



**Waterford School District
Board of Education**

A G E N D A

Regular Meeting

December 4, 2025

6:30 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

Opening

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of the Agenda

Public Comments on Action Items

Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes
 - 1. November 20, 2025, Regular Meeting/Closed Session

Information Items

- a. Waterford Together Festival
- b. Athletics Update
- c. Tentative Agreements: MESPA I and III

New Business

- a. Superintendent's Recommendations
 - 1. Recommendation 19-25-26 Relative to Resolution: 31aa Funding Opt-In Subject to Rescission
 - 2. Recommendation 20-25-26 Relative to 2026-2027 School of Choice Resolution
 - 3. Recommendation 21-25-26 Relative to Proposed Student Travel
 - 4. Recommendation 22-25-26 Relative to Tentative Agreement: MESPA I
 - 5. Recommendation 23-25-26 Relative to Tentative Agreement: MESPA III
- b. Consideration of Certain Purchases
 - 1. Recommendation 24-25-26 Relative to Wireless Infrastructure E-Rate Project
- c. President's Recommendations
 - 1. Recommendation 25-25-26 Relative to Superintendent's 2025 Evaluation Rating
 - 2. Recommendation 26-25-26 Relative to OCSBA Resolutions

Public Comment on Non-Action Items

Board of Education Reports

Superintendent's Report

Adjournment



Regular Meeting November 20, 2025

OPENING

The Regular Meeting of the Waterford Board of Education, held at Waterford Township Hall, 5200 Civic Center Drive, Waterford, Michigan, was called to order by President Wagner at 6:32 p.m.

PLEDGE

The audience joined the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Members Petrusha, Torres, Soncrante, Wagner, and Donohue
Absent: Members McGregor and Ristich
Others: Adam Martin, Nadine Milostan, Steve Wolf, Mike Suratt, Sarah Davis, Susan File, Karen Hildebrandt, Amy Dagenhardt, Elizabeth Kutchev, Amy Liss, Joseph Humphrey, Mary Craite, Frank Puddy, Jennifer Bishop, Renee Tenaglia, Amy Klopman, Josh Boyd, Meg Grossnickle, Megan Roberts, and others who did not register.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as printed.

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

- a. Mason Middle School

Mason Middle School Principal Stephan Henning and AP Cliff Smitgen provided an update on Advisory and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS

There were no public comments on action items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes
 - 1. October 16, Regular Meeting/Closed Session
 - 2. October 30, 2025, Special Meeting
 - 3. November 6, 2025, COW Meeting
- b. Accounts Payable
- c. Financial Statement
- d. Support Staff Report
- e. Resignations
- f. Teaching Contract Changes/Appointments
- g. Reinstatement of Student D-25-26

Seeing no objection, the consent agenda was approved as presented.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Student Travel

Kettering Teacher Meg Grossnickle will present information to the Board of Education regarding an opportunity for student travel, February 28 – March 9, 2026.

The Michigan Creativity Association has invited Kettering High School to develop a Destination Imagination team to travel to Türkiye to compete in the DI Mediterranean Invitational. DI is a creative problem-solving competition in which teams of up to seven students develop a solution to one of several challenges. Specifically, this opportunity suits the Link Crew program, as students would have the opportunity to work on the Service-Learning Challenge, which asks students to address a specific need in their community and then develop a creative presentation to report out their findings. This is a competition-based program in which students are assessed on specific requirements.

The DI Mediterranean Invitational brings together student leaders representing 8+ nations for a four-day student leadership conference, academic competition, and cultural exchange program. In 2025, competing nations included Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Ecuador, Netherlands, Poland, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, and the United Kingdom. In 2026, the invitation list includes the United States, with only the organizations hosting Destination Imagination in Michigan and Texas being approached to bring students as "Team USA."

A recommendation for approval will be presented for Board action on December 4, 2025.

b. Strategic Plan

The Waterford School District Board of Education and administration will soon begin creating the district's next five-year strategic plan and are seeking community input. Led by Michigan Association of School Boards Consultant Greg Janicki, school leaders will update the district's mission, vision and goals for the future. Waterford School District's current strategic plan expires at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

An important part of the strategic plan process is to garner feedback from all district stakeholders. Waterford School District values our community and we want to hear from you regarding how we can better achieve shared goals.

