



Approval Date: July 13, 2026

**FENNVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 15, 2026
BOARD ROOM – 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

This meeting of the Board of Education, in public, is for conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated within the agenda.

A. MEETING OPENING

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Manuel Sanchez at 7:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call

Mr. Manuel Sanchez	Present	Mr. Ross Thiele	Present
Mrs. Juliet Michele	Present	Mrs. Angie Pena-Smith	Present
Mr. Paul Hapke	Present	Mrs. Natalie Bosby	Present
Mr. Jayson Hicks	Present		

4. Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Hapke made a motion to add Action Item #10 to the agenda, seeking Board approval for the installation of new flooring in the new and existing band rooms and the coaches' office.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

C. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Thiele, supported by Bosby, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Minutes for May 18, 2026, Regular Meeting and June 3, 2026, Special Meeting, June 3, 2026, Closed Session Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report for May 2026
4. Summary of Bills for May 2026
5. Offer of Probationary contract to Justin Lake, High School CTE Horticulture Teacher
6. Approval of:
 - a. Chayse Harthun, High School Counselor
 - b. Tobias (Toby) Hutchins, K-12 Career Readiness Specialist
7. Accept resignation of Lindsey Haan effective June 26, 2026
8. Approval of Administrative Contract Renewals and Compensation for:
 - a. Jessica Gierucki
 - b. Paul Andrews
 - c. Chris Grob

- d. Rick Frens
- e. Jennifer Brooks
- f. Allison Best
- g. Tony Stennett

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

D. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Superintendent Report – Mr. Lombard

- Mr. Lombard presented an overview of the agenda action items.
- An update on the 2026-2027 Original Budget update provided, noting that the district is hopeful for a favorable per-pupil funding amount while planning a conservative budget projection that includes planning for a potential 15% reduction for the following fiscal year.
- Mr. Lombard introduced the new Elementary Principal, Cindy Hillary.
- The Athletic Boosters Golf Outing fundraiser will be held on July 11, 2026, at 9 a.m. held at Cheshire Hills Golf Course.
- The Athletic Department is hosting, “A Night with the Hawks”, a fundraiser event scheduled for August 8, 2026, at Fenn Valley Winery, doors open at 5:30 p.m.
- Mr. Lombard reviewed information regarding the addition of Action Item #10.
- Two board seats that will open in 2027, and interested candidates must file with the County Clerk’s Office by July 21, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. to be included on the November 3, 2026, election ballot.

Staffing

- Mr. Lombard provided a staffing update, highlighting the district’s recent hires: Cynthia Hillary (Elementary Principal), Chayse Harthun (High School Counselor), Toby Hutchins (K-12 Career Readiness Specialist), and Justin Lake (High School CTE Horticulture Teacher).
- Mr. Lombard reported on current vacancies, including Mechanic, Kindergarten Teacher, Early Childhood ESL Teacher, and MS/HS Social Worker positions.

Wellness

- Mr. Lombard reported on the Outdoor Learning Spaces project, meeting with the ODC is scheduled for June 22, 2026.
- Summer School begins Wednesday, June 18, 2026.
- The new classroom furniture has been ordered and is expected to arrive before the start of the school year.
- The district plans to auction the old furniture.

Communication

- Reviewed the District Managed Funds and an update on current status.
- Bond Update
 - The district held its 75% Page Turn meeting with SiteLogiq to review renovation project scopes across all buildings. Final blueprints are being prepared for bidding later this summer.
 - Mr. Lombard provided updates on 2027 renovations for the middle and high school.
 - An update was provided regarding the 2028 Elementary School project and the Memorial Drive replacement project.

Academics

- a. Personnel Committee Report

- b. Finance Committee Report
- c. Facilities Committee Report

E. NEW BUSINESS

Informational/Discussion/Presentation Items

ACTION ITEMS:

1. APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 FINAL BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Recommended motion Thiele, supported by Hapke, that the Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 final budget amendments as presented at the budget hearing.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Pena-Smith, Michele, Thiele, Bosby, Hapke, Sanchez

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

2. APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 ORIGINAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Motion by Thiele, supported by Bosby, that the Board of Education approve the 2026-2027 budget resolution as presented at the budget hearing.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Pena-Smith, Michele, Thiele, Bosby, Hapke, Sanchez

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

3. CERTIFICATION OF THE GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY

Motion by Thiele, supported by Bosby, that the Board of Education certify the General Fund Tax Levy at 18 mills.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

4. CERTIFICATION OF THE SINKING FUND TAX LEVY

Motion by Thiele, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education certify the Sinking Fund Tax Levy at 0.4752 mills.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

5. CERTIFICATION OF THE DEBT FUND TAX

Motion by Thiele, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education certify the Debt Fund Tax Levy at 5.7 mills.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

6. CERTIFICATION OF THE COMMUNITY RECREATION TAX LEVY

Motion by Thiele, supported by Pena-Smith, that the Board of Education certify the Community Recreation Tax Levy at 0.9320 mills.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

7. CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

Motion by Thiele, supported by Michele, that the Board of Education approve the 2026-2027 contract for Cynthia Hillary as Elementary Principal.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

8. APPROVAL OF GREENHOUSE PURCHASE

Motion by Thiele, supported by Pena-Smith that the Board of Education approve the purchase of the Greenhouse Bid Package from Keeler -Glasgow Co. Inc in the amount of \$61,328.23.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Pena-Smith, Michele, Thiele, Bosby, Hapke, Sanchez

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

9. APPROVAL OF ALLEGAN CREDIT UNION ACCOUNT DELEGATES (Ref. E-9)

Motion by Thiele, supported by Hapke, that the Board of Education approve the following people to be added to the Allegan Community Credit Union account as users for Fennville Public Schools. Manuel Sanchez, Albert Lombard, Leah Helder, and John Solomon and all other users currently on the account be removed.

Motion Carried: 6-0 Unanimous

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

G. MEETING CLOSING

1. Comments from the Board Table

- Mr. Thiele recommended inviting key stakeholders to participate in planning the Outdoor Learning Space project anticipated for 2027.
- Mr. Thiele requested that the district explore Michigan Virtual Exploration opportunities. Mr. Lombard reported that the program is currently under review.

2. Adjournment

Motion by Thiele, supported by Pena-Smith, to adjourn. (7:41 p.m.)

Recorded by Executive Secretary, Marileen Pitts

Respectfully submitted by,

Angie Pena-Smith
Board Secretary