

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
1220 Howard Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
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January 6, 2026

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Kalamazoo Public Schools will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008. The meeting will be live streamed on Public Media Network on the Live TV Channel PMN 5: <https://publicmedianet.org/pmn-five/>.

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent, and senior staff will have an informational dinner meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's office area and will also discuss any matters that may come before the Board.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jennie Hill, Secretary
Board of Education

- ❖ Please contact the Superintendent's Office in advance of the meeting if auxiliary aids or services for individuals with disabilities are needed.
- ❖ Official minutes of Kalamazoo Public Schools Board of Education open meetings are available for inspection within eight working days of the meeting at the Superintendent's Office, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

POLICY
of the
BOARD OF EDUCATION
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1.2 Public Participation During a Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Policy

While balancing legitimate privacy interests of students and staff, the Board of Trustees welcomes community input at public meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Specifics

1. Persons requesting to address the board will be asked to complete a sign-in sheet by the end of the public comment period. The portion of that sign-in sheet requiring completion will include: name, school district in which the person resides, and connection to/interest in the Kalamazoo Public Schools. The optional portion will be held private and will include: mailing address, email address, phone number, topic about which they will be speaking and, if authorized and applicable, the organization they represent.
2. The presiding board officer will invite persons to come to the podium in the order in which the sign-in sheets were completed.
3. If after 30 minutes everyone who has completed a sign-in sheet has not had the opportunity to address the board, the public comment period will be tabled and resume before adjournment.
4. Speakers have three minutes each and must stop speaking promptly when signaled.
5. Speakers may not address confidential student or personnel matters, but may submit such concerns to the board in writing.
6. Speakers are encouraged to provide the board with a written copy of their comments and other appropriate supporting documentation, which will be copied and distributed as needed to appropriate staff/personnel.
7. The public is required to exercise common courtesy during the meeting and must follow rule of order. The presiding board officer may terminate public comments that are profane, vulgar, or defamatory, especially if these comments result in a disturbance or breach of peace. Personal attacks against an employee or board member that are totally unrelated to his or her duties are prohibited. If a person engages in disruptive conduct or is out of order, the board presiding officer will strike his or her gavel and warn the person to discontinue their behavior. Further disruptions will result in the person being asked to leave. Refusal to leave will result in being escorted out of the building. (MCL 380.1808)

Adopted: February 13, 2003

Revised: December 17, 2009

Revised: June 25, 2013

Adopted: December 19, 2019

Revised: November 21, 2024

This policy supersedes all other policies on this issue.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard St. Kalamazoo, MI 49008
January 8, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Election of Officers**
- IV. Acceptance of Agenda**
- V. Attendance**
- VI. Board Recognitions**
- VII. Committee Reports/School Reports**
- VIII. Correspondence**
- IX. Consent Calendar Items**
 - A. Minutes**
December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - B. Business and Financial Reports**
Purchase Recommendation 2026-22, 2026-23, 2026-24, and 2026-25
 - C. Personnel Items**
Personnel Changes
- X. Reports and Recommendations**
 - A. Superintendent's Report**
 - B. Course Recommendation 2026-2027 Second Reading**
 - C. Administrative Appointment - Assistant Principal of Prairie Ridge Elementary**
- XI. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (3-minute individual limit)**
- XII. Other Business**
- XIII. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent**
- XIV. Closed Session (if needed)**
- XV. Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Thursday, January 22, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.**

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard Street
December 15, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Acceptance of Agenda

Vice President McGlinn called for a motion to accept the agenda.

MOTION: Trustee Patti Sholler-Barber, supported by Secretary Hill, moved to accept the agenda.

Disposition: Voice vote; all in favor. The motion was carried unanimously by trustees present.

IV. Attendance

Board members present: Carol McGlinn, Karla Murphy, Jennie Hill, Patti Sholler-Barber, Takisha Johnson, and Yvonne Payton. Board members absent: TiAnna Harrison. Dr. Darrin Slade was also present. Trustee Johnson left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

V. Board Recognitions

Northglade Montessori Magnet School Principal Reqwal Duckworth recognized students Zariah Brown, Maeve Mifsud, Bryan Hillsman, Andrew Palmore, and Avah Palmore.

Lincoln International Studies School Teacher Courtney Horn recognized students Mabinti Keita, Iris Burks, Nasir Beville, Oshun Sankofa, Rylo Ambs, and Jy'Vonna Mimms.

