OLD MISSION PENINSULA SCHOOL
Regular Board Meeting – Minutes
Friday, August 21, 2026 8:30am

Meeting held at:
Old Mission Peninsula School
2699 Island View Road, Traverse City, MI 49686

1. CALL TO ORDER

LaFond called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was held.
The following board members were present: Shaina LaFond (President), Susie Shipman (left at 10:15), Chris Johnston (left at 10:00 a.m.), Amanda Igra, Todd Sanders, Ben Walmer and Emma Gomez.

Non-Board Members Attending:
Renee Kolle, OMPS Superintendent
Kaitlyn Bailey, OMPS Principal
Courtenay Kierczynski, OMPS Preschool Director
Matt Missias, GVSU
Kelley Davis, Veritas Accounting (remotely)
Chris Radu, OMPEF President
Amy Couturier, OMPEF Secretary

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Igra and supported by Sanders to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – None

5. MEETING MINUTES

a. June 19, 2026 Annual Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Sanders and supported by Johnston to approve the June 19, 2026 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. OMPEF UPDATE

- President Chris Radu shared that OMPEF is now coordinating with the PTO on a fundraising program eg. combining advertising assets. Fundraising dinner is scheduled for November 9, tickets are $250, and there are sponsorship opportunities for businesses to buy group tickets. The School Defender fundraiser has raised $32,000. Quotes for various enhanced security measures have been procured, and installation of various measures will be taking place as can be scheduled with venders. Quotes exceed the fundraised amount, but OMPEF will invest to carry out the plan.
- In addition, Hallmark Construction will be working on widening the boiler room door starting next week, so that should the need arise to replace the boiler, it can happen quickly.
- Radu and Couturier shared that OMPEF is working on marketing strategies and looking at options to differentiate OMPS that are meaningful for parents. There was discussion about collaboration and coordination with school leadership and the school board marketing committee.

7. OMPS PTO UPDATE – Provided by Bailey

- The last PTO board meeting revolved around discussion of joint fundraising efforts with OMPEF to assist with avoiding duplication of donation requests to business.
- PTO is providing teachers with $300 per month to support the purchase of supplies.
- Support levels for class field trips were established.

8. GVSU REPORT (Missias)

- Accountability and Compliance:
    - Master calendar for reporting requirements is available in Epicenter

- School budget updates:
    - 2026-27 School Aid budget signed into law on July 21 with no line-item vetoes. The per pupil amount is $10,300.
    - The budget included the introduction of a weighted funding formula, moving some dollars out of categorical buckets.
    - GVSU generally supports weighted funding, as it will allow schools to direct more dollars to students who need additional support. With that in mind, GVSU intends to draw the 3% authorizer fee from only the base foundation allowance amount, maintaining GVSU's practice of reinvesting funds into schools.
- Legislation in the works:
    - Science of Reading was signed into the budget. Includes required literacy training for admins and reading interventionists. There is a five-year implementation period.
    - There are several bills in the legislature regarding education. GVSU will continue to provide updates.
- Trainings
    - GVSU and MDE are partnering for a training in background checks.
    - Virtual trainings for the board are now available on the website – includes AI and Indicators of Distress. Reminder – trainings count towards the annual GVSU academic grant.
- Leadership Training and Support
    - Fall Learning Walks are scheduled for November, offering opportunities for leadership to visit peer schools that showcase strong instruction, culture, and leadership practices.
    - The Winter Leadership Forums are scheduled for March 11 (Grand Rapids) and March 16 (Detroit).
- Board Events
    - Leadership Retreat for board presidents is scheduled for November 5 in Detroit.
    - School Celebration and Social scheduled for May 3/May 4. The event celebrates the end of the year with board members, school leaders, teachers, and other GVSU charter school stakeholders.
- K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success
    - Charter Through College Programs seeks to provide K-12 and college students with the resources and experiences needed to be successful in higher education and beyond
    - 1300 students graduated from GVSU charter public schools and 500 are accepted to attend GVSU

9. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

    a. Leadership Report

- Bailey: Wanted to share two shout-outs: Becky Seah did all of the legwork to plan and execute the Friday Night Live event, and Dave Rybka has been working all summer on back-to-school building preparation.
- Staffing Update: All positions have been filled, with 6 new hires.
- Kolle: Shared a message from former teacher Courtney Morgan who expressed gratitude for her past experience working at OMPS. Kolle is excited for the good things to come this school year. Kolle and two OMPS teachers attended a Ron Clark Academy training course in Atlanta, supported by GVSU and Huntington Bank.
- Kolle will be working on an implementation plan for bringing the House System to OMPS, starting with a softer launch in 2026-2027, and she is working on an ask for five-years of support so that the implementation is sustainable.
- Kierczynski: continuing to work on filling remaining preschool spaces and she is excited to welcome new preschool teacher Margo Hoagg to the OMPS crew.

10. BUSINESS

    a. Quarterly Financial Report – 4thQ 2025-2026 School Year

Davis reported:

- Overall, the year ended better than expected but will be close to zero. There are a few changes expected that will adjust final balances.
- Food service ticked up a little higher at year end.
- State budget approved at expected per pupil amount. Weighted funding is not expected to have a significant impact on the OMPS budget.

Proposed Action Item: Approve Quarterly Financial Report – 4thQ 2025-2026 School Year

Motion made by Shipman and supported by Walmer to approve the Quarterly Financial Report – 4thQ 2025-2026 School Year as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. OMPS 2026-2027 Student Handbook

LaFond noted that a few corrections were needed and Bailey provided a corrected copy to the board.

Proposed Action Item: Approve OMPS 2026-2027 Student Handbook

Motion made by Sanders and supported by Walmer to approve the corrected OMPS 2026-2027 Student Handbook. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. OMPS 2026-2027 Preschool Handbook

LaFond noted that a few corrections were needed and Bailey provided a corrected copy to the board.

Proposed Action Item: Approve OMPS 2026-2027 Preschool Handbook

Motion made by Sanders and supported by Gomez to approve the corrected 2026-2027 Preschool Handbook. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. Committee Reports

Academic Committee: Academic committee met with Kolle and some other teachers for a preview of the academic year.

Marketing Committee: Marketing committee to meet next week.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – None

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Sanders and supported by Walmer. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.



Board Secretary