooms from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in Chicago, IL, at a cost not to exceed $733,960. Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Teachers for Approval	It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and offer employment for the 2025-2026 school year to the following teachers: Shannon Bartley / 1.0 FTE / Roosevelt Kelly Schneyer / 1.0 FTE / LECC Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Teachers for Tenure	It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and acknowledge that tenure status has been granted to the following teachers effective on the respective date: Ian Boynton - October 30, 2025 Marla Kepsel – October 9, 2025 Lori Thome – August 23, 2025 Howard Weiner – October 9, 2025 Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland Nays: None
Leave of Absence	It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School district

accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the request for a leave of absence for:

Samantha Shoemake – 2025-2026 school year

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

Retirement

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt the attached resolution of appreciation for services rendered by:

Beth Lebowsky

WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District that Beth Lebowsky will retire from the district on October 24, 2025; and,
WHEREAS, Beth Lebowsky has devoted 27 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Emerson Middle School, Holmes Middle School, Stevenson High School, Riley Upper Elementary and Frost Middle School a teacher; and,
WHEREAS, She has made many contributions to the educational profession and has touched the lives of countless students during her tenure with the Livonia Public Schools;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education does hereby congratulate Beth Lebowsky on her years of service to the educational profession and expresses publicly its sincere appreciation and offers its best wishes for her retirement.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading Board Policy GAAA: Nondiscrimination Civil Rights and Title IX

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for:

BOARD POLICY	**GAAA**
PERSONNEL	
NONDISCRIMINATION	**October 20, 2025**
CIVIL RIGHTS AND TITLE IX	

Livonia Public Schools will not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex (including harassment on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity), race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, age, handicap, or disability. The District reaffirms its long-standing policy of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination.

Civil Rights Complaints

The Director of Student Services is appointed the Civil Rights Coordinator regarding complaints of disability/handicap discrimination involving educational services, programs, and activities. The Director of Human Resources is appointed the Civil Rights Coordinator regarding all other complaints of discrimination.

The Civil Rights Coordinator is designated to receive and resolve complaints from any person who believes that he/she may have been discriminated against in violation of this policy. Any person who believes he/she has been discriminated against in violation of this policy should promptly file an oral or written complaint with the Civil Rights Coordinator The Civil Rights Coordinator will then be responsible for coordinating the District's response in a fair and equitable manner, consistent with relevant laws, District policies and administrative procedures.

If the Coordinator determines that a violation has occurred, the Coordinator shall make a determination in writing, propose a fair resolution of the complaint, and deliver the determination to the complainant, respondent, and the Superintendent. The complainant may appeal the Civil Rights Coordinator's determination to the Superintendent by so notifying the Superintendent in writing within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the determination. The Superintendent may conduct additional investigation of the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint. The Superintendent shall affirm or reverse the Civil Rights Coordinator's decision and, if warranted, implement the Civil Rights Coordinator's proposed resolution or a modification thereof. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

A person is not required to use the procedure outlined above and may instead file a complaint directly with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

Title IX Sex Discrimination Complaints

Livonia Public Schools prohibits sex discrimination in all programs and activities that the District operates as required by Title IX and the Title IX regulations. Sex-based harassment is a form of sex discrimination, which means harassment on the basis of sex (including harassment on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity) that falls within one of the following categories:

(1) ***Quid pro quo harassment***: an employee, agent, or other person with authority to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditions the provision of such an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

(2) ***Hostile environment harassment***: unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive, and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the District's education program or activity (i.e., creates a hostile environment).

(3) ***Specific offenses, including***: sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, and stalking.

Sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, is covered by this Policy when it occurs under the District's education program or activities in the United States. Conduct occurs under the District's education program or activity when it is subject to the District's disciplinary authority. This includes conduct that occurs on school property; through use of school property (e.g., during online learning or when using the District's network or computer systems); at school-sponsored events or activities (e.g., field trips, athletic events, extracurricular activities); and in off-campus settings if the conduct is

sufficiently serious or severe that it could contribute to a hostile environment within the District's education program or activities.

