Board of Education Special Meeting (Tuesday, February 3, 2026)
Generated by Kimberly Grilli on Thursday, February 5, 2026

Members present
LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Meeting called to order at 5:34 PM

A. Opening Items

Procedural: 1. Call to Order at 5:34 pm.

Procedural: 2. Roll Call - Ms. Dowdell-Burger is absent.

Procedural: 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Action 2026-56: 4. Adoption of Meeting Agenda
Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

B. Board Governance & Policy

Action 2026-57, Procedural: 1. Action Items
The Board Recommends the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following:

a. Approval of Engagement Letter for Independent Legal Counsel

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the Engagement Letter with Weston Hurd LLP for independent legal counsel to the Board and authorize the Board President to execute the agreement.

b. Amend January 13, 2026, resolution authorizing legal counsel

- **Motion:** Recommend that the Board of Education amend January 13, 2026 legal counsel authorization resolution as follows:

i. Weston Hurd LLP shall be engaged exclusively by the Board of Education or its President acting under express Board authorization. District administrators shall not engage Weston Hurd LLP without prior Board approval.

ii. The term “day-to-day operations” shall refer to routine legal matters necessary for ongoing District management, including student discipline, personnel issues, labor negotiations, contract review, and public records compliance.

iii. The Superintendent or Treasurer shall provide quarterly updates to the Board identifying which legal counsel was accessed, for what general purpose, and any material costs incurred.

iv. The Board shall be provided with copies of all current legal engagement letters entered into by the District.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer
No: Dionna Herbert

C. Executive Session

Action 2026-58, Discussion: 1. Recommendation to Adjourn to Executive Session at 5:38 pm. Latoya arrived at 5:40 pm. Reconvened at 6:36 pm.
It is recommended that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education enter executive session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a district employee or official pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1) and to confer with the Board’s attorney concerning disputes involving the public body that are subject to
pending and imminent court action, if applicable, pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(3).
The Board further acknowledges that no formal action or vote will be taken in executive session and that any subsequent Board action will occur in open session.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Kathleen Walsh.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

D. Reconvene Open Session

E. Action Items resulting from Executive session (if necessary)
Action, Discussion: 1. Approval of--TBD

F. Adjournment

Action 2026-59: 1. Motion to Adjourn
Adjourn at 6:37 pm

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert