

**Mendon Community Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2026**

I. General Business

A. Call to Order

Board President, Regina Schinker called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Middle/High School library.

B. Roll Call

- Members Present: Roger Cupp, Jesse King, Jeremy Palmer, Regina Schinker, DyAnn Steinberger, and Norma Switalski
- Members Absent: Sonya Moyle
- Administrative Staff Present: Leasa Griffith-Mathews, Bobby Kretschman, Glen Samson, Angie Spence, and Lisa VanZoest
- Others Present: Rowan Allen, Travis Allen, Becky Bakeman, McKenzie Bakeman, Jill Batten, Amy Buchanan, Laney Buchanan, Lucas Dudley, Alicia Finnerman, Ashlee Gorham, Matt Gorham, Owen Gorham, Ryder Gorham, Addyson Lux, Travis Lux, Whitney Lux, Madelyn McLove, Matthew McLove, Tinesha McLove, Chris Nightingale, Cienna Nightingale, Renee Nightingale, Jady Samson, Patty Samson, Gracie Schultz, Emma Shimer, Susie Shimer, Debbie Zinsmaster, Josh Zinsmaster, and Taylor Zinsmaster

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Approval of Minutes, Bills, Receipts, and Financial Report

Motion was made by King and supported by Palmer to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2026, as well as the Bills, Receipts and Financial Report as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays, 1 absent

II. Communication

A. Oral - Gold Star Students

Kretschman introduced each Gold Star member of the Class of 2026 and had them introduce themselves, who they brought with them to the meeting, talk about their future plans, and tell about a teacher/coach/adult who has had a major impact on their lives.

- A. Rowan Allen - dad, Travis Allen. Plans to attend Campbellsville University to study sports medicine and play softball. Rowan thanked Ms. Vedmore for being a positive influence in her life.
- B. McKenzie Bakeman - mom, Becky Bakeman. Plans to attend MSU and study Biology. Thanked Ms. Vedmore.
- C. Laney Buchanan - mom, Amy Buchanan. Plans to attend GOCC to study Business. Thanked Ms. Vedmore.
- D. Lucas Dudley - Jill Batten. Plans to complete his EMC degree at GOCC before transferring to WMU to become a college professor. He thanked Mrs. Batten and Mrs. Shimer.
- E. Owen Gorham - parents, Matt and Ashlee Gorham. Plans to attend KVCC before transferring to WMU to become an elementary teacher. He

thanked Mr. Kretschman.

- F. Ryder Gorham - parents, Matt and Ashlee Gorham. Plans to attend KVCC before transferring to WMU to become an elementary teacher. He thanked Mr. Malmberg and Mr. Kretschman.
- G. Addyson Lux - dad, Travis and sister, Whitney. Plans to attend MSU to study Animal Science to become an Equine Vet. She thanked Mrs Vedmore and Mrs. Jergens.
- H. Madelyn McLove - parents Matthew and Tinesha McLove. Has enlisted in the Air Force. She thanked Mr. Kuiper.
- I. Cienna Nightingale - parents, Chris and Renee Nightingale. Plans to attend Kalamazoo College to study Business and Economics. She thanked Mrs. Vedmore and Miss G.
- J. Jadyn Samson - mom, Patty Samson. Plans to attend Huntington College and play volleyball and softball. She thanked her dad, Glen Samson and Mrs. Jergens.
- K. Gracie Schultz - sister, Alicia Finnerman. Plans to attend KVCC to study sports medicine as well as to play volleyball and basketball. She thanked Jenna Griffith.
- L. Emma Shimer - mom, Susie Shimer. Plans to complete her EMC program at GOCC before transferring to WMU to become a zookeeper. She thanked Mr. Wickey and Mrs. Vedmore.
- M. Taylor Zinsmaster - parents, Debbie Zinsmaster and Josh Zinsmaster. Plans to attend WMU to become a vet for large animals. She thanked Mrs. Vedmore for being an influence in her life.

Board President Schinker thanked all of the Gold Star recipients on behalf of the Board and thanked them for their hard work, dedication, and for being a Hornet! Refreshments were served with the meeting resuming in approximately 10 minutes.

Meeting resumed at 5:55pm

B. Written

- a. Griffith-Mathews read a thank-you email from Trudy Camp, Special Olympics.