As such, I'd like to formally invite you to participate through two different avenues. The first is through a [community survey](#). The [10-minute survey](#) is available on our website and can be done anytime from today through January 9.

The second opportunity is to participate in one of our scheduled stakeholder input sessions. Sessions for staff will be held on December 2, at 2:45 PM and January 6, at 4:30 PM.

Sessions for the community will be held on December 2, at 1:00 PM and January 6, at 6:00 PM. These sessions will take place in Room 103 at the Crary Administration Building.

I encourage everyone to take the survey and attend a community forum. If you can't do both, even participating in just one is helpful. By contributing your voice, you will help define the district's future, ensuring this strategic plan is truly a shared commitment to the success and well-being of every student in our community.

c. 2026-2027 School of Choice Resolution

The following resolution will be presented for action on December 4, 2025.

WHEREAS, the Waterford Board of Education has the option permitted by section 105 of the State School Aide Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1998; and

WHEREAS, it has the option, for purposes of sections 105 and 105c, to accept applications of nonresident students from outside the district, who reside in the Oakland Intermediate School District and/or a contiguous intermediate school district, which this district is a constituent district for the enrollment in our district for the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Waterford School District has the option to operate a Schools of Choice Program in the Waterford School District for second semester in compliance with the statutory requirements of Section 105 and 105c; and

WHEREAS, the Waterford School District has outstanding school programs and there may be room for students from other districts to participate in these high-quality schools; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Waterford School District chooses to participate in the aforementioned Schools of Choice Program for 2026-2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waterford School District will accept applications for the 2026-2027 school year for the Junior Kindergarten/Kindergarten grade level (Section 105) and up to twenty (20) students entering grades 9-12 and accepted into the Waterford STEM Academy through the application process, based on available seats (Section 105).

d. Tentative Agreements

Susan File, Executive Director of Human Resources, provided an update regarding the Tentative Agreements with MESPA III and the Waterford Education Association. A recommendation to approve the Tentative Agreements is included under New Business.

e. Wireless Infrastructure E-Rate Project

Portions of our wireless infrastructure, installed in phases starting six years ago, are now reaching their end-of-life. To ensure continued reliability, we are requesting the replacement of key components (access points, controllers, and UPSs). In partnership with our E-Rate consultant, EliteFund, we prepared a bid for this replacement, which is eligible for E-Rate 2026 Category 2 funding and covers a percentage of the associated items, installation, configuration and maintenance. If approved, these items will be put into place for the 2026-2027 school year. A recommendation for award to Moss will be presented for action on December 4, 2025.

Funding: 2020 Bond/E-Rate

NEW BUSINESS

a. President's Recommendations

1. Recommendation 15-25-26 Relative to Revised Budget #1 2025-2026

Moved by Member Donohue and supported by Member Petrusha that the Board of Education approve the revised budget resolution.

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the general appropriations, Waterford School District for fiscal year 2025-2026. A resolution to make appropriateions; and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Waterford School District. The property tax rate will be 17.6749 mills on non-homestead property. The proceeds will be used to pay General Fund operating expenditures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$123,113,043 is hereby appropriated in the General Fund.

The appropriation details of this information is available to the public upon request.

Ayes: Members Torres, Petrusha, Donohue, Wagner, and Soncrainte

Nays: None

Motion carried. (5-0)

2. Recommendation 16-25-26 Relative to Tentative Agreement: MESPA II

Moved by Member Donohue and supported by Member Petrusha that the Board of Education approve the Tentative Agreement with MESPA II as ratified by its membership.

Ayes: Members Petrusha, Torres, Donohue, Wagner, and Soncrainte

Nays: None

Motion carried. (5-0)

3. Recommendation 17-25-26 Relative to Tentative Agreement: WEA

Moved by Member Soncrainte and supported by Member Petrusha that the Board of Education approve the Tentative Agreement with WEA as ratified by its membership.

Members Donohue must abstain due to a conflict of interest with a family member serving in the bargaining unit.

Ayes: Members Petrusha, Torres, Wagner, and Soncrainte

Nays: None

Abstained: Member Donohue

Motion carried. (4-0-1)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Josh Boyd addressed the Board of Education regarding class sizes at Cooley Elementary.

Mary Craite spoke regarding negotiations.

Joseph Humphrey made comments regarding safety and security.

