KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
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November 3, 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, November 5, 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.

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
Revised: March 19, 2026

This policy supersedes all other policies on this issue.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard St. Kalamazoo, MI 49008
November 5, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
A G E N D A
Revised 11/4/26

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Acceptance of Agenda

IV. Attendance

V. Board Recognitions

VI. Correspondence

VII. Committee Reports

VIII. Consent Calendar Items
- **A. Minutes**
  October 22, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
- **B. Business and Financial Reports**
  Purchase Recommendation 2027-18
- **C. Personnel Items**
  Personnel Changes

IX. Reports and Recommendations
- **A.** Superintendent's Report
- **B.** June 30, 2026 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

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

XI. Other Business

XII. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent

XIII. Closed Session

XIV. Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Thursday, November 19, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Meeting
1220 Howard Street
October 22, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Acceptance of Agenda

President Harrison called for a motion to accept the agenda.

MOTION: Trustee Patti Sholler-Barber, supported by Vice President Jennie Hill and Secretary Carol McGlinn, moved to amend the agenda to add Committee Reports after Correspondence.

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 Karla Murphy, supported by Trustee Takisha Johnson and Trustee Yvonne Payton, moved to accept the amended agenda.

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

IV. Attendance

Board members present: TiAnna Harrison, Karla Murphy, Jennie Hill, Carol McGlinn, Yvonne Payton, Takisha Johnson, and Patti Sholler-Barber. Superintendent Dr. Darrin Slade was also present. Trustee Johnson left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

V. Board Recognitions

Arcadia Elementary School Principal Meaghan Timmons recognized Ayana Pratt, Alfonso Correa, Zaylen Coleman, Isaiah Manley, Kyren Flowers, Fatma Kwayes, Yosra Nemati, Malcolm Johnson, Tristan Dillard, and Adam Zabib.

VI. Correspondence

Secretary McGlinn reported the correspondence for the period of October 7 - October 20, 2026.

- Email received October 7, 2026, from Joshua Sivley requesting assistance obtaining school records. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 8, 2026.
- Email received October 8, 2026, from Erin Arwardy regarding concerns about the KEA contract. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 13, 2026, from Emily Whittman regarding concerns about the KEA contract. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.

- Email received October 13, 2026, from Clara Valenti regarding concerns about the KEA contract. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 14, 2026, from Angela Gross regarding a staffing change in the Virtual Program. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 14, 2026, from Joshell Williams regarding safety concerns at their student's school. Dr. Slade and Secretary McGlinn replied on October 15 and October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 15, 2026, from Ali Raza regarding concerns about the enrollment process. Dr. Slade and Secretary McGlinn replied on October 15 and October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 16, 2026, from Jake Smith regarding the incident at Kalamazoo Central High School. Dr. Slade and Secretary McGlinn replied on October 16 and October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 20, 2026, from Moira Macleod thanking the district for sharing information about the Safe Storage Law. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 20, 2026, from Michael Zinger regarding concerns about the KEA contract. Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.
- Email received October 20, 2026, from Charlie Krug regarding the incident at Kalamazoo Central High School. Dr. Slade and Secretary McGlinn replied on October 21, 2026.

VII. Committee Reports

Trustee Sholler-Barber reported that Communities In Schools (CIS) presented its audit, which received an unmodified opinion with no changes noted. The committee also received presentations on a new CIS dashboard designed to organize and track program data. After-school programs currently serve 576 students. CIS also shared information about its Community Feast initiative, with opportunities to sign up to deliver food available on its website. In December, CIS will host an Ugly Sweater event.

VIII. Consent Calendar

President Harrison presented the Consent Calendar items: October 8, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes; October 19, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes; and personnel changes.

MOTION: Trustee Sholler-Barber, supported by Secretary McGlinn, moved to accept the Consent Calendar.

