

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
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January 20, 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 22, 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

Carol McGlinn, 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.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard St. Kalamazoo, MI 49008
January 22, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Acceptance of Agenda**
- IV. Attendance**
- V. Board Recognitions**
- VI. Committee Reports/School Reports**
- VII. Correspondence**
- VIII. Consent Calendar Items**
 - A. Minutes**
January 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - B. Personnel Items**
Personnel Changes
- IX. Reports and Recommendations**
 - A. Superintendent's Report**
- X. Persons Requesting to Address the Board (3-minute individual limit)**
- XI. Other Business**
 - A. Professional Development Request for Carol McGlinn**
- XII. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent**
- XIII. Closed Session (if needed)**
- XIV. Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Thursday, February 5, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.**

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard Street
January 8, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Superintendent Dr. Slade called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Election of Officers

Dr. Slade began the board's organizational meeting by requesting nominations for the office of board president.

MOTION: Trustee Jennie Hill, supported by Trustee Sholler-Barber, moved to elect Trustee TiAnna Harrison as board president.

Board discussion: Nominations were closed without objection.

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

President Harrison requested nominations for the office of board vice president.

MOTION: Trustee Carol McGlinn, supported by Trustee Takisha Johnson, moved to elect Trustee Jennie Hill as board vice president.

Board discussion: Nominations were closed without objection.

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

President Harrison requested nominations for the office of board treasurer.

MOTION: Trustee Takisha Johnson, supported by Trustee Patti Sholler-Barber, moved to elect Trustee Karla Murphy as board treasurer.

Board discussion: Nominations were closed without objection.

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

President Harrison requested nominations for the office of board secretary.

MOTION: Trustee Patti Sholler-Barber, supported by Trustee Takisha Johnson, moved to elect Trustee Carol McGlinn as board secretary.

Board discussion: Nominations were closed without objection.

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

2026 Board of Education Officers

President – TiAnna Harrison

Vice President – Jennie Hill

Secretary – Carol McGlinn

Treasurer – Karla Murphy

IV. Acceptance of Agenda

President Harrison called for a motion to accept the agenda.

MOTION: Treasurer Murphy, supported by Trustee Sholler-Barber, moved to amend the agenda to add Organizational Items after the Election of Officers.

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

President Harrison called for a motion to accept the amended agenda.

MOTION: Treasurer Murphy, supported by Trustee Sholler-Barber and Trustee Johnson, moved to accept the amended agenda.

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

V. Organizational Items

President Harrison presented the organizational items for the 2026 calendar year:

- Board Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month
- Time: 7:00 PM
- Location: 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008
- Special meetings require a 48-hour notice
- Meeting notices are posted on the front door of the Administration Building
- Responsible for Posting Meeting Notices: Nicole DeGraaf
- Fund Management and Deposits: Chief Financial Officer Laura Kayser
- Meeting Reporting: Nicole DeGraaf
- Designation of Attorney: Clark Hill
- Audit Firm: Maner Costerisan
- Insurance Agent Information: Available with Laura Kayser
- Architect and Construction Management: Director of Facilities Karen Jackson
- District Newspaper of Record: Kalamazoo Gazette
- Recognized News Posting Outlet: Chief of Marketing and Communications Susan Coney
- Committees:
 - Academic Excellence Committee
 - Governance Committee
 - Operations/Financial Affairs Committee
 - Superintendent Evaluation Committee
 - Community Relations Committee

- Communities In Schools Committee
- Committees will continue through June
- Delegates have been assigned for the year
- Representatives and Roles:
 - The District has a County School Association of School Boards Representative.
 - The District has an ISD Representative.
 - The Board parliamentarian is Trustee Takisha Johnson.
 - The District has a negotiations team.
 - The District Building Liaison is Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Leadership Reuquiyah “Rikki” Saunders
- Membership Approvals:
 - Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB)
 - Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators (MASA)
 - Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSSA)
 - Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO)
 - Michigan Education Management Services Association (MEMSEA)

VI. Attendance

Board members present: TiAnna Harrison, Carol McGlinn, Karla Murphy, Jennie Hill, Patti Sholler-Barber, Takisha Johnson, and Yvonne Payton. Dr. Darrin Slade was also present.