Livonia Public Schools encourages anyone who believes they have been subjected to sex discrimination (or has knowledge of another person being subjected to sex discrimination) in connection with the District's programs or activities to promptly report their concerns directly to the LPS Title IX Coordinator. If an alleged Title IX violation has been first reported to a school administrator, or any other staff member in the District, the allegation must then be reported directly to the LPS Title IX Coordinator. When the Title IX Coordinator receives a report about conduct that may reasonably constitute sex discrimination, the Title IX Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating the District's response in a fair and equitable manner, consistent with Title IX and its regulations.

LEGAL REF.: Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d, et seq., and 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e, et seq.; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681, et seq., Age Discrimination Act of 1975, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.; Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 621 et seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C §§ 12101, et seq., the Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, MCL §§ 37.1101, et seq.; and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL §§ 37.2101, et seq.

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading Board Policy IDAC: Kindergarten

It was moved by Mr. MacFarland and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for:

BOARD POLICY **IDAC**
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM **OCTOBER 20, 2025**
KINDERGARTEN

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of providing a Kindergarten education to students, even though it is not required by the State of Michigan. The School District shall offer a full-day kindergarten program to all eligible children residing within the District. The program will be designed to provide developmentally appropriate learning experiences that support students' social, emotional, and academic growth, and will align with state standards and requirements.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1147

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading Board Policy IDB: Health Education

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for:

BOARD POLICY **IDB**
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM **OCTOBER 20, 2025**

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Board of Education establishes that the providing of consultative and preventive health services, e.g. vision screening, is generally the responsibility of county government, and that the treatment of individual children is a parental responsibility. Wayne County Health and Human Services is a resource the school district will utilize to provide support to staff, families and students, as needed. The school district will provide health education based on content standards and expectations from the Michigan Department of Education.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1502, MCL 380.1170, 1170a, 1170b

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

Second Reading Board Policy IDBB: Substance Abuse Education

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Board Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for:

BOARD POLICY **IDBB**
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM **OCTOBER 20, 2025**
SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION

The Board of Education recognizes that many health problems caused by substance abuse may be reduced through a comprehensive health education program dealing with the effects of addictive substances, such as nicotine, alcohol and narcotics.

The school district shall provide educational opportunities through Physical Education, Health and other courses at appropriate levels of schooling for learning about the physiological, hygienic and psychological effects of substance abuse.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1170, MCL 380.1170a

Ayes: Acosta, Bradford, Burton, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson, MacFarland
Nays: None

First Reading Bylaw of the Board AA: District Legal Name

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD **AA**
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION ~~**DECEMBER 1997**~~
DISTRICT LEGAL ~~STATUS~~ NAME ~~**Reviewed 11/2013**~~
NOVEMBER 17, 2025

The official name of the school district shall be ~~the~~ Livonia Public Schools School District. ~~and t~~The school district shall be organized and conducted as a general powers school district as presented in The Revised School Code~~.~~ , as amended.

LEGAL REF.: Constitution of the State of Michigan, Art. 8, Sec. 2; MCL 380.1131

First Reading Bylaw of the Board ABB: Board Powers and Duties

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD **ABB**
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION ~~**JANUARY 21, 2014**~~
BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES **NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

The Board of Education exercises its powers and duties only in properly called meetings, where a majority of the Board constitutes a quorum to transact business. Except when performing a specific duty as ~~ordered~~ directed by the Board, the decisions, speech and actions of a single member of the Board are not reflective of nor binding on the entire Board or school district.

The mandatory and implied granted powers and duties of the Board are defined by law. ~~This~~ The Board considers that its most important functions fall into the following categories:

1. Hiring and Evaluating the Superintendent: The Board is responsible for hiring the Superintendent to carry out the operations of the school district. The Board is responsible for evaluating the Superintendent according to the goals set by the Board in collaboration with the Superintendent and in accordance with State law.

