

**ONTONAGON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
5:30 pm, Monday, March 16, 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 President, Natalie Morgan, in the Ontonagon Area School Library, Ontonagon, Michigan on Monday, March 16, 2026. Present – Natalie Morgan, Heather Beck, Tammy Strasser, Carl Lockhart, Robert Zyhowski, Josh Yaklyvich **ABSENT:** Nancy Mattson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

APPROVE MINUTES Lockhart made a motion, supported by Zyhowski, to accept the minutes from the February 16, 2026 regular meeting as presented. All voting **AYE**, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS Beck made a motion, supported by Strasser, to acknowledge the February/March General Fund invoices in the amount of \$12,862.90.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. **ABSENT:** Mattson. Motion carried.

Strasser made a motion, supported Beck, to approve the March General Fund invoices in the amount of \$43,818.17.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. **ABSENT:** Mattson. Motion carried.

Lockhart made a motion, supported by Zyhowski, to approve the March Sinking Fund invoice in the amount of \$3,372.16.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. **ABSENT:** Mattson. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE None.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

STAFFING / EXTRACURRICULAR

Recommend that the Board accept the resignation of Kendra Wilber, Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Coach, effective March 13, 2026. (EXHIBIT A1)
Beck made a motion, supported by Strasser, to accept the resignation.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board accept the resignation of Peggy Elmlad, Girls Middle School and Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, effective March 12, 2026. (EXHIBIT A2)
Lockhart made a motion, supported by Zyhowski, to accept the resignation.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

STAFFING / SUPPORT STAFF / SUMMER CUSTODIAN

Recommend that the Board approve the resignation of Gabrielle Niederer, Part-Time K-12 Secretary/Paraprofessional, effective March 13, 2026. (EXHIBIT B1)
Strasser made a motion, supported by Beck, to accept the resignation.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board approve the temporary remote work offer for Gabrielle Neiderer to continue to work on an hourly, as-needed basis. (EXHIBIT B2)
Beck made a motion, supported by Lockhart, to approve the temporary offer.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board approve the posting of a summer custodial position at 6 hours per day for 10 weeks.
Strasser made a motion, supported by Zyhowski, to approve the posting.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

STAFFING / SUMMER SCHOOL

Recommend that the Board approve the posting of a summer school teacher at a rate of \$25/hour and a paraprofessional at a rate of \$17.93/hour for 2026 Summer School.
Beck made a motion, supported by Lockart, to approve the postings.
AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich
NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

STAFFING / FACULTY

Recommend that the Board accept the resignation of Anna Drew, Elementary Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2026.

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

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

BIDS / UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

Recommend that the Board approve the 2026 USF (Universal Service Fund) project bid for APC Smart UPS Power Supply Units from SEHI, \$8,517.20.

Total cost is \$1,703.44. USF funding will cover 80%, which leaves the District cost at \$1,703.44. (EXHIBIT D)

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

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

OVERNIGHT TRIP REQUESTS

Senior Class: Recommend that the Board approve the overnight Senior class trip to Wisconsin Dells on May 9 and May 10, 2026.

Lockhart made a motion, supported by Zyhowski, to approve the trip.

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

Camp Nesbit: Recommend that the Board approve the 6th grade overnight trip for Camp Nesbit from May 4 to May 6, 2026.

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

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

Robotics: Recommend that the Board approve the Robotics meet date change from March 13-15, 2026 in Lake City, MI to March 19-21, 2026 in Traverse City, MI due to weather conditions.

Zyhowski made a motion, supported by Lockhart, to approve the trip.

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

BUS GARAGE

Recommend that the Board approve the Superintendent to accept the land purchase agreement with Domitrovich Real Estate for land located on Greenland Road for \$30,000.00. (EXHIBIT F1)

The site has approximately 5 acres with utilities accessible and an MDOT approved driveway.

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

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

Recommend that the Board approve the Superintendent to accept the UP Engineers & Architects proposal for the work related to a bus garage at a cost of \$72,200. (EXHIBIT F2)

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

AYE: Strasser, Lockhart, Beck, Zyhowski, Morgan, Yaklyvich

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mattson. Motion carried.

DATA SYSTEM DISCUSSION

Discussion with potential action item related to data systems. (EXHIBIT G)

Beck made a motion, supported by Lockhart, to hold discussion related to the data system.

Superintendent Johnson gave information about the ISD Educlimber Data Tool and related costs versus district purchased data system.

The Board wanted to have future follow up discussion and information about potential agreement with the ISD. No action was taken.

REPORTS

The Education/Athletics Committee met on March 9, 2026.

-Discussed law changes (Dyslexia Law), Title I, staffing needs for 2026-2027 and drivers education.

Operations Committee met on March 10, 2026.

-Discussed lawn service, bus garage, sinking fund renewal and budget items.

Assistant Principal Uotila reported:

- 19 referrals since the last meeting, 5 were positive.
- Three seniors participated in a TRIO trip to Milwaukee.
- Junior and Senior classes are fundraising for prom and activities.
- Middle School Volleyball is wrapping up this week, very good participation.
- S4SD campaign in the 11th year. Contest winners to be determined. Driving simulator/goggle exercises were held for 9-12 grade students.
- Reading month in progress with dress-up days and guest readers.
- Basketball seasons are finished and spring sports practices are starting.
- German class trip to Germany will be leaving next week.
- Kindergarten round-up will be held in April.
- NHS ceremony will be held March 17, 2026.

Superintendent Johnson reported:

- 3rd grade second round interviews will be held on March 18, 2026.
- Math/Science position interviews will be held after spring break..
- Driver education: waiting for dates for the UP class for a potential new teacher.
- Will be discussing staff PD needs and schedules for next year.
- ISD will be finalizing the common calendar; will go to the union for vote, then to the Board.
- ISD is trying to support an SRO for districts.
- Will need to make up for PD day that was canceled on the snow day of March 13, 2026.

KUDOS/THANK YOU

Kudos and thank yous to all of the coaches.

Kudos to the planners of reading month.

Kudos to the English Communications students who participated in the S4SD driving videos.

ADJOURN

Beck made a motion, supported by Lockhart, to adjourn at 7:06 p.m..
All voting AYE, motion carried.



Natalie Morgan, President



Josh Yaklyvich, Secretary

