

**ONTONAGON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
5:30 pm, Monday, July 21, 2025
701 Parker Avenue, Ontonagon, MI 49953
Ontonagon Area School Library**

CALL TO ORDER A regular meeting of the Ontonagon Area Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 PM by President, Natalie Morgan, in the Ontonagon Area School Library, Ontonagon, Michigan on Monday, July 21, 2025. Present – Natalie Morgan, Nancy Mattson, Carl Lockhart, Tammy Strasser, Heather Beck. ABSENT: Josh Yaklyvich and Robert Zyhowski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA Beck made a motion to accept the agenda, supported by Strasser.
All voting AYE, motion carried.

Mattson volunteered to be the Acting Secretary due to Yaklyvich absence.

APPROVE MINUTES Mattson made a motion, supported by Strasser, to accept the minutes from the June 23, 2025 public hearing meeting.
All voting AYE, motion carried.

Strasser made a motion, supported by Mattson, to accept the minutes from the July 21, 2025 regular meeting with one correction made.
All voting AYE, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS Mattson made a motion, supported by Lockhart to acknowledge the June/July General Fund invoices in the amount of \$68,286.31.
AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

Beck made a motion, supported by Mattson, to approve the July General Fund invoices in the amount of \$79,899.73.
AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

Lockhart made a motion, supported by Strasser, to approve the May Sinking Fund invoice in the amount of \$10,000.00.
AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE None.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

STAFFING / SUPPORT STAFF

Recommend the Board approve the resignation of Jennie Stalker, Bus Driver, effective July 10, 2025. (EXHIBIT A)
Mattson made a motion to accept the resignation, supported by Lockhart. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

Recommend the Board approve the hiring of JoAnn Kemp as Head Cook/Food Service Supervisor effective July 1, 2025.
Lockhart made a motion to approve the hire, supported by Beck. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

Recommend the Board approve the hiring of Kathy Bauer, K-12 Secretary, pending pre-employment onboarding effective as of August 4, 2025.
Strasser made a motion to approve the hire, supported by Mattson. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Beck, Strasser. ABSTAIN: Lockhart.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

Recommend that Board approve the hiring of Gabrielle Niederer, Part-time Secretary and Part-time Paraprofessional, pending pre-employment onboarding effective as of August 4, 2025.
Beck made a motion to approve the hire, supported by Mattson. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

STAFFING / EXTRACURRICULAR

Recommend the Board approve the resignation of Kendra Wilber, Middle School Girls Basketball Coach, effective July 7, 2025. (EXHIBIT B1)
Mattson made a motion to accept the resignation, supported by Strasser.
AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

Recommend the Board approve the resignation of Noel Rios, Assistant Football Coach, effective May 30, 2025. (EXHIBIT B2)
Lockhart made a motion to accept the resignation, supported by Beck. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT CLOSURE

Recommendation that the Board accept the consent to close the Robert Fischer Memorial Scholarship Fund and transfer the remaining balance of \$3,987.88 (Per CSB balance 7/16/25) and the CD balance of \$2,093.06 (Per CSB balance 6/5/25) to the Ontonagon Area Scholarship Foundation. (EXHIBIT C)

Beck made a motion to approve the closure, supported by Lockhart.

AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

APPROVE 2025-2026 COCAA/HEAD START RENT CONTRACT

Recommendation to approve the contract with GOCAA (Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency) to rent two rooms for the Head Start program in the amount of \$11,220 for the 2025-2026 school year. (EXHIBIT D)

Strasser made a motion to approve the contract, supported by Beck.

AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

POLICY / 2025-2026 ELEMENTARY STUDENT HANDBOOK / FIRST READING

Recommend that the Board acknowledge a first reading of the 2025-2026 Elementary School Student Handbook with the proposed changes. (EXHIBIT E)

Not many edits per Jon Uotila; will review Off Road Vehicle wording.