KPS Virtual Program Principal Kim Kirshman recognized students Ioannis Midaidis-Evans, Jasim Karim, Juliet Poe, Zayne Martin, Hao Kostrzewa, and Natalia Juarez.

Kalamazoo Central Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Greg Straka recognized students Samuel Baker, Andrew Wright, Ty Billings, Brady Winther-MacInnis, Elijah Thompson, Colby Bartells, Grant Marcikic, and Kiya Bowman.

VI. Committee Reports/School Reports

Trustee Sholler-Barber updated from the Academic Excellence Committee. The committee discussed plans for the 2026-2027 course bulletin.

Treasurer Murphy updated from the Governance Committee. She shared that all policies are in a state of review. The committee decided on a review schedule for the year.

Trustee Sholler-Barber updated from the Communities In Schools Committee. The CIS Ugly Sweater Party was on December 9. She gave a shoutout to Chief of Marketing and Communications Susan Coney for representing Kalamazoo Public Schools at the event.

VII. Correspondence

Secretary Hill reported the correspondence for the period of November 20 - December 13, 2025.

- Email received on November 21 from Susan O'Connor regarding concerns about a social media post. Secretary Hill replied on December 9.
- Email received on November 25 from Shona Espinaza sharing information for upcoming community events. Secretary Hill replied on December 9.
- Email received on December 3 from John McNeil providing updates on the 2026 City of Kalamazoo budget. Secretary Hill replied on December 9.
- Email received on December 3 from Michael Kissinger regarding busing concerns. Secretary Hill replied on December 9.
- Email received on December 9 from Henry Snapp regarding questions about district procedures. Secretary Hill replied on December 14.

VIII. Consent Calendar

Vice President McGlenn presented the Consent Calendar items: VIII.A.1 November 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, VIII.A.2 December 4, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, VIII.B Purchase Recommendation 2026-19, 2026-20, 2026-21, and VIII.C Personnel Changes.

Motion: Trustee Sholler-Barber, supported by Trustee Johnson, moved to accept the Consent Calendar.

Disposition: Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried unanimously by trustees present.

Discussion from the board:

Karla Murphy

- Asked if the mobile surveillance systems store faces, plates, and other personal information, and for how long. Chief of Safety and Security Don Webster answered that the tower is not equipped with face or license recognition.
- Asked if the mobile surveillance towers will align with data privacy, retention, and other policies of the district. Chief Webster answered yes, they will be configured as needed to comply with all district policies. The current retention settings are to hold videos for 30 days but settings can be changed to hold them indefinitely pending storage space in the unit.
- Asked if the mobile surveillance towers interact with external data tracking services. Chief Webster answered that they do not. They have the capability to be monitored by local public safety by integrating the unit with the Fusus System to allow authorized access when needed.

Patti Sholler-Barber

- Thanked Chief Webster for his hard work in obtaining new security measures with the 31aa grant
- Thanked everyone who worked to obtain the bond funds.

IX. Reports and Recommendations

A. Superintendent's Update

Dr. Slade presented the 2024-2025 End-of-Year State Testing Math Results and expressed gratitude to Assistant Superintendent Dr. Micole Dyson for her dedication to the elementary schools. He acknowledged Milwood Middle School and Loy Norrix High School for their significant improvements and recognized Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Mr. Craig McCane for his involvement with the buildings. Dr. Slade urged the community to monitor students' progress, grades, and attendance, while reminding everyone that the district will continue to require summer school for students not passing courses.

He also recognized the student performers, musicians, and stage crew for the Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix musicals. Appreciation was extended to the school board and Senior Leadership staff, along with recognition of Clark Hill Attorney Marshall Grate for his dedication to the district.

Discussion from the board:

Yvonne Payton

- Asked if there are reasons why 8th grade did not improve test scores and what is in place to improve in the next school year. Dr. Slade answered the district is working with all 8th-grade teachers, visiting classrooms, providing feedback, and having more intentional professional development. Tutoring and Saturday School are in place as well. Mr. McCane also answered that different groups of students come up every year. The focus is on strong Tier 1 instruction with greater emphasis on Tier 2 with structured tutoring and assessments. Zearn and IXL have been relied on this year. Paying attention to benchmark data from September and December (progress monitoring). By moving to the semester schedule, students will have more opportunities to catch up with math.