BOARD REPORTS

Member Petrusha spoke about Parks and Recreation as well as Halloween events.

Member Donohue provided an update on the Drayton Plains Nature Center Board and the Holiday Hoopla and Tree Lighting event.

Member Soncrainte provided an update about Waterford Youth Assistance.

Member Torres commented on the recent orchestra concerts and the Waterford Together Festival.

Member Wagner talked about the construction tour and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Martin provided talked about Esports, the upcoming Holiday Hoopla and Tree Lighting and extended condolences to the family of Gary Kochish, WSD Bus Aide.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

At 7:39 p.m., by roll call vote, the Board of Education recessed to closed session in accordance with Section 8 (a) of the Open Meetings Act to conduct the evaluation of the superintendent.

Roll Call Vote:

Petrusha – Yes, Donohue – Yes, Wagner – Yes, Torres – Yes, and Soncrainte – Yes

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular meeting was reconvened and adjourned by President Wagner at 8:23 p.m.

:mr

Board Secretary

INFORMATION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

TOPIC: Information Item (a)

ITEM: Waterford Together Festival

The Waterford Together Festival was held on Nov. 6, 2025 at Mott High School. The goal of the event was to celebrate the variety of cultures rooted in the WSD community. At the event, we had representation from 18 countries, 13 community organizations, nine different music and dance performances and eight interactive language lessons.

Sarah Davis and Jessica Ristich will present event highlights and introduce a special musical performance by the band Los Ahijados, which includes three students from Mott High School:

1. Damian Olea Garcia – 9th grade
2. Emanuel Olea Garacia – 12th grade
3. Eduardo Feliz – 9th grade

Many thanks to the incredible staff, students and community who came together to celebrate our community and one another. Our staff and student volunteers, plus our festival sponsors, truly made this event possible.

Resource Person: Sarah Davis, Director of Communications and Community Relations

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

INFORMATION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

TOPIC: Information Item (b)

ITEM: WSD Athletics

Allison Sartorius, Kettering High School Assistant Athletic Director, and Shayne Hynes, Mott High School Athletic Director, will provide an update on Fall athletics and provide a look into the Winter season.

Resource Person: Steven Wolf, Assistant Superintendent, 6-Postsecondary Instruction
Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

INFORMATION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

ITEM: Information Item (c)

TOPIC: Tentative Agreements: MESPA I and III

Susan File, Executive Director of Human Resources, will provide information relative to the Tentative Agreements with MESPA I and MESPA III.

Resource Person(s): Susan K. File, Executive Director of Human Resources

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

ITEM:	New Business a (1) Superintendent's Recommendation 19-25-26
TOPIC:	Resolution: 31aa Funding Opt-In Subject to Rescission

Resolution: 31aa Funding Opt-In Subject to Rescission, allows Waterford School District to provisionally opt in to 31aa Funding by the December 4, 2025 deadline, preserving eligibility. If the litigation is unsuccessful and the privilege-waiver requirement remains in effect, the opt-in will be automatically rescinded. In that event, the Superintendent is required to notify MDE of the rescission by the stipulated deadline of December 30, 2025, at 11:59 pm, in the form and manner established by MDE. This resolution further ensures that Waterford School District can participate in 31aa Funding without waiving any privileges until the legal challenge is resolved.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Resolution: 31aa Funding Opt-In Subject to Rescission as attached.

Resource Person(s): Adam Martin, Superintendent of Schools

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

Resolution: Opt-In Subject to Rescission

Waterford School District, Michigan (the “District”)

A regular meeting of the board of education of the District (the “Board”) was held in the Town Hall Auditorium, 5200 Civic Center Drive, within the boundaries of the District, on the 4th day of December, 2025, at 6:30 PM (the “Meeting”)

The meeting was called to order by Kristen Wagner, President.

Present: Members

Absent: Members

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member _____ and supported by Member _____ :

WHEREAS:

1. Public Act 15 of 2025 amends the State School Aid Act Section 31aa, MCL 388.1631aa, to allocate funding for fiscal year 2025-2026 to support school safety and student mental health initiatives, as well as to provide certain competitive grant funding (“31aa Funding”);
2. To receive 31aa Funding, the District must agree to receive the funding in the form and manner established by the Michigan Department of Education (“MDE”) and either formally opt in or seek competitive grant; and
3. As a condition of receiving either type of 31aa Funding, the District must agree in advance that, in the event of a “mass casualty event,” as defined in MCL 388.1631aa: (1) the District will be subject to and comply with a comprehensive investigation following such an event, and (2) the District will waive any privilege that may otherwise protect related information from disclosure; and
4. Litigation challenging the legality and enforceability of the privilege-waiver requirement is currently pending; and
5. The opt-in deadline for 31aa Funding is currently December 4, 2025, at 11:59 p.m., and it may be subject to further extension (the “Opt-In Deadline”); and
6. The litigation parties have stipulated that a district may later rescind its opt in by providing notice to MDE no later than December 30, 2025, at 11:59 p.m., as may be subject to further extension (the “Rescission Deadline”), in the form and manner established by MDE; and
7. The Board has been fully advised of the legal and practical implications of the privilege-waiver requirement, including its potential effect on attorney-client privilege and other applicable privileges; and
8. The Board desires to preserve the District’s eligibility for 31aa Funding while avoiding any present waiver of privilege and while allowing time for the courts to determine the legality and enforceability of the privilege-waiver requirement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to submit the District's opt-in form to MDE on or before the Opt-In Deadline, solely for the purpose of preserving the District's eligibility for 31aa Funding, and only on a conditional basis, as provided in this Resolution. Submission of the opt-in form shall not constitute a present waiver of the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege.
2. The District's conditional opt in shall be automatically rescinded without further action of the Board, unless, on or before the Rescission Deadline: (a) the Legislature removes, substantively amends, or otherwise eliminates the privilege-waiver requirement such that acceptance of 31aa Funding would not require waiver of attorney-client privilege or any other applicable privilege; or (b) a court of competent jurisdiction rules that the privilege-waiver requirement is unlawful, unenforceable, or otherwise not applicable to the District. If neither (a) or (b) occurs by the Rescission Deadline, the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, shall notify MDE, in the form and manner required by MDE and no later than the Rescission Deadline, that the District's opt in is rescinded.
3. If the privilege-waiver requirement remains in effect as of the Rescission Deadline, the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, shall have no authority or obligation to accept 31aa Funding.
4. Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as a waiver of attorney-client privilege or any other applicable privilege.
5. The District's participation in the opt-in or rescission process shall not be construed as a waiver of the Board's or District's right to challenge the legality or enforceability of any condition imposed by MCL 388.1631aa or related administrative guidance.
6. If after the Rescission Deadline, the privilege-waiver requirement is removed, amended, or invalidated, the Board may take further action as it deems appropriate to pursue 31aa Funding consistent with applicable law.
7. This Resolution does not apply to any "mass casualty event" occurring prior to the Opt-In Deadline.
8. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.

Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Waterford School District, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at the Meeting, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

Secretary, Board of Education

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

TOPIC:	New Business a (2) Superintendent's Recommendation 20-25-26
ITEM:	School of Choice 2026-2027 Resolution

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the following School of Choice resolution for the 2026-2027 school year.

WHEREAS, the Waterford Board of Education has the option permitted by section 105 of the State School Aide Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1998; and

WHEREAS, it has the option, for purposes of sections 105 and 105c, to accept applications of nonresident students from outside the district, who reside in the Oakland Intermediate School District and/or a contiguous intermediate school district, which this district is a constituent district for the enrollment in our district for the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Waterford School District has the option to operate a Schools of Choice Program in the Waterford School District for second semester in compliance with the statutory requirements of Section 105 and 105c; and

WHEREAS, the Waterford School District has outstanding school programs and there may be room for students from other districts to participate in these high-quality schools; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Waterford School District chooses to participate in the aforementioned Schools of Choice Program for 2026-2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Waterford School District will accept applications for the 2026-2027 school year for the Junior Kindergarten/Kindergarten grade level (Section 105) and up to twenty (20) students entering grades 9-12 and accepted into the Waterford STEM Academy through the application process, based on available seats (Section 105).

Resource Person: Adam Martin, Superintendent

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

TOPIC:	New Business a (3) Superintendent's Recommendation 21-25-26
ITEM:	Proposed Student Travel

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed international trip to Turkey, February 28-March 9, 2026, for the Waterford Kettering High School Destination Imagination team to participate in the DI Mediterranean Invitational.