~~1~~2. ~~Legislative or p~~Policy~~M~~making: The Board is responsible for the development and revision of Board policy~~,~~ . ~~t~~These policies shall be carried out by the administration. The Board shall evaluate the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.

~~2~~3. ~~Educational planning and appraisal~~. ~~Goal Setting and Strategic Planning:~~ Strategic Planning and Goal Setting: ~~The Board is responsible for requiring and acquiring reliable information from responsible sources which will enable it and the staff to work toward the continuing improvement of the educational program.~~ The Board is responsible for visionary strategic planning and goal setting and does so in conjunction with the Superintendent.

~~3~~4. ~~Provision~~ Allocation and Oversight of Financial Resources: The Board ~~has major responsibilities~~ is responsible for the adoption of a budget based on allocated funding ~~and acquisition of funds necessary~~ for personnel expenditures, ~~salaries, buildings,~~ school facilities and operations, ~~staff~~ materials, and equipment to enable the district to carry out the educational program. The Board is responsible ~~for exercising proper control over all district funds.~~ to ensure a proper audit is completed annually.

5. Personnel: The Board shall ~~employ~~ ~~see~~ ensure that the District employs the staff necessary to carry out the ~~instructional~~ educational program. The Board shall approve negotiated bargaining agreements which include salaries and salary schedules~~,~~ and other terms and conditions of employment~~, and shall establish personnel policies~~.

~~4~~6. School Facilities: The Board is responsible for determining school ~~housing~~ facility needs, in conjunction with the Superintendent, for communicating these needs to the community, for purchasing, leasing or selling sites, for approving building sites and approving building plans and renovations that will support and enhance the educational and extra-curricular programs.

~~5. Judicial. The Board is responsible for interpreting policies to school staff members, students and the public when issues involve Board policies and their fair implementation.~~

~~6~~ 7. Communication With the Public: The Board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping local citizens informed about the schools and ~~keeping itself informed about the wishes of the public~~ for being available to receive feedback from the public.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1201, *et seq.*

First Reading Bylaw of the Board ABCA: District Organization, Board Member Qualifications and Method of election

Combination of Board Bylaws ABCA, ABCB and ABCC into ONE policy that contains all of the pieces in an orderly manner. The current bylaw location is in parenthesis after each paragraph.

My suggested title to this bylaw would be Bylaw of the Board ABCA – District Organization, Board Member Qualifications and Method of Election. I also suggest changing "School Board" to "Board of Education" wherever it appears.

The Board of Education shall consist of seven members elected or appointed according to provisions contained in ~~Michigan general school laws~~ The Revised School Code, as amended. (ABCA)

~~A school elector is eligible for election or appointment to the Board of Education.~~ An Individual is eligible for election to the ~~School Board~~ Board of Education if the individual is a citizen of the United States and is a qualified and registered elector (registered voter, 18 years of age or older, and residing in Livonia Public Schools School District boundaries). (ABCB, paragraph 1)

Members of the Board of Education shall be elected biennially during even-year general elections (the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November), to serve for a term of four years on a ~~rotation~~ rotating basis. The term shall commence on January 1 of the year immediately following the election, and continue through December 31 of the fourth year. (proposed ABCC paragraph 1, originally ABCD)

The school district shall conduct the election of ~~School Board~~ Board of Education members as detailed above, and in special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education is~~n~~ accordance with the provisions of law, and by resolutions adopted by the Board. (ABCC paragraph 2, and "in" will be suggested at the meeting)

~~**Acceptance of Office; Constitutional Oath**~~

Within five business days after an election, each member-elect shall be notified of the election. Within ten business days after notification of election or appointment to the Board, each person shall file with the ~~S~~secretary ~~of~~ to the Board an acceptance of the office to which the person has been elected or appointed. (ABCB, paragraph 2)

Each person elected or appointed to the Board shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this state, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education according to the best of my ability." (ABCB paragraph 3)

Buildings and facilities of the school district may be made available to the City of Livonia and to the City of Westland at such times as the cities conduct elections. ~~School c~~ Election precincts may be revised as necessary based on the needs of the District or upon consideration of requests from the City of Livonia or the City of Westland. (ABCC paragraph 3)

All legal referenced for ABCA, ABCB, ABCC and ABCD that we have confirmed are still applicable should appear at the bottom of this policy.