Carol McGlenn

- Acknowledged one of the strategic plan goals is to be on pace with the state for math goals.
- Thinks the progress the district is making is great.

Patti Sholler-Barber

- Stated there is a national issue with math scores and that it is challenging for districts to improve.
- Shared early interventions and summer school are put in place to assist students in 8th grade.

B. Course Recommendation 2026-2027

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development, Dr. Angela Justice, presented the first reading of the course recommendations for the 2026-2027 school year.

Discussion from the board:

Jennie Hill

- Excited to see the pathways from 6th to 8th-grade classes.

Patti Sholler-Barber

- Appreciates that many courses are career-focused.
- Asked how courses are selected. Dr. Justice stated there are forms sent out to teachers who submit suggestions, and then meetings take place between coordinators, administrators, and teachers on how to plan the courses. Most recommended courses are added to the course bulletin.
- Shoutout to the music department for additional courses.

Carol McGlinn

- Gave appreciation to Dr. Justice for her hard work in the course recommendations.

C. Resolution Authorizing 2026 School Building and Site Refunding Bonds

Chief Financial Officer Laura Kayser presented the Resolution Authorizing 2026 School Building and Site Refunding Bonds.

Motion: Secretary Hill, supported by Treasurer Murphy, moved to approve the resolution authorizing 2026 school building and site refunding bonds.

Disposition: Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried unanimously by trustees present.

D. MASB Board of Directors Nomination

Motion: Treasurer Murphy, supported by Trustee Sholler-Barber moved to nominate President TiAnna Harrison to run for the MASB Board of Directors Position.

Disposition: Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried unanimously by trustees present.

X. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (3-minute individual limit)

None.

XI. Other Business

- A. Professional Development Request for Karla Murphy
- B. Professional Development Request for TiAnna Harrison
- C. Professional Development Request for Carol McGlinn
- D. Professional Development Request for Patti Sholler-Barber
- E. Professional Development Request for Jennie Hill
- F. Professional Development Request for Yvonne Payton
- G. Professional Development Request for Takisha Johnson

XII. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent

Jennie Hill

- Thanked all KPS staff for a successful year.
- Recognized accomplishments of students in extracurricular activities.

Yvonne Payton

- Shared she attended the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts teacher reception.

Patti Sholler-Barber

- Recognized the outstanding work of KPS staff.
- Wished all students a wonderful holiday.

- Attended the Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix musicals.
- Praised the representation of the Kalamazoo Virtual Program.
- Provided Kalamazoo Central athletics update:
 - Men's basketball: Off to a 3-0 start, winning last two games by 30 points. Upcoming game at Lakeshore on Friday.
 - Annual Don Jackson Memorial basketball showcase on December 27th:
 - 4:00: Muskegon Heights vs South Bend Washington
 - 5:30: Phoenix vs Inkster American International Academy
 - 7:00: KC vs Dearborn Fordson
 - Boys freshman and JV: Both at 3-0.
 - Girls varsity basketball: 1-2 record; praised their tenacity and fight.
 - Wrestling: Freshman Jahnavi Marion setting a school record pace for wins and pins.
- Provided Loy Norrix athletics update:
 - Men's V Basketball: 4-0 start, recent 69-55 win over Portage Central.
 - Upcoming games: East Kentwood (tomorrow), hosting Gull Lake (Thursday), South Bend Adams (Saturday).
- Urged the community to be cautious over the holiday break.
- Requested donations to keep students warm and safe.

Karla Murphy

- Congratulated all students that were recognized in tonight's meetings.
- Congratulated the Kalamazoo Central cross country team for four years at state and regional level.
- Thanked Ms. Saunders and Chief Webster for being well prepared for answering her questions.
- Shared she loves that the district enrollment numbers have gone up and align with the strategic plan.
- Congratulated Loy Norrix seniors for putting on Shrek at Loy Norrix.
- Wished everyone a great holiday.

Carol McGlinn

- Shared she hopes all the staff have a break during the holiday season.
- Urged the community to be careful with kids out and about.

Dr. Slade

- Wished everyone a great holiday break.
- Showed appreciation for all staff working over winter break.
- Gave shoutout to Chief Webster and his campus safety team.

