

M I N U T E S
Mason Consolidated Schools
Meeting of the Board of Education

Approved 2/4/26
January 7, 2026

Regular/Organizational Meeting

On January 7, 2026, the Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education held a meeting in the Mason Senior High School Library. President Otting called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: England, Fowler (arrived 6:04 p.m.) Grodi, Nehrig, Otting, and Waller

Board Members Absent:

Also Present: Dyer, Rymanowicz, Hammond, Bates, Tuller, and Wright

Pledge of Allegiance

-Led by CES Student Council Members, Avelynn Cowdrey and Penelope Pattern.

Election of Board Officers

Nomination for PRESIDENT

Nomination by England to appoint Otting

Roll call:

Waller: Yes

Fowler: Absent

Otting: Abstain

England: Yes

Grodi: Absent

Nehrig: Yes

Motion carried: 3-0

-Nomination for VICE-PRESIDENT

- Nomination by Nehrig to appoint Waller

Roll call:

Waller: Abstain

Fowler: Absent

Otting: Yes

England: Yes

Grodi: Absent

Nehrig: Yes

Motion Carried 3-0

-Nomination for TREASURER

Nomination by England to appoint Fowler

Roll call:

Waller: Yes

Fowler: Absent

Otting: Yes
England: Yes
Grodi: Absent
Nehrig: Yes
Motion carried: 4-0

-Nomination for **SECRETARY**

- Nomination by Nehrig to appoint England

Roll call:

Waller: Yes
Fowler: Absent
Otting: Yes
England: Abstain
Grodi: Absent
Nehrig: Yes
Motion carried: 3-0

Review/Approval of Agenda

Remove Student Accolades from Recognition

-Motion by England to approve the revised agenda, supported by Waller

Motion carried 5-0

Reading of the School Board Member Code of Ethics

President Otting read Policy 2302 Board Code of Ethics as a reminder to members about their commitment.

Discussion

Assignment of Members to Committees

- Monroe County School Board Association/Representative to the ISD: Otting
- Michigan Association of School Boards Delegation Representative: Otting
- Reproductive Health/HIV: England/Otting
- Legislative Relations Network Representative: Waller
- Policy Committee: (Committee of the Whole)
- Interview Committee: Board members will be called as needed on a rotation basis. If unavailable or unreachable, the next available member will be called.
- Local municipalities representatives

Access Points RFP

-Superintendent Tuller shared that the district has posted an RFP to update wireless across the district.

Student Council Report

Molly Sepulveda shared updates on activities that the high school student council has planned or engaged in over the past month.

Special Presentations

Board Member Appreciation

-Board members were recognized for their service and leadership.

Staff Member of the Month-Sponsored by Leski Wittman Insurance Agency

-Carrie Esford, Auxilio Custodian, was nominated by staff and honored by Leski Wittman Insurance Agency as the MCS, December Staff Member of the Month.

Request for overnight trip-Journalism Educators Association Spring National High School Students Convention April 16-19, in Minneapolis.

-Alison Drougel, English Educator and Media Club advisor, shared information regarding an opportunity for her students to attend a convention.

Recognition of Student Accolades

-Dr. Mahailey Albain presented high school students Grace Albright and Zayla Brown Certificates of Merit from Michigan Technological University's Society of Women Engineers. Both girls were given this distinguished award for their excellence in STEM, outstanding performance in math and science, and active school involvement.

Superintendent's Report

Celebrations – We continue to see more and more kiddos engaged in extracurricular activities in all buildings as you heard even tonight about the media club. I applaud our staff for stepping up for added programs each and every year.

Community Outreach: Factual information is being provided by the MCISD toward the end of this month describing the upcoming Monroe County Technology Millage May 5

Operations: 31aa Funding: The District declined these funds, as did a majority of districts across the county and state of Michigan, to protect our district's legal integrity, safeguard our employees' rights, and preserve local control over how we approach school safety. This will not change our commitment to student safety or mental health as we will continue to invest in prevention, counseling, and safety initiatives using local and alternative funding sources, ensuring that every student learns in a safe, supportive environment.