Mattson made a motion to approve the handbook, supported by

Strasser. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

POLICY / 2025-2026 JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK / FIRST READING

Recommend that the Board acknowledge a first reading of the 2025-2026 Junior-Senior High School Student Handbook with the proposed changes. (EXHIBIT F)

This handbook has more edits, changes and updates. Principal Uotila gave a brief update on areas updated to the board.

Mattson made a motion to approve the handbook, supported by

Lockhart. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

POLICY / 2025-2026 ATHLETIC/CO-CURRICULAR HANDBOOK / FIRST READING

Recommend that the Board acknowledge a first reading of the 2025-2026 Athletic/CoCurricular Student Handbook with the proposed changes. (EXHIBIT G)

No major changes were made to the handbook.

Lockhart made a motion to approve the handbook, supported by Mattson. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

POLICY/ 2025-2026 CURRICULUM GUIDEBOOK / FIRST READING

Recommend that the Board acknowledge a first reading of the 2025-2026 Curriculum Guidebook with the proposed changes. (EXHIBIT H)

Some changes/edits were made for courses; will review the addition of an online/independent study section.

Strasser made a motion to approve the handbook, supported by Beck. AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

REPORTS

COMMITTEES:

The Operations Committee met on July 17, 2025.

-Discussed radio station tower and support staff staffing.

The radio station tower needs to come down due to rust/water in the tubes; reviewing options and issues to solve it.

Assistant Principal Uotila reported:

-Working on library updates, removing old and outdated books.

-Handbook updates in progress/review.

-Moving and delivering items/resources to respective locations.

Superintendent Johnson reported:

-CTE building: working on the separation of utilities, etc.

-Lockerroom projection moving along; flooring to be installed this week, followed by completion of the ventilation systems. Lockers arrived today and will be installed in early August.

-Locker sales-fundraising during the All Class Reunion to offset costs.

-Summer school: numbers continue to decline as normal during the summer. Students in attendance are making good progress.

-Office: working to support transition of new staff, reorganizing/cleaning. All staff are pitching in to fill in the gaps.

-Staffing update/open positions: Morning bus driver, kitchen, Math/Science teacher, bus aid and a few paraprofessionals. Always looking for substitutes.

-Resources: New ELA & Elementary Number Corner resources have arrived, distribution and preparing for training.

New classroom library books are arriving, over 4,00 new novels purchased.

Library cleanout/update in progress with Principal Uotila.

KUDOS/THANK YOUS

- Kudos to the summer school students on their progress.
- Kudos to Pat Tucker and Coach Kadin for holding the football camp.
- Kudos to Bob Clark and the summer custodians for their hard work.
- Kudos to the Admin Staff for busy summer work.

CLOSED SESSION - CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS / OTEA CONTRACT RATIFICATION

(May return to open session for action on item)

Beck made a motion, supported by Lockhart, to enter into closed session for the contract ratification at 6:45 p.m.

All voting AYE, motion carried.

Lockhart made a motion, supported by Beck, to return to open session at 6:59 p.m. All voting AYE, motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - POTENTIAL ACTION CONTRACT RATIFICATION

Lockhart made a motion, supported by Strasser, to ratify the contract.

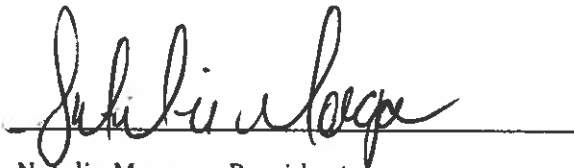
AYE: Morgan, Mattson, Lockhart, Beck, Strasser.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Zyhowski, Yaklyvich. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Beck made a motion, supported by Lockhart, to adjourn at 7:01 PM.

All voting AYE, motion carried.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natalie Morgan', written over a horizontal line.

Natalie Morgan, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nancy Mattson', written over a horizontal line.

Nancy Mattson, Acting Secretary