XIII. Closed Session

Vice President McGlinn moved for the Board to convene in closed session pursuant to section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268(e), a public body may meet in closed session to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the public body's litigating or settlement position. Accordingly, the Board can convene in closed session to consult with its attorney regarding pending litigation, specifically, English v Kalamazoo Public Schools, et al., Case No. 1-23-cv-00562-JMB (USWD), because review of the pending litigation would

have a detrimental effect on the Board's litigating or settlement position. Pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268 (h), the Board can meet in closed session to consider material exempt from open discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute, and under MCL 15.243 (l)(g), information or records subject to attorney-client privilege are confidential and exempt from public disclosure. Vice President McGlinn moved to convene in closed session to review a written legal opinion of counsel Clark Hill PLC, which written legal opinion is exempt from disclosure as privileged and confidential documents pursuant to the attorney-client privilege.

MOTION: Vice President McGlinn, supported by Trustee Sholler-Barber, moved to convene in closed session.

Disposition: Voice vote; all in favor. Motion carried unanimously by trustees present.

Vice President McGlinn stated the board would not return to the floor.

XIV. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Regular Board of Education meeting is Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Vice President McGlinn adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeGraaf, Recording Secretary,
on behalf of Jennie Hill,
Secretary, Board of Education

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

Request Number: 2026-22

Amount: \$431,555.00

Item: Phoenix High School Secure Vestible and Renovations

Cost Center: 2022 Bond

Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting: Karen Jackson

Description of Need:

Remodeling at Phoenix High School will take place this summer. The work includes a secure vestibule, new flooring in classrooms and new interior doors. The work was identified in the 2022 bond.

Vendor: See attached spreadsheet

Number of Proposals Requested: 80 **Received:** 8

Low Bid Accepted: Yes

Additional Information:

Budget	\$486,156.00
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Bid	403,322.50
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Contingency	<u>28,232.50</u>
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Total	\$431,555.00
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Under(Over)	\$ 54,601.00
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CONTRACTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Project: PHOENIX HIGH SCHOOL Secure Vestibule and Remodeling

Owner: Kalamazoo Public Schools

Architect: TowerPinkster

Construction Manager: The Skillman Corporation

Bid Date: November 18, 2025 and December 16, 2025

<u>BID CATEGORY</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
General Trades	Hall Builders, LLC Paw Paw, MI	\$298,500.00	\$16,100.00	\$314,600.00
Flooring	Modern Flooring America Portage, MI	\$65,958.50		\$65,958.50
Technology / Security	Smart Building Services Belmont, MI	\$22,764.00		\$22,764.00
TOTAL AMOUNT:				<u>\$403,322.50</u>

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

Request Number: 2026-23

Amount: \$5,267,765.00

Item: Loy Norrix High School D Wing Mechanical Improvements

Cost Center: 2022 Bond

Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting: Karen Jackson

Description of Need:

This purchase recommendation includes the following work at Loy Norrix High School: Roof replacement in areas D2, E, N1, Q, Q2, X and X1 as well as new mechanical improvements, lighting and ceilings in D wing classrooms, offices, media center, cafeteria and tunnels.

Vendor: See attached spreadsheet

Number of Proposals Requested: 182 **Received:** 10

Low Bid Accepted: Yes

Additional Information:

Budget	\$5,823,029
Bid	4,788,878
Contingency	<u>478,887</u>
Total	\$5,267,765
Under(Over)	\$ 555,264

CONTRACTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Project: LOY NORRIX HIGH SCHOOL Unit D Mechanical Upgrades

Owner: Kalamazoo Public Schools

Architect: TowerPinkster

Construction Manager: The Skillman Corporation

Bid Date: December 16, 2025

<u>BID CATEGORY</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
General Trades	LJ Trumble Builders, LLC Lansing, MI	\$435,000.00		\$435,000.00
Interior Finishes	Ritsema Associates Grandville, MI	\$263,800.00		\$263,800.00
Mechanical	R.W. LaPine Inc. Kalamazoo, MI	\$2,462,000.00		\$2,462,000.00
Electrical	Buist Electric Kalamazoo, MI	\$950,000.00		\$950,000.00
Roofing	J+F Chiattello Construction Dyer, IN	\$535,588.00	\$142,460.00	\$678,048.00
TOTAL AMOUNT:				<u>\$4,788,848.00</u>

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

Request Number: 2026-24

Amount: \$37,002.30

Item: Loy Norrix High School High Density Stacking Chairs

Cost Center: 2022 Bond

Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting: Karen Jackson

Description of Need:

This purchase recommendation is for 400 high density stacking chairs with carts for Loy Norrix High School. These chairs are needed for testing as well as large gatherings in the building. The existing chairs are rusty and old and need to be replaced.

