

**ONTONAGON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
5:30 pm, Monday, August 18, 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 Vice President, Carl Lockhart, in the Ontonagon Area School Library, Ontonagon, Michigan on Monday, August 18, 2025. Present – Josh Yaklyvich, Nancy Mattson, Carl Lockhart, Tammy Strasser, Heather Beck. ABSENT: Natalie Morgan, Robert Zyhowski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

APPROVE MINUTES Mattson made a motion, supported by Strasser, to accept the minutes from the July 21, 2025 regular meeting as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS Beck made a motion, supported by Strasser, to acknowledge the July/August General Fund invoices in the amount of \$7,689.31.
AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

Strasser made a motion, supported by Mattson, to acknowledge the August General Fund invoices in the amount of \$141,019.41.
AYE: Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.. ABSTAIN: Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

Beck made a motion, supported by Strasser, to approve the August Sinking Fund Payments in the amount of \$23,170.00
AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE None.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

WOAS / RADIO TOWER Recommend that the board approve moving forward in the investigation of the replacement by doing a formal bid process to obtain overall costs with a project manager recommendation. This will come back to the board of education to approve next steps with a funding plan.

Need to work on the costs and a funding plan to replace the radio tower. Mr. Raisanen was on site to give further information related to the project.

Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the next steps as presented. AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS / SUPPORT STAFF

Recommend that the Board approved the Letter of Agreement for the Support Staff Contract Wage Re-Opener. (EXHIBIT B)

Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the wage re-opener. AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

STAFFING / FACULTY

Recommend that the Board accept the resignation of Scott Kemppainen, Math Teacher, effective August 13, 2025. (EXHIBIT C)

Strasser made a motion, supported by Beck, to accept the resignation.

AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck. NAY: None.

ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board move Joan Zhyhowski to temporary full time position, for the 2025-2026 school year, until the math position is filled.

Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the temporary position. AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

STAFFING / SUPPORT STAFF

Recommendation to hire Kristy Strauch for the Kitchen Food Service Worker position. This hire is approved by both the Board and the Superintendent, with the knowledge that this individual has been convicted of a felony.

Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the hire.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board approve Bryant Boulton move to a 2 hour para position and take a temporary transfer of assignment, to support the district in covering the 4/6th Math/Science teacher position until a math teacher is hired.

Strasser made a motion, supported by Mattson, to approve the temporary assignment. AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck. NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board approve Scott DeHut move to a 2 ½ hour para position and take a temporary transfer of assignment to cover 4/6th math position as a long term substitute until a math teacher is hired.

Strasser made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the temporary assignment. AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck. NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

STAFFING / EXTRACURRICULAR

Recommend that the Board approve the hiring of Peggy Elmlad for the Middle School Girls Basketball coach position.

Mattson made a motion, supported by Strasser, to approve the hire.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

CONTRACTS / CONSULTANTS

Recommend that the Board approve an hourly contract for Pattie Corey as a Special Education Consultant at a rate of \$25.00 hour for the 2025-2026 school year. (EXHIBIT F1)

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

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board approve an hourly contract for Jodi Store as a K-12 Secretary Consultant at a rate of \$21.42 hour for the 2025-2026 school year. (EXHIBIT F2)

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

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

SET 2025-2026 MEAL PRICES

Recommendation to set the lunch prices for 2025-2026 prices as follows::

- Elementary School lunch (grades K-5) - FREE
- Junior/Senior High School lunch (grades 6-12) - FREE
- Adult lunch - \$5.50 per day
- Breakfast remains free to all K-12 students.
- Adult breakfast - \$3.25 per day
- Ala Carte Pricing - \$2.75 per item

- Contracted meals / Breakfast Student \$2.60 - Adult \$3.25
- Contracted meals / Lunch Student \$3.75 - Adult \$5.50
- Contracted meals / Snack Student \$1.50 - Adult \$1.50

Strasser made a motion, supported by Mattson, to approve the prices.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

SET 2025-2026 STUDENT WORKER WAGE

Recommendation to set the student worker (kitchen) wage at \$12.48 per hour for the 2025-2026 school year through December 31, 2025. Effective January 1, 2026, the new rate will be \$13.73 to meet the State of Michigan minimum wage requirement.

Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the wages.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

SET 2025-2026 SUBSTITUTE STAFF RATE OF PAY

Recommendation to set the 2025-2026 substitute staff rate of pay as follows:

\$103.00 per day for substitute teachers / \$125.50 per day after 10 consecutive days for the same teacher.

