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, November 9, 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-- absent
	Patrick Henne, Treasurer
	Cheryl Howell, Secretary
	Jason Cullin, Trustee
	Maria Hoebeke, Trustee
	Andrew Hebberd, Trustee -- absent

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
	Neil Maskill	Athletic Director

Community Members – 6

Moved by Howell, supported by Henne the North Branch Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Henne aye, Cullin aye, Hoebeke aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Student Report – Alysse Deshetsky, North Branch High School Student Council Vice President, informed the Board of the student activities happening at North Branch High School.

Presentations – Varsity Boys Cross Country – Charlie Fields was recognized by the Board of Education for his accomplishments including advancing to State competition.

Board Committee Reports – Finance Committee Meeting: November 5, 2026 – Daniel Deshetsky reviewed the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting and updated the Board.

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

Consent Agenda –

Moved by Howell, supported by Hoebeke the North Branch Board of Education approve the consent agenda including the approval of the October 26, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, review of the October Account Payable disbursements in the amount of $1,063,485.40, review of the October Food Service disbursements in the amount of $116,346.93, review of the October Financial Update and acknowledge the resignations of David Scalf, teacher at North Branch High School & Quest High School, and Kaylee Rives, paraprofessional at North Branch Elementary as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye, Hoebeke aye, Henne aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Items for Discussion/Action –

Moved by Henne, supported by Cullin the Board of Education approve the employment of Carmella Phelps as a 2.50-hour Aide/Cashier at North Branch High School.
Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Deshetsky aye, Hoebeke aye, Henne aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Howell, supported by Hoebeke the Board of Education entertain and adopt the 2nd Reading of the Neola Policies Vol. 41.1 – September 2026 as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Henne aye, Howell aye, Hoebeke aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Henne the Board of Education approve the bid from ATS Midwest for the NBAS CTE Equipment Purchase in the amount of $357,497 as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Hoebeke aye, Howell aye, Deshetsky aye, Cullin aye, Henne aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Henne, supported by Cullin the Board of Education re-approve the 2026-2027 E-Rate Bid Proposal from Vector for an amount not to exceed $430,000 in which the school district funding commitment will be 20% of the total cost, not to exceed $86,000 contingent upon E-Rate funding as presented. (For reference, the original Board approval of 15% district funding commitment occurred at the January 12, 2026 BOE Meeting).
Roll Call Vote: Cullin aye, Hoebeke aye, Henne aye, Howell aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Howell the Board of Education approve to seek bids for the 2027-2028 E-Rate as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Henne aye, Howell aye, Hoebeke aye, Cullin aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Cullin the Board of Education acknowledge the 2025-2026 Audit as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Henne aye, Howell aye, Hoebeke aye, Cullin aye, Deshetsky aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Communications – Doug Lindsay, NBHS Principal, provided updates on student activities and events. Jim Fish, Superintendent, Amber White, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mark Brown, Director of Technology provided district updates to the Board of Education.

Comments from the Public – The public made comments.

Comments from Board Members – The board members made comments.

Closed Session – none

Moved by Henne, supported by Cullin the Board of Education adjourned at 8:18 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Howell aye, Henne aye, Cullin aye, Hoebeke aye
5 aye, 0 nay, 2 absent – Motion Carried

Cheryl Howell

Cheryl Howell, Secretary