Vendor:

West Michigan Office Interiors
Kalamazoo, MI

Number of Proposals Requested: 2 **Received:** 2

Low Bid Accepted: Yes

Additional Information:

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

Request Number: 2026-25

Amount: \$68,615.00

Item: Chenery Auditorium Piano Restoration

Cost Center: Irving S. Gilmore Foundation Grant

Cost Center Representative(s) Attending Board Meeting: Susan Coney

Description of Need:

Chenery Auditorium is the home to a 9-foot Steinway concert grand piano. This piano has been the preferred instrument for many of the renowned artists who have performed on Chenery's stage during the Gilmore Keyboard Festival. In its current condition, however, the piano is no longer an option for artist selection. A deep reconditioning of the piano is needed now to ensure its vitality and viability for the concert stage for years to come. In addition, a new piano bench and a new, sturdier climate-controlled cover for the piano area also needed.

Vendor:

Central Michigan Piano
Rockford, MI

Number of Proposals Requested: 2 **Received:** 2

Low Bid Accepted: No

Additional Information:

The Gilmore Foundation representative reviewed the bids and requested that we accept the bid from Central Michigan Piano due to their expertise in working with Steinway concert pianos.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOL
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Darrin Slade,

DATE: Superintendent January 8, 2026

SUBJECT: Personnel Changes

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the board approve the following employment changes:

- I. Employment
 - A. Professional/Management
 - Lori M. Hanson**, Math Teacher, Kalamazoo Central High School, 01/05/2026
 - Thomas J. McPherson**, Assistant Principal, Prairie Ridge Elementary School, 01/05/2026
 - Emma M. Parsons**, Special Education Teacher, Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School, 01/05/2026
 - B. Classified
 - Savannah N. Brooks**, Home-School Support Specialist (1.0), Woodward School, 01/05/2026
 - Charles H. Crowley**, 1:1 Self-Contained Special Education Paraprofessional, Parkwood Upjohn Elementary School, 12/15/2025
 - Andrea M. Kardatske**, Administrative Secretary, Facilities Management, 01/05/2026
 - Lauren K. Kannegieter**, Assistant School Secretary - Child Accounting, Lincoln International Studies School, 01/05/2026
- II. Promotions/Key Transfers
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
 - Barbara J. Hillman**, transfer from Accounting Supervisor to Controller, Business and Finance, 12/15/2025
 - Samira R. Lawrence**, transfer from Special Education Self-Contained Paraprofessional (.6) and Resource Room Paraprofessional (.4), Kalamazoo Central High School, to Moderate Cognitively Impaired Self-Contained Paraprofessional, Spring Valley Center for Exploration, 01/05/2026
 - Victoria A. Leatherman**, transfer from Administrative Assistant Supervisory Technical to Supervisor of Instructional Services, Instructional Student Services, 01/05/2026
 - Catherine L. West**, transfer from Home-School Support Specialist (.5), Woodward School, to Home-School Support Specialist (.5), Arcadia Elementary School, 01/05/2026
- III. Leaves of Absence
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified

- IV. Terminations
 - A. Professional/Management
 - Elizabeth K. Kositzke**, Lower Elementary Resource Room Teacher, Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary School, Resignation, 12/19/2025
 - Magdalen K. Norris**, Chemistry Teacher, Kalamazoo Central High School, Resignation, 12/19/2025
 - B. Classified
 - Omnia Bakr**, Multilingual Paraprofessional, Lincoln International Studies School, Termination, 12/11/2025
 - Katharine A. Brady**, Special Education Upper Resource Room Paraprofessional, Milwood Elementary School, Resignation, 12/19/2025
 - Yaressy Y. Arevalo-Balboa**, Multilingual Paraprofessional, Lincoln International Studies School, Resignation, 01/05/2026
- V. Termination from Leave of Absence
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
- VI. Return from Leave of Absence
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
- VII. Lay-offs
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent

To: Board of Trustees
From: Dr. Darrin Slade, Superintendent
Date: December 15, 2025
Subject: Course Recommendation 2026-2027

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees receive for review the following additions, deletions, and other changes to the course and program offerings for incorporation into the 2026-2027 Bulletin of Courses. Actual course offerings are contingent upon staffing, budget, and scheduling.

