

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
HANCOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

RECORD OF MINUTES

No.8/17/2026

**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.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hancock Public Schools was held in the boardroom on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 5:30 pm. President M Lancour called the meeting to order.

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

Absent: Catherine Jordan

Agenda Items:
Routine Matters

Adoption of Agenda

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

Adoption of the July 20, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

It is recommended by Board Secretary E Lancour that the submitted minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 20, 2026, be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paul, to adopt the minutes for the July 20, 2026, Regular Board Meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

Approve the July 30, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes.

It is recommended by Secretary E Lancour that the submitted minutes of the Special Meeting of July 30, 2026, be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paul, to adopt the Special Meeting Minutes of July 30, 2026. The motion unanimously carried.

Approve the August 7, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes.

It is recommended by Secretary E Lancour that the submitted minutes of the Special Meeting of August 7, 2026, be adopted as presented. Moved by Member Ylitalo, seconded by Member Paavola, to adopt the Special Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2026. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of checks written for the Month of July 2026.

It is recommended by the District Business Manager, Jeff Klein, with concurrence by Board Treasurer Ylitalo, that the checks written for the Month of July 2026 be approved as presented. Moved by Member E Lancour, seconded by Member Paul, to approve the checks written for the Month of July 2026. The motion unanimously carried.

Approval of financial statement for the Month of July 2026.

It is recommended by the District Business Manager, Jeff Klein, with concurrence by Board Treasurer Ylitalo, that the Financial Statement for the Month of July 2026 be approved as presented. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the Financial Statement for the Month of July 2026. The motion unanimously carried.

Visitor Comments: 2 visitors; no comments

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Old or Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Report: Chris Salani

- a. District email domain changed to @hancockps.org (please check your spam if expecting a message)
- b. New "Hancock District Library" work ahead (the new library board will release materials)
- c. Jeff Klein - Full-time business manager commenced August 1st. Partnership with Lake Linden Schools.
- d. New Entrance timelines (8/31 goal)
- e. Test flooring will be installed in both buildings
- f. Trane/OHM partnership walkthrough will happen soon
- g. Noah N will take on the long-term sub position for elementary music
- h. Required Vector training will take place for all staff (blood borne pathogen, Bullying- Recognition and response, disruptive student behavior, and child abuse mandatory reporting)

Principal Reports:

Karen Eddy - Barkell Elementary

- a. Reunification kits have been completed and delivered to designated areas. Thank you to Officer Olson for his assistance with this project.
- b. MTTTS team is working on the BARK logo, information for staff, and creating and stocking the school store for grades 2-5
- c. The Best Start Program (BHK) will provide support to students and families. Thank you to Erin Carlson, kindergarten teacher, for her help securing this program.
- d. Heinemann Math Expressions has been pushed to 6th grade
- e. 5th- and 6th-grade students will use the same planner this year.
- f. More departmentalization will occur in 4th grade. Miss Larson will teach ELA and Science, and Mr. Johnson will have math and social studies. Both teachers will teach their own writing.
- g. Packet Pickup: Wednesday, Aug 19th
- h. Bulldog Boot camp: Monday, Aug 31st (9am-12pm)
 - i. Young 5's and kindergarten (bus ride and other activities)
 - ii. Presentation for parents
 - iii. Social story will be shared with students to read at home
- i. Open House: Tuesday, September 1st (4:30-6pm)

Mollie Trewartha - Middle and High School

- a. The June focus was completing the 2025-2026 school year and paperwork
- b. In July, Mollie traveled to Las Vegas to present at the International Council of Educational Leadership conference.
- c. August: participated in the annual UP Administrators Conference with Karen and Chris.
- d. Work is complete for the rollout of the MTSS for grades 6-12
- e. The Bulldog Closet has been organized and relocated
- f. The handbook has been revised
- g. The Bulldog Brief has been launched. This is a parent/community email introducing our new staff and highlighting portions of the handbook. This will be issued a few times throughout the school year.
- h. On a personal note: Mollie will be part of the Calumet Players presentation of the play, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, at the Rozsa Center this weekend.

Athletic Director report: Ryan Towles

- a. Fully staffed for fall sports
- b. Open positions for MS Boys Basketball and girls JV basketball
- c. Fall schedules are online
- d. JV football program is operating again

Student Council President Report:

- a. Reports will continue in September

Liaison Reports:

- a. HPS Foundation:
 - i. Grants approved (Kindergarten: handwriting curriculum, iPads, tables, carpet and apps; K-5: reading and mysterious science renewals, funding for beginning band; 6-12: Vex equipment, afterschool tutoring; Rise; Wearable emergency pendants (alarm with locators); and \$15,000 to the Hancock District Library). The Grant request for the eSports camp was not approved.
- b. Hancock Recreational Committee: no meeting
- c. CCASB: no meeting (next meeting will be late September)
- d. DDA:
 - i. Jumpstart Program review and adoption
 - ii. Todd Gast is not a full-time employee of the City of Hancock

New Business/Discussion/Action Items:

1. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the elementary student/parent handbook. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the elementary student/parent handbook. Motion unanimously carried.
2. It is recommended by Superintendent Salani to approve the middle/high student/parent handbook. Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to approve the middle/high student/parent handbook. Motion unanimously carried.
3. It is recommended by Athletic Director Towels to approve the renewal of the Fall Athletic Coaches:
Cross Country: Jennifer Smith- Coach, and Ryan Towels - volunteer
Volleyball: Brian Lampaa - Varsity Head Coach; Taylor Paul - volunteer
Cheerleading: Vanessa Dulong
Football: Marcus Sutherland - MS Coach
MS Girls Basketball: Marina Kero- Coach
Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola to approve the renewal of the Fall Athletic Coaches. Member Paul abstained. Motion carried.

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Adjournment of Meeting

Moved by Member Klein, seconded by Member Paavola, to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 pm. The motion unanimously carried.

Emilie Lancour
Board Secretary