VII. Board Recognitions

Prairie Ridge Elementary School Principal Joletta Drake recognized students Sage Ullrey, An’Tavion Fultz, Justice Cleary, A’Vayah Mitchner, and Sa’nilah Moore.

Dr. Darrin Slade, recognized board members President TiAnna Harrison, Vice President Jennie Hill, Secretary Carol McGlinn, Treasurer Karla Murphy, Trustee Patti Sholler-Barber, Trustee Yvonne Payton and Trustee Takisha Johnson for Board Appreciation Month.

VIII. Committee Reports/School Reports

Secretary McGlinn updated from the Operations/Financial Affairs Committee. The committee discussed the impending opening of the district kitchen, with plans to arrange a tour and an open house by the end of January. The committee reviewed the replacement of technology equipment at Kalamazoo Central High School, Loy Norrix High School, and Northglade Montessori Magnet School. Emergency responder work at Loy Norrix and Central was discussed. Updates were also provided on KAMSC and El Sol initiatives.

President Harrison updated from the Superintendent Evaluation Committee. She shared that the committee had a conversation on the evaluation timeline, and a mid-point check-in will be coming soon from the Superintendent. The committee will be evaluating using the MASB Superintendent Rubric.

President Harrison shared that the Academic Excellence, Community Relations, and Governance Committees will all be meeting soon.

IX. Correspondence

Secretary McGlinn reported the correspondence for the period of December 14, 2025 - January 6, 2026.

- Email received on December 19 from Ronald Gillam regarding concerns about a legal matter. Vice President Hill replied on December 29.
- Email received on December 29 from Shona Espinoza sharing information for an upcoming community event. Vice President Hill replied on December 30.
- Email received on December 29 from Kharen Warfield Shelton inviting the board to the Kalamazoo Adult Education Open House. Vice President Hill replied on December 30.
- Email received on January 5 from Michael Kissinger regarding busing concerns. Vice President Hill replied on January 6.
- Email received on January 6 from Monica Washington regarding enrollment concerns. Vice President Hill replied on January 7.

X. Consent Calendar

President Harrison presented the Consent Calendar items: IX.A December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, IX.B Purchase Recommendation 2026-22, 2026-23, 2026-24, 2026-25, and IX.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:

Patti Sholler-Barber

- Thanked voters for supporting the 2022 bond.
- Shoutout to Phoenix High School for updates done with the 2018 bond.

Jennie Hill

- Thanked voters for supporting the bond.
- Thanked the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation for the grant.

Carol McGlinn

- Thanked the community for their support.

TiAnna Harrison

- Asked what happens to furniture that is no longer in use. Laura Kayser answered that items go to auction if they can still be used.

XI. Reports and Recommendations

A. Superintendent's Update

Dr. Slade expressed gratitude to the staff and students for an excellent start to the year following the break. He acknowledged the Teacher Advisory Council (TAC) and Parent Advisory Council (PAC) for their strong attendance at meetings. Dr. Slade announced that the upcoming board meeting will include a review of progress on the strategic plan and mentioned the scheduling of two community meetings. He extended his appreciation to the school board for their support of the strategic plan.

B. Course Recommendation 2026-2027 Second Reading

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

Motion: Secretary McGlinn, supported by Trustee Sholler-Barber, moved to accept the changes to the 2026-2027 course bulletin.

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

Discussion from the board:

Yvonne Payton

- Asked about ELD courses and who was in charge of the multilingual program. Dr. Justice answered that the Coordinator of Multilingual Learners Services and World Languages, Wessam Abdelaziz, oversees the multilingual program.

TiAnna Harrison

- Shoutout to Dr. Justice for including middle school career development classes in the course bulletin.

C. Administrative Appointment - Assistant Principal of Prairie Ridge Elementary

Director of Human Resources Steve Leland recommended that the Board appoint Thomas McPherson to Assistant Principal of Prairie Ridge Elementary School.

Motion: Trustee Sholler-Barber, supported by Trustee Johnson, moved to appoint Thomas McPherson to Assistant Principal of Prairie Ridge Elementary School.

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

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

None.

XIII. Other Business

None.

XIV. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent

Carol McGlinn

- Congratulated the new board officers.
- Thanked Dr. Slade for being a very effective superintendent; they couldn't be an effective board without that.