I. Middle School

A. Career Education

Add the following courses:

Promising Pathways Success I - 6th Grade: Self Discovery, Personal Foundations and Exploration

Required Elective • 1 Semester

Course #:

This required course introduces students to the essential personal, academic, and social-emotional foundations for middle school success. The curriculum centers on developing a Growth Mindset and mastering effective Study Skills, Key Learning Techniques, and time management. Students begin the Educational Development Plan (EDP) by conducting an initial interest inventory using the RIASEC (Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, Conventional) framework for self-discovery. Students will start their Educational Development Plan (EDP) documenting personal interests and foundational academic goals. The goal is to successfully transition students to the increased demands of middle school by fostering self-awareness and organizational competence.

Promising Pathways to Success II - 7th Grade: Integrated Skills Application and Diverse Career Options (Exploration and Application)

Required Elective • 1 Semester

Course #:

This required course expands on foundational skills by focusing on option awareness and the application of Success Skills in collaborative environments. Students deepen their understanding of their RIASEC profile and actively use it to research and compare diverse post-secondary pathways, including the military, apprenticeships/job training, and college. Career exploration involves analyzing career clusters and the specific educational requirements for these non-traditional paths. Students will research specific career clusters and pathways as they continue to develop their Educational Development Plan (EDP).

Promising Pathways to Success III - 8th Grade: Real-World Readiness, Planning, & Transition (College, Career, and Pathway Readiness and Transition)

Required Elective • 1 Semester

Course #:

This required capstone course synthesizes all prior learning into a definitive transition plan. The focus is on College, Career, and Pathway Readiness through the creation of a comprehensive, four-year high school plan and practicing transition skills necessary for advocacy and independence. Utilizing their EDP students will develop goals and plans and research their 4-year high school plan course sequence and potential post-secondary pathway aspirations. Students refine their Work-Based Learning Skills through portfolio creation and job seeking skills, practicing 21st Century Skills such as formal presentation, communication. This course requires students to develop a capstone project that demonstrates high school and post-secondary pathway readiness.

B. Computer Science

Add the following courses:

Advanced Tech SMART: Skills, Media, Applications, Research, Thinking

Elective • 1 Semester

Course #:

Prerequisite: TechSMART

Advanced TechSMART is a hands-on, project-based elective for students who have completed TechSMART and want to deepen their digital skills. Students will expand their knowledge of computational thinking, digital citizenship, communication, and innovative design while exploring advanced tools and emerging technologies. The course includes guided opportunities to use and create with artificial intelligence, design technology solutions, and build sophisticated digital products. Students will apply their learning through collaborative projects that showcase creativity, problem-solving, and responsible use of technology.

Computer Science for Innovators and Makers

Elective • 1 Semester

Course #: 1567830

Students discover computer science concepts and skills by creating relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Students will learn programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. Students will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable and plan and develop code.

Foundations in Coding

Elective • 1 Semester

Course #: 1567811

This hands-on introductory coding class uses user-friendly tools like Scratch and Code.org. Students will create games, animations, and interactive stories, developing logical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills. This course prepares students for advanced tech classes and explores the connection between coding and real-world careers.

C. English

Add the following courses:

MS Creative Writing

Elective • 1 Semester

Course #

This course is designed to introduce middle school students to the art and craft of creative writing. Students will explore various genres, develop their unique voice, and learn essential writing techniques. Through reading, writing, and peer review, students will enhance their creativity, critical thinking, and communication skills.

MS Novels of Choice

Elective • 1 Semester

Course Number: 3067859

This course allows students to explore various novels. Students will engage in reading, discussion, and creative projects related to the chosen texts. The goal is to foster a love of reading, develop analytical skills, and encourage personal connection with literature.

The Exploration of Self through Hip Hop

Elective • 1 Semester

Course Number: 3067855

This course uses hip hop culture and pedagogy as a foundation to support students with their exploration and development of youth voice, socio-emotional learning, self-esteem, classroom and community engagement, and social justice leadership skills.

D. Extended Learning

Add the following courses for Milwood Middle

Foundations for Academic Success

Required for students meeting the criteria • 1 Semester

Course Number: 3067831

This academic assistance class is designed to provide targeted support for students, centered around the ELA and math competencies. The class has been created to support students who need additional help developing their math and reading skills. Over the span of 18 weeks, students will engage in focused learning experiences that address their individual needs in math (9 weeks) and reading (9 weeks), enhance their understanding of key concepts, and build confidence in their abilities.