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

IX. Reports and Recommendations

A. Superintendent's Update

Dr. Slade provided an update regarding the October 16, 2026, incident at Kalamazoo Central High School involving a student who brought a concealed firearm to school. He reviewed the sequence of events, noting that the weapon detector did not trigger an alarm and that a secondary search was not conducted because the alarm did not activate. School staff and public safety personnel subsequently located the firearm, the student was detained, and an investigation was initiated.

Dr. Slade reported that the investigation found that school administration and Campus Safety followed general procedures. The review also identified areas for improvement, including the need to address the detector's failure to identify the weapon.

Dr. Slade outlined next steps to strengthen school safety, including reviewing weapon detector procedures and expectations with administration and security staff at all secondary schools, increasing detector frequency settings, and taking additional steps to identify the source of an alarm when triggered. These steps may include repeated passes through the detector and the use of a security wand. The district will also explore additional options to help prevent weapons from entering schools.

He encouraged students and community members to report potential safety concerns to an adult or through OK2SAY, Michigan's confidential reporting program. Dr. Slade also noted that district communication related to crisis situations would be discussed at future Parent Advisory Council, Teacher Advisory Council, Senior Leadership, Principal, Community, and Board meetings.

Dr. Slade reviewed the district's use of weapon detectors as an additional layer of security and noted that their use at secondary school entrances began during the 2025–2026 school year. He discussed the community engagement that preceded implementation, the limitations of security systems, and the district's continued efforts to improve safety. He also reminded the community of the District Safety and Security Meeting scheduled for October 28, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the Kalamazoo Central auditorium.

Dr. Slade provided an update on elementary reading performance, reporting that district M-STEP scores improved at every tested grade level—third, fourth, and fifth grades. The district also improved relative to state performance at each grade level and is closer than ever to the state average in elementary reading. The district's goal is to meet or surpass state reading performance at every grade level by the end of the 2029–2030 school year. Dr. Slade thanked principals, teachers, support staff, students, and schools that have implemented after-school and Saturday School programs for their contributions.

Dr. Slade also highlighted student participation in MiCareer Quest at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center, where students had opportunities to explore careers and engage with various industries.

He reviewed strategic plan goals related to maintaining a balanced budget and positive fund balance, as well as continuing to provide competitive compensation and benefits while making sound financial decisions for the district. He presented teacher salary comparisons for Kalamazoo County districts and discussed compensation data and projected salary ranges for district teachers.

B. Administrative Appointment – Assistant Principal of King-Westwood Elementary School

Director of Human Resources Steve Leland read the recommendation for the appointment of Tracy Zarei-King as Assistant Principal of King-Westwood Elementary School.

MOTION: Treasurer Murphy, supported by Secretary McGlinn, moved to approve the administrative appointment..

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

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

Public comments/audience participation. No actions taken.

XI. Other Business

None.

XII. Comments by Trustees/Superintendent

Jennie Hill

- Expressed appreciation for the parents, students, and teachers, emphasizing that everyone shares the same goal of educating students.
- Called for patience and grace as the district moves forward.

Patti Sholler-Barber

- Congratulated the Northside Alliance on its successful prayer breakfast.
- Reported attending the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Annual Leadership Conference in Lansing.
- Shared that she participated in a presentation with the Board at the Kalamazoo County School Officers Association (KCSOA) the previous evening.
- Expressed excitement about the progress of the new El Sol Elementary School.
- Reported that Loy Norrix High School hosted WOOD TV8 for its Football Frenzy program.
- Congratulated Jakari Lipsey on being presented with the Navy All-American Football honor.
- Expressed agreement with Vice President Hill that the district and community share a commitment to supporting families.
- Expressed sympathy for victims of gun violence and hope that mediation with the Kalamazoo Education Association (KEA) would proceed successfully.

Yvonne Payton

- Reported attending the MASB Annual Leadership Conference in Lansing.
- Expressed appreciation for the teachers and parents who attended the meeting.

- Thanked Mrs. Boggan for attending the meeting.

