

**ONTONAGON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
5:30 pm, Monday, January 19, 2026
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, January 19, 2026. Present – Heather Beck, Nancy Mattson, Tammy Strasser, Carl Lockhart, Robert Zyhowski ABSENT: Natalie Morgan, Josh Yaklyvich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Beck was appointed Acting Secretary due to Yaklyvich absence.

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

APPROVE MINUTES Strasser made a motion, supported by Zyhowski, to accept the minutes from the December 15, 2025 regular meeting as presented.
All voting AYE, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS Mattson made a motion, supported by Beck, to acknowledge the December/January General Fund invoices in the amount of \$11,385.77.
AYE: Mattson, Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Yaklyvich. Motion carried

Mattson made a motion, supported by Strasser, to approve the January General Fund invoices in the amount of \$59,042.38.
AYE: Mattson, Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski.
NAY: None. ABSENT: Morgan, Yaklyvich. Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE None.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election was tabled due to the absence of the President and Secretary on a motion by Beck and supported by Mattson.

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

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

2026 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Appointments were tabled due to absence of the President and Secretary on a motion by Beck and supported by Strasser.

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

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

STAFFING / FACULTY

Recommend that the Board accept the retirement of Kristi Pestka, Third Grade Teacher, effective with the end of the 2026 school year. (EXHIBIT B1) Mattson made a motion to accept the retirement, supported by Zyhowski.

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

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

Recommend that the Board approve the salary adjustment for Josh Drew, Physical Education Teacher, retroactive to the start of the 2025-2026 school year. (EXHIBIT B2)

Superintendent Johnson gave background of the rate adjustment request. Mattson made a motion to approve the adjustment, supported by Strasser.

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

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

STAFFING / INSTRUCTIONAL

Recommend that the Board approve the posting of a Driver Education Position.

Costs associated with the position will be forthcoming. OASD is currently a part of the Drive America network and may utilize them for summer courses. Strasser made a motion to approve the posting, supported by Mattson.

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

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

BUS GARAGE

Recommend the Board approve the Superintendent to explore and enter into preliminary talks regarding the potential land attainment for the purpose of building a bus garage.

Beck made a motion to approve the exploration, supported by Zyhowski.

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

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

Recommend the Board approve securing a bid from OHM Advisors (Engineering Firm) for the preliminary work related to the construction of a bus garage.

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

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

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

SUPERINTENDENT PRESENTATION / SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

Superintendent Johnson issued certificates to the board members and thanked them for their time spent dedicated to the school board and for attending the meeting with the inclement weather this evening.

REPORTS

Operations Committee met on January 7, 2026.

-Discussed the bus garage, radio tower now has a temporary tower installed and budget items.

Education/Athletics Committee met on January 12, 2026.

-ATHLETICS: Discussed school colors (will get input from students) and the school van needs to be replaced.

-EDUCATION: Discussed math coverage during upcoming teacher leave, data tools and intervention.

Superintendent Johnson provided Assistant Principal Uotila report:

-8 referrals since the December meeting.

-Exams are complete and report cards should be issued this Friday (weather permitting this week).

-Setting up schedules to meet with students in person and families to discuss needs moving forward.

-Winter homecoming plans are in progress for the week of February 2, 2026.

Superintendent Johnson reported:

-3rd teacher grade support needs.

-Reviewing intervention reports.

-Held half day professional development with staff on January 16, 2026.

KUDOS/THANK YOUS

Kudos and thank you to Kristi Pestka for her 25 years of service.

Kudos to JoAnn Kemp, Food Service Director, for doing a great job.

Kudos to George Truscott and the bus drivers for their safe driving skills in winter conditions.

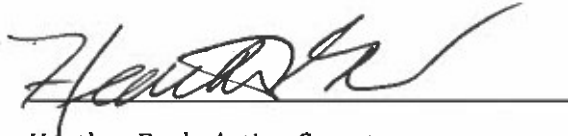
ADJOURN

Beck made a motion, supported by Strasser, to adjourn at 6:02 PM.

All voting AYE, motion carried.

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

Carl Lockhart, Vice President

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

Heather Beck, Acting Secretary