E. Music

Change the title and/or description for the following courses:

6th Grade General Music

This is a non-performance class where students will learn about the elements and purpose of music. Students will also learn about music from different cultures around the world.

7th Grade General Music

This is a non-performance class where students will learn the history of modern popular music in America. Students will explore genres from jazz and musical theater to rock and hip hop.

8th Grade General Music

This is a project-based class. Students will create music using software such as GarageBand and Google Chrome Music Lab. Units include: parody, sampling, remixes, music in film, and hip hop.

6th Grade Drama

This class is an introduction to drama and acting. Students will learn basic drama vocabulary, perform in short scenes during class, learn the skills of improvisation, and play drama games.

7th Grade Drama

Students will rehearse and perform various types of scenes. This course also covers the basics of set design, makeup, sound, lighting, and costumes.

~~Drama/Forensics~~ 8th Grade Drama & Forensics

This class allows students to develop their acting skills. Students will perform short scenes in class and read through a play. This course also introduces the basics of Forensics, the art of competitive speaking, acting, and dramatic reading.

~~Musical Theater 6-8~~ Musical Theater

This course is for students interested in musical theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

F. Science

Add the following courses:

Green Architecture

Elective • 1 Semester

Course Number: 7067810

Students learn how to apply the concept of “green” choices to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units.

Magic of Electrons

Elective • 1 Semester

Course Number: 7067820

Through hands-on projects, students explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. They learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design, and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them.

G. Spanish

Change the title and/or description of the following courses:~~Spanish for Beginners~~ Spanish Explorations

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)

Course # 90645

A culturally rich introductory course designed to help students explore the Spanish language through communication, culture, and hands-on activities. Students build basic vocabulary, learn simple conversational phrases, and engage with Spanish-speaking cultures in an accessible and engaging format.

~~Spanish Intermediate~~ Spanish Basics

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)

Course # 90745

Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 7 and 8

A foundational course that reinforces essential Spanish structures and supports students in developing confidence with everyday communication skills. Students practice reading, writing, listening, and speaking in Spanish while expanding cultural understanding through interactive projects and authentic materials.

H. Visual & Performing Arts

Add the following course:

MS Dance

Elective • 1 Semester

Course Number: 656781

Students will learn the basic elements and discipline of formal dance technique. They will explore dance genres such as modern dance, ballet, jazz, hip-hop and cultural dance styles. Movement, improvisation, composition, and dance history will also be explored. Students are required to participate in a dance concert at the end of each term.

II. High School

A. Career and Technical Education (CTE)

[Update titles, descriptions, and location of courses as identified by KRESA](#)

B. Courseware

Add the following courses:

Accounting
 African American Studies
 Basic Marketing
 Business Information Systems A
 Digital Photo Art
 Graphic Design
 Illustration
 Introduction to Visual Arts
 Psychology
 Sports and Entertainment Management
 Theatre Improv and Scriptwriting
 Visual Arts Exploration
 Young Entrepreneurs of the Future

Remove the following courses:

Careers in Criminal Justice
 Journalism 1a: Introduction
 Law & Order: Intro to Legal Studies
 Women's Studies: Through Film

C. Early Middle College (EMC)

[Update titles, descriptions, and location of courses as identified by KRESA](#)

D. Education for the Arts (EFA)

[Update titles, descriptions, and location of courses as identified by KRESA](#)

E. English Language Development

Change the prerequisite and course description for the following courses

ELD 1: Entering A

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3510-7

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

ELD 1: Entering B

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3510-8

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

ELD 2: Emerging A

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3520-7

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

Designed for students at the Emerging proficiency level, this course introduces the ability to express ideas using short phrases and simple sentences. Students will engage in structured conversations, comprehend basic texts, and practice forming questions and responses in familiar contexts. Instruction includes collaborative tasks and frequent opportunities to use new vocabulary in practical scenarios. Successful completion of ELD 2: Emerging A earns English 9A credit.

ELD 2: Emerging B

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3520-8

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

This course builds upon the skills developed in ELD 2: Emerging A. Students will focus on constructing more accurate and longer sentences, improving their ability to narrate events and describe routines. The curriculum emphasizes reading comprehension through slightly longer passages and the development of short written paragraphs. Students will gain confidence in using English in both social and academic settings. Successful completion of ELD 2: Emerging B earns English 9B credit.

