

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HANCOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RECORD OF MINUTES

No.1/19/2026

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 19, 2026, at 5:31 p.m. Senior Board Member Jordan called the meeting to order.

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

Recognition of Individuals:

- Thank you to the Board of Education for their dedication and commitment to the Bulldog Community

Election of Officers:

It is moved by Member Jordan to nominate M Lancour as President. Seconded by Member Klein to elect M Lancour as President. Motion unanimously carried.

It is moved by Member Jordan to nominate C Klein as Vice President. Seconded by Member Paavola to elect C Klein as President. Motion unanimously carried.

It is moved by Member Klein to nominate E Lancour as Secretary. Seconded by Member Paavola to elect E Lancour as Secretary. Motion unanimously carried.

It is moved by Member Klein to nominate R Yilatalo as Treasurer. Seconded by Member Paavola to elect R Yilatalo as Treasurer. Motion unanimously carried.

Agenda Items:

Routine Matters

Adoption of Agenda

It is recommended by Superintendent Salani that the submitted agenda be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, 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 15, 2025, be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member Paul, to adopt the minutes for the December 15, 2025, Regular Meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

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Approval of checks written for the Month of December 2025.

It is recommended by the CCISD Assistant Business Manager, Jeff Klein, with concurrence by Board Treasurer Ylitalo, that the checks written for the Month of December 2025 be approved as presented. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the checks written for the Month of December 2025. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of the Finance Statement for December 2025

It is recommended by the CCISD Assistant Business Manager, Jeff Klein, with concurrence by Board Treasurer Ylitalo, that the finance statement for the Month of December 2025 be approved as presented. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Jordan, to approve the checks written for the Month of December 2025. The motion unanimously carried.

Visitor Comments: 4 visitors (no comments)

Old or Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Report: Chris Salani

- a. Facilities Committee to schedule for Feb/Mar
- b. TRANE Corp will be presenting at the February Board meeting
- c. Thank you to Taylor Paul for presenting to the 8th-grade Life Skills class
- d. Welcome to Kate Griffith-Gast (long term sub) and student teachers, Hanna Alexander and Ila Goulette
- e. Spring Count day is Feb 12

Principal Reports:

Mollie Trewartha (MS/HS)

- a. Exams will be Jan 21-23
- b. On February 12th, the Green Bandana Project will host a Mental Health Awareness Night during the LL-H girls BB game. Student leaders from both schools will collaborate to raise awareness. They are asking that all fans wear green.
- c. The MTSS team attended a training Jan 13th, and there will be two more this spring.
- d. Work has started on the 2026-27 course offerings and teaching schedules.
- e. Welcome to student teachers, Ila Goulette (PE and Health with Joan Kero) and Hanna Alexander (Social Studies- Matt Griffith)

Karen Eddy (Elementary)

- a. Star Lab this week and last week for grades preschool through fifth
- b. Benchmark mark assessments last week, Accidence (reading) and Star Renaissance (reading and math) this week
- c. All third graders are writing Heikenpaiva essays. They will also participate in the parade. Third-grade teacher, Becky Garnell, and a few students will be on the radio show on the 28th.
- d. MTU Pre-Health Student Organization is completing lessons with 4th graders
- e. 5th Grade Spelling Bee January 27th
- f. Invention Convention and Science Night - Feb 10th
- g. Young 5's and Kindergarten Registration - April 19th

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Athletic Director report: Ryan Towles

- a. The Head Football Coach position is posted
- b. MS football/basketball coaching positions postings pending
- c. Spring season schedules are drafted
- d. The 2026 and 2027 football schedules have been adjusted within the conference to create a more competitive balance
- e. Dates for the Booster Club Elementary Basketball Tournament fundraiser are Feb 28 and Mar 1st. Thank you to the district administration for your support.

Student Council President Report:

- a. None this month

Liaison Reports:

HPS Foundation:

- a. meeting next week

DDA:

- a. discussion regarding storefronts

Hancock Recreational Committee:

- a. Amended the budget for disc golf
- b. Approve the trail from the campground to the Massto Hiito trail
- c. Once funding is in place, the splash pad will be at Hancock Beach
- d. New Playground equipment will be at the campground and area parks
- e. The Quincy Green bathroom project, with the CTE students building it, is dependent on grant money

CCASB:

- a. The Legislative Breakfast was held on Friday
 - i. Financial issues (31aa, budget, continuation of food programs)
 - ii. Cell phone policy for all schools

New Business/Discussion/Action Items:

1. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to accept the resignation of Eli Luoma, MS Special Education Resource Room Teacher. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to accept the resignation of Eli Luoma, MS Special Education Resource Room Teacher. Motion unanimously carried.
2. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the Annual Tax Resolution. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member Kleim, to approve the Annual Tax Resolution. Roll call vote: M Lancour, yea; E Lancour, yea; Ylitalo, yea; Jordan, yea; Paul, yea; Klein, yea; and Paavola, yea. Motion unanimously carried.
3. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of signatories: Chris Salani, Mollie Trewartha, Jill Karkkainen, Jeff Klein, Rebecca Ylitalo, Tami Bessner, and Karen Eddy. Moved by Member Jordan, seconded by Member Klein, to approve the designation of signatories: Chris Salani, Mollie Trewartha, Jill Karkkainen, Jeff Klein, Rebecca Ylitalo, Tami Bessner, and Karen Eddy.

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4. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of District Banks. Moved by Member Paavola, seconded by Member E Lancour, to approve the designation of District Banks. A discussion was held about the need for a list of banks. Motion by Paavola to table this item, seconded by Member Jordan. Motion unanimously carried.
5. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of legal counsel, Thrun Law Firm, P.C., moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Ylitalo, to approve the designation of legal counsel Thrun Law Firm, P.C. Motion unanimously carried.
6. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of a liaison with the MASB and a representative for the CCASB, moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to designate M Lancour as the liaison with the MASB and to designate M Lancour as the representative for the CCASB. Motion unanimously carried.
7. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of a liaison with the HPS Foundation. Moved by Member Jordan, seconded by Member Paul, to designate Rod Paavola as the liaison with the HPS Foundation. Motion unanimously carried.
8. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of the Office of the Superintendent to be responsible for posting notices for all Board of Education meetings. Moved by Member Paul, seconded by Member Klein, to designate the Office of the Superintendent to be responsible for posting notices for all Board of Education meetings. Motion unanimously carried.
9. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the designation of the Office of the Superintendent to perform all election duties 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 necessary for conducting all School elections. Motion unanimously carried.

Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Jordan, to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 pm. The motion unanimously carried.

Emilie Lancour
Board Secretary