

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HANCOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RECORD OF MINUTES

No.1/20/25

Regular Meeting
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District Board of the Hancock Public School District, Houghton County, State of Michigan.

Meeting open -Pledge of Allegiance.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hancock Public Schools was held in the boardroom on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 5:31 p.m. Senior Board Member Catherine Jordan called the meeting to order.

Present: Michael Lancour, Taylor Paul, Emilie Lancour, Rod Paavola, Charlie Klein, Catherine Jordan, and Rebecca Ylitalo

Recognition of Individuals:

- Welcome to board member Ylitalo! Thank you to the Board of Education for their dedication and commitment to the Bulldog Community.

Election of the officers:

Member Jordan nominated Charlie Klein for president. Member E Lancour nominated Michael Lancour as president. Discussion was held about both candidates. Moved by Member Klein and seconded by Member Paavola to elect Member M Lancour as president. Motion unanimously carried.

Member Paavola nominated Member Charlie Klein as vice president. Moved by Member Paavola seconded by Member M Lancour, to elect Member Charlie Klein as vice president. Motion unanimously carried.

Member Klein nominated Member E Lancour as secretary. Moved by Member Klein and seconded by Member Paavola to elect Member E Lancour as secretary. Motion unanimously carried.

Member Paul nominated Member Ylitalo as Treasurer. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Klein to elect Member Ylitalo as treasurer. Motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Items:

Routine Matters

Adoption of Agenda

It was recommended by Superintendent Salani that the submitted agenda be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Paul seconded by Member E Lancour, to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes.

It is recommended by Secretary E Lancour that the submitted minutes of the Regular meeting of December 16, 2024, be approved. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve the submitted minutes for the December 16, 2024 Regular Meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

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Approval of checks written for the Month of December 2024.

It is recommended by the CCISD Assistant Business Manager, Jeff Klein, that the checks written for the month of December 2024 be approved as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the checks written for the month of December 2024. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of the finance statement for the month of December 2024

It is recommended by the CCISD Assistant Business Manager, Jeff Klein, that the finance statement for the month of December 2024 be approved as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the finance statement for the month of December 2024. The motion unanimously carried.

Visitor Comments: 5 visitors (no comments)

New Business:

Superintendent Report: Chris Salani

1. Governance/Board
 - a. PowerSchool Cybersecurity update: report and webinar on Wednesday
 - b. The Finance committee will meet to review/revise the budget
2. Business and Finance
 - a. Bond/Sinking fund: the RFPs will be sent out this week
 - b. 2 Bus Garage Official Request for Offers
 - c. Lamers- Increase of 36% for operations for the 2026-2027 contract. Discussion is happening with other local districts.
 - d. A review of lease language for the HOCO locker room use with the City of Hancock.
3. Instructional Leadership
 - a. Exams this week
4. Staff Relations
 - a. meeting schedule continues
5. Community Relations
 - a. The Bulldog Bite Radio show will continue in the second semester

Principal Reports:

Karen Eddy (Barkell Elementary)

- a. Third graders are working on their Heikkenpaiva essays
- b. Winter benchmark assessments are taking place (Accidence week of Jan 13-17 for reading and STAR Renaissance the week of Jan 2-24 for both reading and math
- c. MTU Pre-Health Student Organization will complete lessons and activities with the 4th graders about nutrition, exercise, and preventing illness through handwashing
- d. The fifth-grade spelling bee will be on January 29th

Chris Salani (MS/HS)

- a. Trident Maritime student tour is scheduled for Feb 19th
- b. Virtual welding experience with Gary Gouin from Goebic will be on Feb 21st
- c. Junior Achievement Series and Leadership Guest Speaker opportunities to be scheduled

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High School Student Council President Report: Mallory Sporalski

- a. Feminine hygiene products and paper towels will be added to the bathrooms
- b. National Honor Society fundraiser raised about \$190 for charity
- c. Toys for Tots collection
- d. Club Soccer is working on scheduling and transportation
- e. Worked with Houghton's student council and respective athletic directors to change the Wing Ding Hockey game to Friday, Feb 7th
- f. Picking out and purchasing graduation cords for student government and spirit club
- g. Thank you to Mr. Salani and Mr. Griffith for their support
- h. Podcast starting to share information

Athletic Director report: Ryan Towles

- a. no report

Liaison Reports:

HPS foundation: the meeting will be on Wednesday

DDA:

- a. A discussion about submitting an offer to purchase the bus garage

Hancock Recreational Committee:

- a. Looking into a grant to support developing the Quincy Green (splash pad, bathrooms, and a bandstand shell)
- b. Investigating an ice skating trail at the campground

CCASB: no updates

New Business/Discussion/Action Items:

1. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to accept the resignation of Carly Silverson, Elementary Paraprofessional Aid as of 1/24/25. Moved by Member Jordan, seconded by Member Paavola, to accept the resignation Carly Silverson, Elementary Paraprofessional Aid as of 1/24/25 Motion unanimously carried.
2. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Jane Ollanketo, Elementary Paraprofessional Aid Substitute. Moved by Member Jordan, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the hire of Jane Ollanketo, Elementary Paraprofessional Aid Substitute. Motion unanimously carried.
3. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Carsen Chynoweth, MS Paraprofessional Aid. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve the hire of Carson Chynoweth, MS Paraprofessional Aid. Motion unanimously carried.
4. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the transfer of Maylie Kilpela, GSRP Teacher Associate to GSRP Teacher. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the transfer of Maylie Kilpela, GSRP Teacher Associate to GSRP Teacher. Motion unanimously carried.