ELD 3: Developing A

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3530-7

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

This course focuses on developing skills to analyze literature and informational texts. Students will learn to identify themes, central ideas, and key details in grade-appropriate texts. Writing instruction emphasizes constructing organized multi-paragraph essays, including argumentative and narrative forms. Speaking and listening activities include collaborative discussions and short oral presentations. Grammar instruction targets sentence variety, coherence, and the correct use of conventions. Successful completion of ELD 3: Developing A earns English 10A credit.

ELD 3: Developing B

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3530-8

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

This course builds on the skills from ELD 3: Developing A. Students will analyze complex texts, evaluate arguments, and synthesize information across multiple sources. Writing instruction includes argumentative essays with supporting evidence and narrative writing that uses dialogue and descriptive details. Students will also deliver structured oral presentations, integrating multimedia where appropriate. Advanced grammar topics such as verb tenses, parallel structure, and transitions are introduced. Successful completion of ELD 3: Developing B earns English 10B credit.

ELD 4: Expanding A

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #: 3502-45

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

This course focuses on refining academic language skills. Students will engage in detailed analysis of literary and informational texts, identifying how authors use structure, figurative language, and rhetorical devices to achieve purpose. Writing assignments emphasize constructing persuasive, expository, and narrative essays with textual evidence. Collaborative discussions and debates are designed to enhance speaking and listening skills. Grammar instruction includes complex sentence structures and advanced usage of conventions. Successful completion of ELD 4: Expanding A earns an English elective credit.

ELD 4: Expanding B

1 Semester • 0.5 Credit

Course #:

Prerequisite: Must have approval of the ~~bilingual~~ Multilingual Learners staff and Dean of Students

Building upon ELD 4: Expanding A, this course prepares students for mainstream academic coursework. Students will analyze themes and arguments across texts, compare multiple perspectives, and evaluate authorial choices. Writing tasks include research-based essays and formal reports, integrating citation and evidence. Speaking and listening activities include delivering persuasive presentations and participating in formal debates. Instruction emphasizes nuanced grammar use, such as conditional clauses and passive voice. Successful completion of ELD 4: Expanding B earns an English elective credit.

F. KAMSC

Change the title and description of the following course:

~~Honors Computer Studies~~ AP Computer Science Principles

AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also explain how computing innovations and computing systems, including the internet, work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

G. Math

Change the prerequisite for the following course:

Personal Financial Literacy

Course #

~~Prerequisite: Geometry B~~ Grades: 10, 11, or 12

H. Music

Add the following course(s):

Chamber Orchestra

2 Semesters (full year) -1 Credit

Course #

Grades: 10th, 11th, 12th

Prerequisite: Audition and/or Director Permission

Scheduling Note: This course may be repeated.

This is an advanced string ensemble, demanding high levels of individual performance and music reading abilities. Students will rehearse and perform in a smaller orchestra to refine advanced performance techniques, develop greater independence, and strengthen ensemble skills. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

Change the title, prerequisite, and description for the following courses:~~Orchestra~~ String Orchestra

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Orchestra or Director Permission

Scheduling Note: This course may be repeated.

Students will rehearse and perform a variety of orchestra literature in a collaborative, performance-based setting, with a specific emphasis on technical improvement and ensemble development. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

I. Science

Remove the prerequisite and add a scheduling note for the following course:

Chemistry Foundations

Course #

~~Prerequisite: Biology: Cells, Evolution, and Biotechnology~~

Scheduling Note: Course can be taken in 9th grade with counselor or course teacher approval.

J. Social Studies

Add the following courses:

AP Human Geography

Required • 2 Semesters

Course Numbers:

AP Human Geography is an introductory college-level human geography course.

Students cultivate their understanding of human geography through data and geographic analyses as they explore topics like patterns and spatial organization, human impacts and interactions with their environment, and spatial processes and societal changes.

Pre-AP World History and Geography

Required • 2 Semesters

Course Numbers: 80122, 80123

The Pre-AP World History and Geography areas of focus prioritize the skills fundamental to the study of history and geography in high school, AP, and beyond. This gives students multiple opportunities to think and work like historians and geographers as they develop and strengthen these disciplinary reasoning skills throughout their education in history and the social sciences.