C. Board Communication

I. Consent Agenda

Approval of the following coaches for the 2026-2027 school year:

Football:

- Varsity:** Robert Kretschman - Head Coach
Glen Samson - Assistant Coach
Lincoln Klinger and Mitch Ulrich - Volunteer Assistants - All Levels
- JV:** Zach Higgins - Head Coach
Braxton Samson - Assistant Coach
- Jr High:** Brandon Wenzel - Head Coach
Chris Nightingale - Assistant Coach

Fall Cheer:

Varsity: Kylie Tyler - Head Coach
Becky Bakeman - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels
JV: Karlie Batten - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels
Jr. High: Kylie Tyler - Head Coach
Kara Persons - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels

Volleyball:

Varsity: Aubrey Wiswell - Co-Head Coach
Arika Ware - Co-Head Coach
Jr High: Wendy Rasmussen - 8th grade Head Coach

Basketball:

Boys

Varsity: Matt Gorham - Head Coach
JV: Carson Cupp - Head Coach
Gabe Haigh - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels
Jr. High: Drew Cupp Head Coach 7th and 8th grade

Girls

Varsity: Glen Samson - Co-Head Coach
Zach Higgins - Co-Head Coach
JV: Chris Nightingale - Head Coach
Jr. High: Brandon Wenzel Head Coach 7th grade
Vic Wilczynski Head Coach 8th grade

Wrestling:

Varsity: Lincoln Crotser - Head Coach

Baseball:

Varsity: Braxton Samson - Co-Head Coach
Michael Kettwich - Co-Head Coach
Glen Samson - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels

Softball:

Varsity: Steve Butler - Co-Head Coach
Mike Smith - Co-Head Coach
Glen Samson - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels
JV: Steve Schabes - Head Coach
Kiana Gray and Lauren Schabes - Volunteer Assistant - All levels
Jr. High: Chris Nightingale - Head Coach

Track:

Boys

Varsity: Vic Wilczynski - Head Coach
Matt Gorham - Volunteer Assistant - All Levels
Jr. High: Lincoln Crotser - Head Coach

Girls

Varsity: Brandon Wenzel - Head Coach
Matt Gorham - Volunteer Assistant All Levels
Jr. High: Zach Higgins - Head Coach

Boys Golf

Varsity: Micky Malmborg - Head Coach

Motion was made by Cupp and supported by Steinberger to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

II. Board Reports

A. Athletic Report

Samson reviewed spring sports records and numbers of participants. He also announced that five relay teams have qualified for the state track meet.

B. Elementary Report

Spence reported that the elementary student count remained the same as in April (210). She thanked the Foundation for their help in funding elementary field trips. She went on to thank Mrs. Snyder for taking students to the Young Authors opportunity at the ISD; Mrs. Batten for her work on the Bike and Roll; and Mr. Adkins for all of his work in helping our elementary students discover the joy of music and the wonderful spring music program. Spence then discussed the Family Involvement Team Meeting Technology Notes.

C. Middle/High School Report

Griffith-Mathews gave the report for Kretschman. She reported that the student count at the MS/HS is down 2 students from March (232). She thanked the community members who volunteered their time to help with Senior Exit Interviews, Susie Shimer for her hard work making the prom so successful, and Mr. Adkins for a great four years. She went on to say that Kretschman wanted to thank Bonnie Outman for all of her hard work with the Foundation and the scholarships as well as Taylor Griffith for putting together all of the awards for our students.

D. Superintendent Report

a. Legislative Update

Griffith-Mathews indicated it seems likely that we can anticipate a \$250 per pupil increase in the foundation allowance for the next school year. She said that the House, Senate, and Governor are truly hopeful for an "on-time" budget.

V. Discussion Items

A. Review of the 2026-2027 ISD General Fund Budget

Griffith-Mathews reviewed the ISD budget.

B. NEOLA Volume 40 No. 2 Policy Update - Second Reading

There were no questions on the update.

VI. Action Items

A. Recommend Support of the 2026-2027 ISD General Fund Budget

Motion was made by King and supported by Switalski to support the 2026-2027 ISD General Fund Budget as presented.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; 1 abstention (Steinberger)

B. Recommend Approval of NEOLA Update Volume 40 No. 2

Motion was made by Steinberger and supported by Cupp to approve the Neola Update Volume 40 No. 2 as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

C. Recommend Approval of the MHSAA Resolution for the 2026-2027 School Year

Motion was made by Cupp and supported by Palmer to approve the MHSAA Resolution for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

D. Recommend Approval of the use of DPPD as Instructional Time for the 2025-2026 School Year and the DPPD Committee

Motion was made by Cupp and supported by Palmer to approve the use of DPPD as Instructional Time for the 2025-2026 school year and the DPPD committee to be the same as approved in April.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

E. Recommend Approval of Triangle App #21 for \$26,805.28

Motion was made by Cupp and supported by Palmer to approve the Triangle App #21 for \$26,805.28.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

VII. Good of the Order

Griffith-Mathews reminded the Board of the schedule of events for graduation. Steinberger informed the Board that she would be taking a new position at the ISD which would require her to attend the ISD Board meetings which are currently scheduled for the same day as the Mendon Board meetings. It was determined that the Mendon meetings could be changed to a different Monday of the month. Griffith-Mathews also informed the Board that petitions for Board seats would need to be submitted to the County Clerk by July 21st.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 pm by Palmer, and supported by Switalski.

Motion Carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

Regina Schinker
Board President

Leasa Griffith-Mathews
Superintendent