Resource Person: Steven Wolf, Assistant Superintendent, 6-Postsecondary

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

ITEM NO.:	New Business a (4) Superintendent's Recommendation 22-25-26
TOPIC:	TENTATIVE AGREEMENT – MESPA I

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the attached mediated tentative agreement with MESPA I as ratified by its membership.

Resource Persons: Susan K. File, Executive Director of Human Resources

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

ITEM NO.:	New Business a (5) Superintendent's Recommendation 23-25-26
TOPIC:	TENTATIVE AGREEMENT – MESPA III

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the attached mediated tentative agreement with MESPA III, as ratified by its membership.

Resource Persons: Susan K. File, Executive Director of Human Resources

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

ITEM:	New Business b (1) Superintendent's Recommendation 24-25-26
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TOPIC:	Wireless Infrastructure E-Rate Project
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Portions of our wireless infrastructure, installed in phases starting six years ago, are now reaching their end-of-life. To ensure continued reliability, we are requesting the replacement of key components (access points, controllers, and UPSs). In partnership with our E-Rate consultant, EliteFund, we prepared a bid for this replacement, which is eligible for E-Rate 2026 Category 2 funding and covers a percentage of the associated items, installation, configuration and maintenance.

If approved, these items will be put into place for the 2026-2027 school year.

Attached is the bid tab sheet.

It is recommended that the Board award the bid to Moss in the total amount of \$208,776.83 for wireless infrastructure replacement access points, controllers and UPSs.

Funding: 2020 Bond/E-Rate

Resource Person: Elizabeth Kutchey, Director of Instructional Technology, Data and Assessment

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

E-Rate Bids 2026 Category 2 Services

Full Project Bidders

Contractor	Wireless Access Points	Wireless Controllers	UPSs	Installation	Shipping	Total
Amcomm	\$30,000.00	\$71,600.00	\$134,750.00			\$236,350.00
Concourse	\$18,463.72	\$56,830.87	\$105,917.88	\$33,075.00	\$4,142.99	\$218,430.46
Electronaca Inc.	\$18,009.60	\$55,433.00	\$191,345.00	\$14,685.00	\$1,500.00	\$280,972.60
Moss	\$9,619.84	\$65,222.50	\$111,769.49	\$22,165.00		\$208,776.83
Questivity Incorporated	\$11,448.96	\$31,239.55	\$138,984.64	\$3,380.00		\$185,053.15

Partial Project Bidders

Contractor	Wireless Access Points	Wireless Controllers	UPSs	Installation	Shipping	Total
Delta Network Services			\$108,141.74			\$108,141.74
Division 27			\$139,342.77	\$4,410.00		\$143,752.77
InaComp TSG			\$100,401.00			\$100,401.00
			\$141,855.00			\$141,855.00
JEMTECH Group			\$117,950.00			\$117,950.00
Optimus	\$22,089.00		\$172,210.50	\$2,205.00	\$3,430.00	\$199,934.50
RAD WiFi	\$18,531.00		\$159,438.86			\$177,969.86
Vector			\$111,250.00			\$111,250.00

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

TOPIC:	New Business c (1) President's Recommendation 25-25-26
ITEM:	Superintendent's Evaluation Rating

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the 2025 evaluation of Superintendent Adam Martin as completed on November 18, 2025, resulting in an Effective rating.

Resource Person: Board of Education

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025

ACTION

WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
501 N. Cass Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

TOPIC:	New Business c (2) President's Recommendation 26-25-26
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ITEM:	Oakland County School Boards Association Resolutions
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It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the two (2) new resolutions proposed by the Oakland County School Boards Association (OCSBA).

Resolutions that are approved by at least nineteen (19) member school districts shall be the official position of the association as interpreted and pursued by its board of directors.

Resource Person: Board of Education

Date of Board of Education Meeting: December 4, 2025



OCSBA Bylaws Article IX, Section 5, Resolution Adoption:

Resolutions that are approved by at least nineteen (19) member school districts shall be the official position of the association as interpreted and pursued by its board of directors.

TWO (2) PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTIONS

Proposed new resolution #1:

OCSBA supports non-partisan school board elections.

Rationale for proposed new resolution #1:

This proposed resolution is in response to HB 4588 that is now moving through the state House.