Substitute teachers hired for a substitute assignment position of more than 60 days will be hired at the beginning teacher rate of pay for the percentage position they are hired to fill, in accordance with the revised school code act 451 section 380.1236.

Strasser made a motion, supported by Mattson, to approve the rates.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

\$12.48 per hour for substitute support staff through December 31, 2025; \$13.73 effective January 1, 2026 to meet the State of Michigan minimum wage requirement.

Mattson made a motion, supported by Strasser, to approve the wages.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

\$21.42 per hour for substitute bus drivers.

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

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

POLICY / 2025-2026 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK / SECOND READING

Recommendation to acknowledge a second reading and adopt the 2025-2026 Elementary School student handbook as presented and modified at the July meeting. (EXHIBIT J)

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

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

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

Recommendation to acknowledge a second reading and adopt the 2025-2026 Jr/Sr High School student handbook as presented and modified at the July meeting. (EXHIBIT K)

Mattson made a motion, supported by Strasser, to approve the handbook.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

POLICY / APPROVE 2025-2026 CURRICULUM HANDBOOK / SECOND READING

Recommendation to approve the 2025-2026 Curriculum Handbook as presented and modified at the July meeting. (EXHIBIT L)

Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the handbook.

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

NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

POLICY / APPROVE 2025-2026 ATHLETIC/CO-CURRICULAR HANDBOOK / SECOND READING

Recommendation to approve the 2025-2026 Athletic/Co-curricular Handbook as presented and modified at the July meeting. (EXHIBIT M)
Strasser made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve the handbook.
AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

MASB / DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Michigan Association of School Board's 2025 Delegate Assembly will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2025 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, MI. (EXHIBIT N) The President can attend virtually.
Strasser made a motion, supported by Beck, to approve attendance for those interested. AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

MASB / UPPER PENINSULA ADVOCACY SUMMIT

MASB is offering a Legislative Summit in Marquette on Sunday, September 21- Monday, September 22, 2025 in Marquette, MI. (EXHIBIT O)
No motion/vote was made.

TRANSPORTATION OUT OF DISTRICT

Recommendation to approve the following travel reimbursement sliding fee scale per day of attendance for students who live outside of the district boundaries to the nearest district bus stop for the 2025-2026 school year, same as the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

- 0-20 miles - \$2.00 per day
- 20-30 miles - \$2.50 per day
- 35+ miles - \$3.50 per day

Strasser made a motion, supported by Mattson, to approve the rates..
AYE: Yaklyvich, Mattson, Lockhart, Strasser, Beck.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Zhyhowski Motion carried.

REPORTS

Education/Athletic Committee met on August 11, 2025.
-Discussed fall sports, staffing, hiring, placement.
Operations Committee met on August 12, 2025.
-Discussed the radio tower, state budget delay, sinking fund renewal, elementary specials.

Assistant Principal Uotila was absent.

Superintendent Johnson reported:

- Staff professional development with paras and teachers will be held this week.
- Locker room project - finishing touches are in progress.
- Athletics-there will not be a JV football team this year due to the number of students and all will be playing on the varsity team.
- Hiring-Parapro staffing moves to cover positions will be worked through to make sure everything runs smoothly.
- Math-recruiting is in progress to fill the vacancy.
- Open house will be held this Thursday.

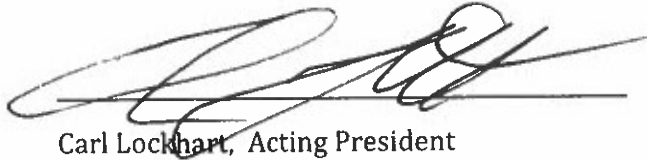
KUDOS/THANK YOUS

Kudos to all staff members for being flexible with the open positions and transitions.

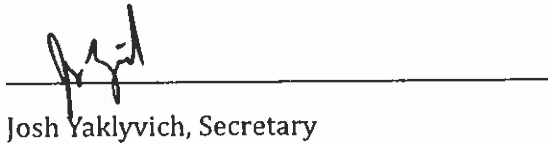
Best wishes to the students and staff to have a successful school year.

ADJOURN

Beck made a motion, supported by Strasser, to adjourn at 6:45 PM.
All voting AYE, motion carried.



Carl Lockhart, Acting President



Josh Yaklyvich, Secretary

