BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTH BRANCH EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER
6655 JEFFERSON, PO BOX 3620
NORTH BRANCH, MICHIGAN 48461-3620

The regular meeting of the North Branch Board of Education was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2026 in the boardroom located in the North Branch Educational Services Center, 6655 Jefferson, North Branch, Michigan.

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

Roll Call indicated the following Board members present:

Members Present:	Daniel Deshetsky, President	
	Cory Mabery, Vice President	
	Patrick Henne, Treasurer	
	Cheryl Howell, Secretary	
	Jason Cullin, Trustee	
	Maria Hoebeke, Trustee – arrived at 7:02 p.m.	
	Andrew Hebberd, Trustee	
Others Present:	James D. Fish	Superintendent
	Melissa Montgomery	Director of Finance & Human Resources
	Amber White	Director of Curriculum & Instruction
	Doug Lindsay	North Branch High School Principal
	Mark Brown	Director of Technology

Community Members – 3

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

Student Report – none

Presentations – none

Board Committee Reports – Finance Committee Meeting held on February 9, 2026 -- Daniel Deshetsky updated the Board of Education on the district finances.

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

Consent Agenda -

Moved by Mabery, supported by Cullin the North Branch Board of Education approve the consent agenda including the approval of the February 9, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.
Roll Call Vote: Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Hebberd aye, Henne aye, Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye
7 aye, 0 nay, 0 absent – Motion Carried

Items for Discussion/Action –

Moved by Howell, supported by Hebberd the Board of Education approve the employment of Lisa Lawrence as a part-time Speech Pathologist at North Branch Area Schools.
Roll Call Vote: Henne aye, Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Hebberd aye, Mabery aye
7 aye, 0 nay, 0 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Howell, supported by Henne, the Board of Education approves the Dean Transportation Contract for 2026-2031 as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye, Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye
7 aye, 0 nay, 0 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Henne, supported by Deshetsky the Board of Education acknowledges that there was a review of the Michigan Health Education Standards Guidelines adopted by the MI State Board of Education in November 2025. The Board affirms that the district will continue with its current approved curriculum being utilized within the district.
Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Hebberd aye, Deshetsky aye, Henne aye, Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Cullin aye
7 aye, 0 nay, 0 absent – Motion Carried

Communications – Doug Lindsay**,** High School Principal, gave updates on high school student activities and events. In addition, Jim Fish, Superintendent, Amber White, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Mark Brown, Director of Technology, gave district updates.

Comments from the Public – The public made comments.

Comments from Board Members – The board members made comments.

Moved by Hebberd, supported by Mabery the Board of Education adjourn at 8:06 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye Mabery aye, Howell aye, Henne aye, Hebberd aye, Cullin aye, Hoebeke aye
7 aye, 0 nay, 0 absent – Motion Carried

Cheryl Howell

Cheryl Howell, Secretary