Link to the bill: <https://legislature.mi.gov/Bills/Bill?ObjectName=2025-HB-4588>

Partisan school board elections will:

- Decrease the number of willing candidates, and
- Increase campaign costs (school board members would have to be successful in two elections – a primary election as well as the November election), and
- Align local education decisions with party interests rather than student needs, and
- Exclude thousands of current or potential board members, including federal employees, who are legally prohibited from running in partisan races.

Bill history to date:

History

(House actions in lowercase, Senate actions in UPPERCASE)

Note: A page number of 0 indicates that the page number is coming soon

Date	Journal	Action
6/10/2025	HJ 55 Pg. 679	introduced by Representative Rep. Jason Woolford
6/10/2025	HJ 55 Pg. 679	read a first time
6/10/2025	HJ 55 Pg. 679	referred to Committee on Election Integrity
6/11/2025	HJ 56 Pg. 690	bill electronically reproduced 06/10/2025
10/28/2025	HJ 103 Pg. 0	reported with recommendation with substitute (H-1)
10/28/2025	HJ 103 Pg. 0	referred to second reading

Proposed new resolution #2:

OCSBA supports full funding of Early On Michigan, an early intervention program for infants and toddlers from birth to age three with disabilities, developmental delays or are at risk for delay(s) due to certain health conditions.

Rationale for proposed new resolution #2:

This resolution is proposed because we need to shine a light on the importance of early intervention programs such as *Early On Michigan*, and the need for additional state funding to adequately serve the families of children already identified as eligible, and to serve all children who *should be* identified as eligible.

The Michigan Mandatory Special Education law (or MMSE) requires special education services be provided for eligible children and students from birth through age 25. Federal law also mandates early intervention programs.

- Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) refers to special education services for students ages 3 through 21.
- Part C of IDEA refers to early intervention services for eligible infants and toddlers from birth through age 2.
 - In Michigan, Part C is called *Early On*.
- Special education supports and services for students age 22 through 25 is part of MMSE.

OCSBA has always supported early childhood education. The earlier the intervention begins, the greater the impact.

Early On is Michigan's statewide, comprehensive, coordinated interagency system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers, birth to age three years with disabilities and their families. *Early On* is coordinated by the Michigan Department of Education and provides services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Local communities receive funding through their local Intermediate School District (ISD) to implement *Early On*. Each local ISD jurisdiction has an interagency coordinating council (comprised of individuals from human service agencies, parents, educators, and other agency personnel who serve families) that guides implementation locally. Implementation is also guided through local memoranda of understanding between education, mental health, public health, and social services.

For 50 years we have advocated for IDEA funding for students. The congressional promise to fund 40% of the cost of providing special education services applies to Part B (children age 3 to 21) -and- to Part C (early intervention services infants and toddlers through age 2). While we continue to advocate for federal funding, state funding for woefully lacking for *Early On*:

- The estimated annual cost is \$230M to provide high-quality early intervention services.
- The state should appropriate *at least* \$138M (60% of the estimated annual cost).
- Section 54d of the FY26 School Aid Act provides state funding of \$48M.

For additional information on Early On Michigan visit:

https://earlyonfoundation.org/Files/Resources/EO_Case_for_Funding_FY26_w_taskforce.docx.pdf

CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY OUR MEMBERS
THE ADOPTION AND/OR AMENDMENT DATE(S) ARE NOTED FOR EACH
RESOLUTION**

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019; Amended 6/5/2025]

OCSBA supports holding every school that receives public funding to the same accountability and transparency standards, including FOIA requests and the Open Meetings Act. This includes local districts, ISDs, Public School Academies (aka Charter Schools), their authorizers and management companies, as well as all colleges and universities. [MASB Resolution A 6.65 (c), (d), (f)]

BROADBAND ACCESS AND DEVICES [OCSBA Adopted 9/11/2021; Amended 6/5/2025]

- Broadband should be included in any federal or state infrastructure plan.
- OCSBA supports additional federal and state funding opportunities to expand affordable and reliable broadband access.
- OCSBA supports federal and state programs for the purchase of internet capable devices and software.
- OCSBA supports dedicated resources for cybersecurity.