Patti Sholler- Barber

- Congratulated the new board officers.
- Shared the board's focus is on the children.
- Showed appreciation to Dr. Slade for being supportive and open.
- Gave appreciation to the senior leadership team.
- Thanked Karen Jackson for her hard work on the district kitchen.
- Shoutout to transportation and crossing guards.
- Provided Kalamazoo Central High School sports update:
 - The boys' varsity basketball team has a strong start with a 5-1 record. They lost to Detroit MLK last Saturday in Muskegon.

- The longest high school rivalry in state history continues tomorrow at Battle Creek Central.
- Boys' freshman and JV teams are currently undefeated.
- Wrestling season begins with a high number of participants.
- Provided Loy Norrix High School sports update:
 - Men's swimming finished 2nd at the Cereal Bowl Relays. They secured a win over Portage Northern.
 - Women's basketball currently holds a 5-2 overall record.
 - Both men's and women's teams will host Lakeshore.
 - Wrestling achieved significant victories, including a win over Mattawan.
- Asked the community to take care of children, especially during the colder months.

TiAnna Harrison

- Thanked the board for trusting her to lead them.
- Thanked the central office staff for their successful first week back.
- Stated the board will continue to support the hard work that the central office does.

Takisha Johnson

- Shared she is grateful to be on the school board.
- Urged the community to be mindful of MLK Day and to show support to the community organizations.
- Shared that the Young Kings and Queens will be hosting a soup kitchen on MLK Day.
- Thanked the bus drivers for their hard work.
- Thanked the board for the opportunity to make great decisions for the students.

XV. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Regular Board of Education meeting is Thursday, January 22, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION: Trustee Johnson, supported by Vice President Hill, made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

President Harrison adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeGraaf, Recording Secretary,
on behalf of Carol McGlinn,
Secretary, Board of Education

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOL
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Darrin Slade, Superintendent

DATE: January 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Personnel Changes

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

- I. Employment
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
- II. Promotions/Key Transfers
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
 - Michelle L. Mercer**, transfer from Virtual Technology Specialist, Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program, to State Reporting Administrator, Informational Technology, 01/12/2026
- III. Leaves of Absence
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. Classified
- IV. Terminations
 - A. Professional/Management
 - B. **Carly L. Anderson**, Special Education ASD Teacher, Milwood Elementary School, Resignation, 12/19/2025
Kirsten L. Hall, Physical Education Teacher, Northeastern Elementary School, Resignation, 01/09/2026
- B. Classified
 - Beth E. DeRyke**, Food Service Manager, Food Service - Community Education Center, Retirement, 01/31/2026
 - Jesse T. Herron**, KPS Mentoring Program Specialist, Instruction and Student Services, Retirement, 01/09/2026
 - Morgan C. Ingalls**, Special Education ASD Self-Contained Paraprofessional, Milwood Elementary School, Resignation, 12/19/2025
- 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

Professional Development Request

(Requests must be made 14 days prior to early registration deadline)

Board Policy 1.3 and The Revised School Code (MCL Act 451 §380.1254) permits the school district to pay actual, reasonable, and necessary expenses incurred by a board member in performing functions as authorized by the Board of Trustees. Registration and travel arrangements can only be completed after board approval.

Carol McGlinn

Name

1/12/26

Request Date

MASB CBA Classes

Name of Event

1/14/26

Date of Conference/Class

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Is this an MASB conference? ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, please indicate: _____

Is this request in time to receive early registration discount on conference? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Attending: ☐ In person ☒ Virtual ☐ Other; please explain: _____

List courses/sessions you plan to attend. **NOTE: Registration **cannot** be finalized unless this section is completed.**

CBA 103 Basic School Finance

CBA 104 Basic School Law

CBA 105 Curriculum and Instruction

CBA 106 Community Relations Leadership

CBA 107 Labor Relations

CBA 108 Navigating the Legislative Process

CBA 109 Data-Informed Decisionmaking

LODGING INFORMATION

Lodging required? ☐ Yes ☒ No Check-in and check-out dates? _____

Conference hotel name _____

Is this request in time to receive the discounted room rate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

OTHER

Dietary requirements? _____

Any additional information? _____

For office use only.

Date received _____

Approval date? _____

☐ Registration _____

☐ Hotel _____

☐ Confirmation(s) sent _____

☐ Per Diem (?) _____

☐ Other _____