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5. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the transfer of Renee Erikkiila, GSRP Paraprofessional Aid to GSRP Teacher Associate. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the transfer of Renee Erikkiila, GSRP Paraprofessional Aid to GSRP Teacher Associate. Motion unanimously carried.
6. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of BryAnna Melton, GSRP Paraprofessional Aid. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member Ylitalo, to approve the hire of BryAnna Melton, GSRP Paraprofessional Aid. Motion unanimously carried.
7. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the final reading of the Fall 2024 NEOLA Policies. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the final reading of the Fall 2024 NEOLA Policies. Motion unanimously carried.
8. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Katherine Jarvis and Kristen Wanhala, Assistant Track coaches. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve the hire of Katherine Jarvis and Kristen Wanhala, Assistant Track coaches. Motion unanimously carried.
9. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the hire of Isabella Kangas, Track volunteer. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the hire of Isabella Kangas, Track volunteer. Motion unanimously carried.
10. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of signatories: Chris Salani, Jill Karkkainen, Jeff Klein, Rebecca Ylitalo, Margaret Bernard, Tami Bessner, and Karen Eddy. Moved by Member Klien, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the designation of signatories: Chris Salani, Jill Karkkainen, Jeff Klein, Rebecca Ylitalo, Margaret Bernard, Tami Bessner, and Karen Eddy. Member Ylitalo abstained. Motion carried.
11. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of banks: Superior National Bank, Huntington Bank, and MILAF & UP State Bank. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Paavola, to approve the designation of banks: Superior National Bank, Huntington Bank, and MILAF & UP State Bank. Motion unanimously carried.
12. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of legal counsel: Thrun Law Firm, P.C. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve the designation of legal counsel: Thrun Law Firm, P.C. Motion unanimously carried.
13. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of a liaison with MASB and CCASB. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve Member M Lancour as the liaison with the MASB and CCASB. Member M Lancour abstained. Motion carried.
14. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of a liaison with the HPS Foundation. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve Paavola as the liaison with the HPS Foundation. Member Paavola abstained. Motion carried.

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15. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of the Office of the Superintendent to be responsible for posting public notices for all Board of Education meetings. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Kelin, to approve the designation of the Office of the Superintendent to be responsible for the posting of public notices for all Board of Education meetings. Motion unanimously carried.
16. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of the Office of the Superintendent to perform all election duties as necessary for conducting all school elections. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Ylitalo, to approve the designation of the Office of the Superintendent to perform all election duties as necessary for conducting all school elections. Motion unanimously carried.
17. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the School District Bylaws be adopted as written in the NEOLA manual; the Board of Education shall conduct supervision of the District according to the laws of the State of Michigan; the School District shall be operated as a general Powers School District. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to the School District Bylaws be adopted as written in the NEOLA manual; the Board of Education shall conduct supervision of the District according to the laws of the State of Michigan; that the School District shall be operated as a general Powers School District. Motion unanimously carried.
18. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the date/time of regular monthly board of education meetings Moved by Member Jordan, seconded by Member Klein, to approve the time of 5:30 pm on the third Monday of each for the regular monthly meetings of the board of education. Motion unanimously carried.
19. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to review for potential approval of the purchase agreement for the bus garage. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the potential purchase agreement of the bus garage with the City of Hancock. Roll call: Jordan Yea, E Lancour yea, M Lancour yea, Klein yea, Paavola yea, Paul yea and Ylitalo yea. Motion unanimously carried.
20. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the 2025 Election Coordinating Committee Report from Houghton County Clerk, Jennifer Kelly. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Ylitalo, to approve the 2025 Election Coordinating Committee Report from Houghton County Clerk, Jennifer Kelly. Motion unanimously carried.
21. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the Resolution naming Trustee, Chris Salani with the WMHIP. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the Resolution naming Trustee, Chris Salani with the WMHIP. Motion unanimously carried.

Closed Session

Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to adjourn the open session at 6:29 pm to go to a closed session for personnel issues. Roll call: Jordan, yea; E Lancour, yea; M Lancour, yea; Paavola, yea; Klein, yea; Paul, yea, and Ylitalo, yea. Motion unanimously carried.

Return to Open Session at 6:52 pm

Approval of the closed session minutes

It is recommended by board Secretary, E Lancour to approve the closed session minutes. Moved by Member Paul, Seconded by Member Ylitalo to approve the closed session minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Member Klein and seconded by Member Paavoal to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm. The motion unanimously carried.

Emilie Lancour
Board Secretary