



Fruitport Community Schools
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 20, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Fruitport Community Schools Central Office
Board of Education Meeting Room
3255 E. Pontaluna Rd.
Fruitport, MI 49415

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:26 p.m. by Board President, Dave Hazekamp.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, Josh Mueller, Kathy Six. Absent: Tim Burgess
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 25-129. MOTION by Cole, SECOND by Six to approve the agenda, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0, 1 absent (Burgess).
- IV. **PRESENTATIONS:**
 - Annual Financial Audit Presentation: Evan Rummel, public accountant for Rehmann Robson, LLC, presented the annual financial audit for the year ending June 30, 2025. Rehmann Robson, LLC presented the independent auditor's communication and report, the financial statements and supplementary information, the single audit act compliance report, and the audit reports on each of the building and site bonds. Once again, the District received the highest audit opinion, a clean, unmodified opinion with zero findings. The District continues to qualify as a low risk auditee.
- V. **COMMUNICATIONS:**
 - Superintendent Kennedy provided an overview and led a discussion regarding the Michigan Tax Tribunal petition submitted by Fruitport Hotels, LLC. He also

presented an update on the property transfer request from Adam and Jillian Meloche for their property at 13390 Patchin Dr., Nunica, MI.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

1. **State School Aide Budget Update:** Superintendent Kennedy provided the Board with information on the State School Aide Budget. A client e-blast from Thrun Law Firm pertaining to Section 31aa funding in the State School Aid Act was also discussed.
2. **Updated Muskegon County School Emergency Operations Guide:** Superintendent Kennedy provided an overview of the new School Emergency Operations Guide that has been distributed to each building and classroom.
3. **November 4, 2025 Bond Proposal Update:** Superintendent Kennedy provided an overview of the November 4, 2025 Bond Proposal, and updated the Board on the informational marketing plan, including details about the online community forum scheduled for Wednesday, October 22.

VII. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Item 25-130. MOTION by Meeuwenberg SECOND by Kelly to approve the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Approval of Bill Listing in the amount of \$722,482.11
2. Acceptance of September 2025 General Fund Financial Report
3. Acceptance of September 2025 Investments Report
4. Approval of Personnel Report (includes confirmation of new hires, resignations, retirees, and transfers)
5. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2025

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent (Burgess)

IX. GENERAL BOARD BUSINESS: None

X. BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on October 13, 2025

JB Meeuwenberg reported on a Business and Finance Committee meeting held on October 13, 2025 at 5:08 p.m. Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, JB Meeuwenberg,

Mark Mesbergen, Jason Kennedy, and Evan Rummel (Rehmann) were present. Evan Rummel provided an overview of the completed audit for the 2025 fiscal year. There were no findings and Rehmann gave Fruitport the highest audit opinion. The Committee discussed the need for at least two (2) letters of agreement (one with the Clerical Association and one with the Instructional Assistants Association) regarding health insurance plan offerings to those groups to be considered by the Board. Mark presented the resolution allowing Fruitport to levy summer property taxes in Spring Lake and Fruitport Townships next summer (summer of 2026) to the Committee. The Committee discussed the need for an RFP to purchase one or two regular education buses, as our ridership is up. The Committee discussed a School Aid Budget update, and an update regarding the football game on October 10th. The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

2. Summer Tax Resolution

Item 25-131. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve the annual resolution to allow Fruitport Community Schools to collect summer taxes for 2026, as discussed.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Yea: Kris Cole, Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, JB Meeuwenberg, Josh Mueller, Kathy Six.

Nea: None

Absent: Tim Burgess

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0; 1 absent (Burgess)

3. School Bus RFP and Purchase Recommendation

Item 25-132. MOTION by Meeuwenberg, SECOND by Cole to approve the purchase of two school buses, including an extended warranty, from Midwest Transit Equipment Inc. with \$189,930 coming out of the Capital Projects Fund, and \$69,930 coming out of the Building and Site Fund, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0, 1 absent (Burgess)

XI. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Report of committee meeting held on October 13, 2025

Steve Kelly reported on a Personnel Committee meeting held on October 13, 2025 at 5:46 p.m. Dave Hazekamp, Steve Kelly, Kathy Six, and Jason Kennedy were present. The Committee reviewed the Personnel Report for October 2025. An update regarding an incident that occurred at the football game on October 10, 2025 was provided to the Committee. The Committee also discussed an update on letters of reprimand that were issued to employees, along with a suspension without pay that was issued to an employee of the District. The Committee also discussed an update on the hiring process for the next Director of the Early Childhood Center. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

2. Letter(s) of Agreement Health Insurance

Item 25-133. MOTION by Kelly, SECOND by Six to approve the Letters of Agreement between the District and the Fruitport Clerical Association and the Fruitport Instructional Assistants Association regarding the health insurance plan that the District will offer to each of these associations, as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0, 1 absent (Burgess), 1 Abstain (Cole).

Note: Kris Cole abstained from voting due to a stated conflict of interest, as his wife is employed as an Instructional Assistant with the District.

XII. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Report of committee meeting held on October 13, 2025

Jason Kennedy reported on a Student Affairs Committee meeting held on October 13, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. Tim Burgess, Dave Hazekamp, Josh Mueller, Amy Upham, Casey Arnouts, and Jason Kennedy were present. An update regarding an incident that occurred at the football game on October 10, 2025 was provided to the Committee. The Committee discussed an update from the Instructional Council meeting that took place on October 2, 2025, and an update on the Sex Education Advisory Board's recommendation on 5th grade materials was discussed. Amy Upham and Pastor Casey Arnouts were present at the Committee meeting for this discussion. The Committee was provided with a reminder about the special meeting that has been scheduled to conduct a student disciplinary hearing on October 20, 2025. The Committee also discussed an update on the school safety and security professional development training that was provided to all District staff on Friday, October 10, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

JB Meeuwenberg shared that he attended the Fruitport Hall of Fame Induction ceremony and choir concert. He shared that both these events were fantastic. He also shared that he received praise from a member of the concert winds performance group that will be playing in the Performing Arts Center this upcoming Saturday. He shared that this performer, who has played in world renowned acoustical venues, told him that our Performing Arts Center is one of the best acoustical environments they have played across the country.

Dave Hazekamp shared that the Fruitport Hall of Fame Induction ceremony went well, although the attendance at the event may have been a little lighter than in previous years.

Kathy Six discussed the success that the volleyball, soccer, and Equestrian teams were having this season. She also discussed a need to find ways for us to continue to recognize the academic success of our students and staff.

Kris Cole shared that the Fruitport Band concert will be this Sunday. Kris shared that we will be hosting a middle school robotics qualifier event at Fruitport High School on November 21-22, 2205. He also shared that the middle school state robotics championship at Trinity Health Arena in Muskegon will be hosted by Fruitport again this year.

XIV. AGENDA ITEMS for FUTURE MEETINGS & SCHEDULING OF ANY SPECIAL MEETINGS

1. The Business and Finance Committee will meet on November 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
2. The Personnel Committee will meet on November 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
3. The Student Affairs Committee will meet on November 10, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.
4. The Board of Education will meet on November 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for the regular meeting.

XV. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC:

- John Winkas shared that he worked with Mike Michelli to repurpose some of the old wood flooring from the Beach Elementary School gymnasium, which had flooded, into handcrafted pens for all Board of Education members. John distributed a pen to each Board member.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Item 25-134. MOTION by Kelly, SECOND by Six to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0, 1 absent (Burgess)

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kelly, Board Secretary

Jason J. Kennedy, Recording Secretary