



Kalkaska Public Schools

*Board of Education Regular Meeting – MINUTES
Monday, September 15, 2025*

*Kalkaska Public School
315 South Coral Street
Kalkaska, MI 49646
5:30 p.m.*

Members Present: Dr. Richard Hodgman, Steve Ordway, Mitch Saxton, Mary Scobey, Chase Stevenson, Wendy Watson and Rachael Birgy

Staff Present: Superintendent, Rick Heitmeyer, Human Resource Director, David Alan Tucker, Director of Business Services, Jeff Scroggins, Principals, Staci Short, Laura Gehman, Ryan Moore and Dean of Students, Kevin Malbouef

Others Present: 33

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rachael Birgy, at 5:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of/Amendment to the Agenda

Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Chase Stevenson, to approve the agenda as amended.

*Amended to remove Matt Rine's presentation – he will present at the October meeting.

Motion Carried 7 to 0.

<i>Building</i>	<i>Fall 2025*</i>	<i>Fall 2024</i>	<i>Fall 2023</i>
ECLC	101	112	80
BSE	273	261	259
KUE	265	253	242
RCE	56+12 (HS)	71+15 (H.S.)	85 (14) GSRP
KMS	282	307	308
KHS	431	453	463
Total	1408	1457	1423
*Fall '25 estimated as of 9-8-2025			

4. Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Mary Scobey, support by Steve Ordway, to approve the following Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes from the regular meeting on August 18, 2025, as presented
- Payment of General, Bond and Athletic fund bills, as presented
- Hiring of staff(pending cleared background checks):

Ancillary Staff:

- Kristy Sheets, 8th Grade Volleyball
- Marva Bower, KMS Paraprofessional
- Tasha Simmons, RC Paraprofessional
- Eric Wilde, Boys' Head Varsity Basketball Coach
- Josh England, JV Football Assistant Coach
- Rick Jones, Boys' Varsity Basketball Assistant Coach

	• Tamara Seaman, Food Service Assistant Motion Carried 7 to 0.
5. Student / Staff Recognition	
	• KHS Principal, Mrs. Staci Short recognizing teacher, Melanie Dean-Dellatte and students, Abigail Minion, Coltrane Paryani, Caylee Carr and Xavier Simpson
6. Public Communication	
	• Margie Rybarsyk • Carla Smith • Deb Ball – Odeh • Lindsay Arsnoe • Ashley Belongia • Troy Jenkins • Ryan Wagner • Mark Holston • Mark Holston Sr. • Misty Marshall • Jamie Williams • Derrick Dimon • Alecia Dimon • Daryl Dimon • Eric Zimosttrad • Doug Anger
7. Superintendent Update (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)	
	• State budget (6) • Student Numbers (4) (6) • Kalkaska Sheriff Department Golf Outing Fundraiser (4) • Teach!Michigan Retreat hosted by KPS (2) (3) (4) • Teach!Michigan – Empowered Weekend in Detroit – All KPS fellows – list in packet of KPS Educators participating and their area of study (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) • Donations are a huge help, thank you to all of our supporters! (4) (5) (6) • October Audit Presentation by Ryan Howell, CPA, of UHY, with FOP and full Board (5) (6) • KPS band is performing at MASA this week as their opening act (1) (4) (5)
8. Discussion Items	
	a. MASB Delegate Assembly
	b. Anonymous Donation Acceptance
	c. Approval of Reinstatement Committees Recommendation
	d. Student Numbers
	e. Building Level Reports

Vision — Inspiring excellence through perseverance, resilience, and individual success.

Mission — Supporting families to build successful students.

	f. Closed Session
9. Blazer Board Briefs	
	Resignations and Retirements: • Alexis Ayers, Food Service Assistant • Lisa Hawkins, Fall Athletic Facility Manager
10. Action Items	
a.	<i>MASB Delegate Assembly</i> Motion by Chase Stevenson, support by Steve Ordway, that the Board of Education appoints Dr. Richard Hodgman, to attend the delegate assembly (Thursday, October 23 at 7 p.m. at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Acme), with Mary Scobey, as the alternate. Motion Carried 7 to 0.
b.	<i>Anonymous Donation</i> Motion by Steve Ordway, support by Mitchell Saxton, that the Board of Education accepts the \$75,000 anonymous donation to be used toward athletics. We appreciate your support. Motion Carried 7 to 0.
c.	<i>Approval of Reinstatement Committees Recommendation</i> Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Steve Ordway, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Reinstatement Committee, to permanently expel student (UIC 1183786414) from in-person learning for the duration of their KPS education. FAPE shall be available at an off campus location to ensure a high school diploma is obtainable. Motion Carried 7 to 0.
d.	<i>Closed Session</i> Motion by Steve Ordway, support by Dr. Richard Hodgman, that the Board of Education moves to go into closed session to discuss attorney client privileged information, as requested by Superintendent Heitmeyer. Time in: 6:34 p.m. Time Out: 7:36 p.m. Motion Carried 7 to 0. Ayes: Steve Ordway, Dr. Richard Hodgman, Mitch Saxton, Mary Scobey, Chase Stevenson, Wendy Watson and Rachael Birgy
e.	<i>Action as a Result of Closed Session</i>

	Motion by Mitch Saxton, support by Dr. Richard Hodgman, that the Board of Education directs the Superintendent to initiate an investigation into allegations of inappropriate social media posts and violations of board policy and, if the accused are found to have engaged in misconduct after receiving due process, provide the effected employees with disciplinary consequences, up to and including discharge. Motion Carried 7 to 0.
11.	Adjournment
	Motion by Wendy Watson, support by Mitchell Saxton, to adjourn. Motion Carried 7 to 0. Time adjourned: 7:38 p.m.