First Reading and Removal of Bylaw of the Board ABCB: Board Member Qualifications and Oath of Office

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD **ABCB**
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATION

~~**JANUARY 21, 2014**~~
NOVEMBER 17, 2025

~~A school elector is eligible for election or appointment to the Board of Education.~~ An Individual is eligible for election to the School Board if the individual is a citizen of the United States and is a qualified and registered elector (registered voter, 18 years of age or older, and residing in Livonia Public Schools School District).

Acceptance of Office; Constitutional Oath

Within five business days after an election, each member-elect shall be notified of the election. Within ten business days after notification of election or appointment to the Board, each person shall file with the Secretary of the Board an acceptance of the office to which the person has been elected or appointed. Each person elected or appointed to the Board shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this state, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education according to the best of my ability."

LEGAL REF.: MCL 168.302; 168.492; 380.11a

First Reading and Removal of Bylaw of the Board ABCC: Board Member Method of Election

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD **ABCC**
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
BOARD MEMBER ~~**TERM OF ELECTION TO OFFICE**~~ ~~**NOVEMBER 13, 2017**~~
METHOD OF ELECTION **NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

Members of the Board of Education shall be elected biennially during even year general elections (the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November) to serve for a term of four years on a ~~rotation~~ rotating basis. The term shall commence on January 1 of the year immediately following the election and continue through December 31 of the fourth year.

The school district shall conduct the election of School Board members as detailed above and special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education ~~is~~n accordance with the provisions of law and by resolutions adopted by the Board.

Buildings and facilities of the school district may be made available to the City of Livonia and to the City of Westland at such times as the cities conduct elections. School election precincts may be revised as necessary based on the needs of the District or upon consideration of requests from the City of Livonia or the City of Westland.

LEGAL REF.: MCL, 168.302; 380.11a(7)(8)

First Reading and Removal of Bylaw ABCD: Board Member Method of Election

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD **ABCD**
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION ~~**June 4, 2012**~~
BOARD MEMBER METHOD OF ELECTION ~~**Reviewed 11/2013**~~

NOVEMBER 17, 2025

The school district shall conduct the election of School Board members every other year in even years and special elections as deemed necessary by the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of law and by resolutions adopted by the Board.

~~The Board shall cooperate with the City of Livonia and the City of Westland officials in conducting all elections. Buildings and facilities of the school district shall may be made available to the City of Livonia and to the City of Westland at such times as the cities shall~~

~~conduct elections. When necessary, sSchool election precincts shall may be revised to conform to as necessary based on the needs of the District or upon consideration of requests from the City of Livonia and or the City of Westland precinct revisions.~~

LEGAL REF.: Public Acts 232 and 233 of 2011; MCL 168.758(c)

First Reading
Bylaw of the Board
AC

BOARD POLICY **AC**
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PLAN ~~**APRIL 23, 2007**~~
~~**LEVELS OF INSTRUCTION**~~ ~~Reviewed 11/2013~~
SCHOOL GRADE CONFIGURATION **NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

The ~~levels of~~ ~~instruction~~ school grade configuration ~~are~~ is organized as follows:

Pre-K
Lower Elementary Schools - Grades Kindergarten through Four
Upper Elementary Schools - Grades Five and Six
Middle Schools - Grades Seven and Eight
Senior High Schools - Grades Nine, Ten, Eleven, and Twelve
Post-Secondary ~~– Grade 14~~

The district reserves the right to have different grade configurations for magnet schools.

LEGAL REF.: MCL 388.684; 380.1277; 380.1282

Hearing from Board Members

None

Adjournment

President Bradford adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Off./Supt./tg