[MASB Resolution A-10.30 – 2021 amendment]

EARLY CHILDHOOD [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019; Amended 6/5/2025]

- OCSBA supports additional new dollars to fund universal, public preschool for all four year old children.
- OCSBA supports mandatory kindergarten for all five-year-old children.

[MASB Resolution A 6.15 (c)]

EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019]

OCSBA supports evidence-based education policy that will maximize opportunities for the highest achievement of each student. [MASB Resolution G 11.01]

LAME DUCK [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019]

OCSBA supports lame duck parameters that will address introduction and accelerated passage of legislation after the November election.

LOCAL CONTROL [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019]

Support local control of community-governed public schools with elected school boards.

- Help staff identify potential mental health issues for students.
- Encourage MDE to develop a model policy for staff regarding identifying mental health issues and appropriate staff response.

[MASB Resolution A 10.10; A 10.55; A 12.70]

MENTAL HEALTH [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019; Amended 6/5/2025]

OCSBA supports increased mental health services and professionals in schools and providing, at a minimum, annual inflation adjusted state resources to allow schools to both educate and keep students and staff safe.

- Help staff identify potential mental health issues for students.
- Encourage MDE to develop a model policy for staff regarding identifying mental health issues and appropriate staff response.

[MASB Resolutions G 9.01; G 9.05; G 9.50]

SCHOOL AID [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019; Amended 6/5/2025]

- Specify that the School Aid Fund is only for Pre-K to 12th grade public education in Michigan's Constitution and oppose any attempts to create private school vouchers or tax credit programs. [MASB Resolutions A 10.25 (a) and A 10.05]
- Support additional funding for Special Education, At-Risk and ELL students. [MASB Resolutions A 10.25 (g) and (j); A 10.55]
- Protect the School Aid Fund and local revenues from state tax policy changes. [MASB Resolutions A 10.25 (c); A 10.55]
- OCSBA supports enacting the annual School Aid Budget no later than June 1, so that school districts have factual information to meet their constitutional/statutory requirement to approve a budget by June 30.

[MASB Resolution A 10.25 (h)]

SCHOOL FINANCE RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE (SFRC)

[OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019; Amended 9/11/2021; 3/3/2023; 6/5/2025]

OCSBA supports implementation of the recommendations of the SFRC. While implementing the SFRC recommendations, higher funded districts must be held harmless.

[MASB resolution G 11.01 and A-10.25 – 2021 amendment]

SCHOOL NUTRITION [OCSBA Adopted 3/3/2023; Amended 6/5/2025]

OCSBA supports codification of free universal meals.

SCHOOL SAFETY [OCSBA Adopted 3/3/2023]

OCSBA supports that there be adequate state resources to allow schools to both educate and keep students and staff safe.

SPECIAL EDUCATION [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019]

OCSBA supports full funding of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Although federal legislation initially promised to provide 40 percent of the excess cost to educate students with disabilities, the appropriations have fallen short, leaving states and local school districts to make up the difference. [MASB Resolution A 5.01; NSBA Advocacy: IDEA]

TEACHER SHORTAGES [OCSBA Adopted 9/11/2021; Amended 6/5/2025]

OCSBA supports statewide initiatives to address teacher shortages and retain teachers, while maintaining quality teacher preparation programs. Initiatives might include, but should not be limited to, incentives to enter and complete a teaching college program, incentives for teachers to remain in the classroom, and easing the process to obtain Michigan certification for teachers that are certified in other states. [MASB 2021-2022 Legislative Priority]

UNFUNDED MANDATES [OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019]

OCSBA Opposes any state or federal legislation that results in increased costs for school districts without full funding. OCSBA also encourages the Michigan Legislature to oppose any federal laws or programs that are not fully funded thus costing the state valuable resources. [MASB Resolution A 10.20]

WHEN ALIGNED WITH OCSBA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES, OCSBA ALSO SUPPORTS

[OCSBA Adopted 9/24/2019; Amended 6/5/2025]

- The National School Boards Association (NSBA) Legislative Agenda
- The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Legislative Agenda
- The Oakland County Superintendents Association (OCSA) Legislative Agenda
- The Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) Legislative Agenda

LINKS: MASB Resolutions: <https://www.masb.org/resolutions.aspx>

NSBA Advocacy: <https://www.nsba.org/Advocacy>

COSSBA Advocacy: <https://www.cossba.org/advocacy>