Takisha Johnson

- Shared information about community Halloween events.
- Reported that Young Kings and Queens is conducting a can-drive fundraiser.

Carol McGlinn

- Thanked community members for attending the Board meeting.
- Commented on the broader issue of gun violence in the United States, emphasizing that weapon detectors are one layer of school security and that relationships also play an important role. She noted the importance of learning from incidents, analyzing what occurred, conducting investigations, and making improvements.

Karla Murphy

- Congratulated both district marching bands for receiving a Division I rating at the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBO) marching band competition.
- Congratulated Loy Norrix High School on having the largest marching band in the school's history.
- Reported attending the MASB Annual Leadership Conference in Lansing.
- Reminded the community that KPS is a nonprofit public school district open to students and encouraged community members to vote in support of public education.

TiAnna Harrison

- Thanked the community for opportunities for Board members to grow professionally and reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Education.
- Thanked Principal Valerie Boggan for her professionalism and dedication.
- Recognized Chief Webster for his leadership and commitment to school safety and security.
- Congratulated the Arcadia Elementary students recognized for their kindness.
- Shared that the Board is working to build trust and improve communication with the community.
- Thanked Dr. Tracy Miller, Mr. McCane, and all staff members who helped make MiCareer Quest possible.
- Expressed excitement about attending the Kalamazoo Central versus Loy Norrix football game.
- Thanked Dr. Dyson for her work supporting elementary reading achievement.
- Recognized teachers for their dedication to student success and gave a special acknowledgment to principals who have implemented Saturday School programs.
- Congratulated Tracy Zarei-King on her appointment as Assistant Principal of King-Westwood Elementary School.

Dr. Slade

- Thanked district principals in recognition of Principal Appreciation Month, with special acknowledgment of the high school principals.
- Reminded parents and guardians to monitor their students' grades.
- Emphasized the district's commitment to meeting with stakeholders and encouraged community members experiencing ongoing concerns to meet with district representatives in person.

XIII. Closed Session

Not needed.

XIV. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Regular Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

President Harrison called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Treasurer Murphy, supported by Vice President Hill, moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION DATA SHEET

Board Meeting Date: November 5, 2026
Request Number: 2027-18
Amount: $164,760.00

Item: New El Sol Landscaping

Cost Center: 2022 Bond

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

Description of Need:
Purchase recommendation #2026-56 was approved by the Board on June 25, 2026. This purchase recommendation was for the construction of the New El Sol School on Baker Drive. Twenty-four (24) contractors were Board approved. The landscaping contractor named in that purchase recommendation was Greenscape Services.

Greenscape Services has not signed a contract, withdrawn their bid and is unable to perform the work. The second low contractor, DJ's Landscape Management, is now being recommended to perform the landscaping work.

Greenscape's bid amount was $71,292.00. DJ's bid amount was $164,760.00. The difference between the two vendors is $93,468.00. This amount will be deducted from the contingency approved by the Board on 6/25/26.

Vendor: DJ's Landscape Management
Grand Rapids, MI

Number of Proposals Requested: 28 **Received**: 4

Low Bid Accepted: Yes

Additional Information:

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOL
Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Darrin Slade, Superintendent

DATE: November 05, 2026

SUBJECT: Personnel Changes

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

I. Employment
   A. Professional/Management
   B. Classified
      Rakhshinda Yasmin, Multilingual Paraprofessional, Phoenix High School, 11/02/2026
II. Promotions/Key Transfers
   A. Professional/Management
   B. Classified
III. Leaves of Absence
   A. Professional/Management
   B. Classified
IV. Terminations
   A. Professional/Management
   B. Classified
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: November 5, 2026

SUBJECT: June 30, 2026 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board receive the accompanying June 30, 2026 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Board Governance letter.

RATIONALE: Each year, the auditors are retained to express an opinion on the audited financial statements. The audit procedures and the audited financial statements have been completed. Jon Ringlein, Senior Manager, from Maner Costerisan, will present the statements.