Filter First filters and fountains have all been installed, and all required signage has been put up in the district. This includes labeling all water sources as consumable, filtered or non-consumable (unfiltered). This does not mean that our water is bad, just a requirement as part of this grant to ensure folks are drinking the safest water possible.

Upcoming Meetings:

The BOE was reminded of the upcoming meetings.

Administrative Reports

January written administrative reports can be found on the District's website under the District Tab for the Board of Education.

Monthly Items

Check Register-Presented by President Otting, no questions
Financial Reports-Presented by President Otting, no questions

Public Comment

Public comment offered; no action taken

Consent Agenda.

Approve the December 3, 2025 Board of Education Minutes
Approve the December 3, 2025 Board of Education Closed Session Minutes
Approve the December 2025 Check Register
Approve the designation of Calkins Hehl Rafko, CPAs, PLLC as auditors for 2026
Approve Board Member Committee Representation
Approve the designation of 2026 Board Meeting Dates
Approve retaining of Thrun Law Firm
Approve the designation of the principal office of the District as 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, Michigan 48133
Approve First Merchants, Flagstar, and Huntington as district depositories.
-Motion by Waller, supported by England to approve all items on the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0

Action

Approve high school media students and approved staff to attend the Journalism Educators Association Spring National High School Students Convention April 16-19, in Minneapolis.

-Motion by Waller, Supported by Fowler
-Motion carried 5-0

Approve Mary Prickett for the position of General Education Route Driver at \$19.25 per hour contingent upon successful completion and receipt of all required licensing, certifications, background checks, and any other qualifications mandated by state law and district policy. Final employment approval will be granted once all requirements have been fully met and verified.

-Motion by England, Supported by Nehrig
-Motion carried 5-0

Approve Andrew Worrell for the position of General Education Route Driver at \$19.25 per hour contingent upon the successful completion and receipt of all required licensing, certifications, background checks, and any other qualifications mandated by state law and district policy. Final employment approval will be granted once all requirements have been fully met and verified.

-Motion by Fowler, Supported by Waller
-Motion carried 5-0

Approve Kristen Russeau for the position of Cook#2/Cashier at \$15.08 per hour.

-Motion by England, Supported by Waller
-Motion carried 5-0

Approve Heather Johnson for the position of CES IF Aide at \$14.85 per hour.

-Motion by Nehrig, Supported by England
-Motion carried 5-0

Approve Verkata/KWS for door access systems

-Motion by England, Supported by Fowler

-Motion carried 5-0

Approve Dominick Chrysochoos and Hannah Sugg to attend the Michigan Science Teachers Association Conference, March 6-7, 2026, in Kalamazoo, MI.

-Motion by England, Supported by Waller

-Motion carried 5-0

Celebrations

No comments from Board members

Closed Session: Section 8 (c): For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with negotiations of a collective bargaining agreement if either party requests a closed hearing.

Motion to enter Closed Session by England, Supported by Nehrig

Roll Call:

Waller-Yes

Fowler-Yes

Otting-Yes

England-Yes

Grodi-Absent

Nehrig-Yes

Motion Carried 5-0 Time Entered: 7:02 pm Time Exited Closed Session: 7:18 pm

Student Discipline Hearing

The Board heard discipline history regarding a HS student whose identity is known to the Board. The Board reviewed the information and considered the 7 Factors before suspending or expelling a student.

Student Discipline Resolution

Following an open session hearing, the Board voted 5-0 to permanently expel a student whose identity is known to the Board of Education consistent with the adopted resolution.

Motion to adopt Student Discipline Resolution by England, Supported by Fowler

Roll Call:

Waller-Yes

Fowler-Yes

Otting-Yes

England-Yes

Grodi-Absent

Nehrig-Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Adjournment

At 7:43 p.m., it was moved by England, supported by Waller to adjourn the January 7, 2026, regular meeting of the Board of Education.

-Motion carried 5-0

Rachel England, Board Secretary