

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Orion Community Schools, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, was called to order on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: D. Bresett, J. Faber, S. Flaherty, B. McQuiston, H. Sinawi, J. Singer, S. Taylor

Administrators Present: H. Mercer, A. Curtis, D. Towleron, A. Weldon

Others Present: J. Olko, M. Snyder, W. Goodman, T. VanDeGriend, M. Anker, S. Leggett, S. Wendland, A. Orłowski, D. Cooper, D. Mattar, G. Whiteley, L. Logsdon, L. Hake, P. Cassise, S. Iwanski, K. Dysarz, K. Kast, T. Melnicoff

#### CLOSED SESSION

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Taylor, to move into closed session to discuss negotiations and attorney-client privileged communication. Roll call: Ayes-7 (Bresett, Faber, Flaherty, McQuiston, Sinawi, Singer, Taylor); Nays-0; Motion carried

The Board moved into closed session at 5:31 p.m. No action was taken in closed session.

President Bresett directed the Board out of closed session at 6:32 p.m.

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Flaherty, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes - all; Motion carried

#### NEW CERTIFIED STAFF AND ADMINISTRATIVE CANDIDATE INTRODUCTIONS

Adam Weldon introduced Sara Wendland, Alisa Orłowski, Dan Mattar, Gabe Whiteley and Dakotah Cooper in their new administrative roles. New hires Kelli Custer and Joy Mullins were unable to attend the meeting.

#### LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS AND COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Mark Snyder shared learning highlights from various programs throughout the district.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION RELATED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Linda Hake, a district parent, passed on the opportunity to speak.

Paul Cassise, a community resident, addressed the Board regarding two FOIA appeals filed with the District.

#### STRATEGIC AREA DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### Governance

*Superintendent's Update:* Heidi Mercer discussed the following:

- **Legislative Update:** There is proposed legislation regarding universal free school meals, changes to the Michigan Merit exam, expanding literacy training requirements for teachers, limiting school millage elections, water safety curriculum, youth digital safety, sextortion community education and student discipline reform. Birit McQuiston discussed a K-12 budget advocacy resolution that she proposed the Board consider adopting in May.
- **2018 Bond Update:** No report
- **Future Bond Planning:** Based on feedback from the recent community survey, the November 2026 bond proposal will be reduced to \$115 million and less than six years and will focus on prioritized needs. Projects include safety and security, technology, CERC reconstruction, scaled-back STEM addition, Waldon locker rooms, special education improvements, LOHS bathrooms, mechanical updates, paving and buses. The Board directed administration to continue planning for this proposal.

*Oakland Schools Board of Education Election - First Reading:* There is one six-year term open on the Oakland Schools Board of Education. The election will be held on Monday, June 1, 2026. The Board will discuss further once all candidates have filed and designate a voting delegate and select a candidate.

*FOIA Appeals:* Board members reviewed and discussed information regarding two fee appeals from Paul Cassise for FOIA estimates.

##### Student Achievement

*Assistant Superintendent Update:* Drew Towleron reported on the Health Services Advisory Board Meeting, HOSA competition, state testing, and professional development. He also discussed:

- **Social Studies Curriculum Request - Second Reading:** The Board reviewed the recommendation and projected costs. No additional questions were raised

*Curriculum Committee Report:* Danielle reported the committee met April 10 to discuss student handbook updates, learning support staff programming and advanced placement data.

**Human Resources**

*Assistant Superintendent Update:* Adam Weldon discussed hiring for next year. He also discussed:

- Certified New Hire Recommendations: A recommendation to hire two certified teachers was reviewed.
- Administrative Recommendations: A recommendation to hire five administrators was reviewed.
- Special Education Administration: The Board reviewed information regarding the restructuring of the Department of Student Services and the promotion of Dr. Sarah Leggett to Assistant Superintendent of Educational Access. The Board requested to formally take action on this staffing change.

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Taylor, to amend the agenda to include the approval of Dr. Sara Leggett as the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services. Ayes - all; Motion carried

**Finance and Operations**

*Assistant Superintendent Update:* Andrea Curtis discussed the Governor's proposed budget with a \$250 per pupil increase. \$1.9 billion is redirected to higher education and community colleges. She highlighted key items from the Senate and House budget proposals. She reported that an emergency purchase of power supplies was made for the high school without prior board approval. She also discussed:

- Paint Creek Playground and LOHS Roofing Bid Awards: The Board reviewed a recommendation for playground equipment totaling \$410,929 and roofing work totaling \$671,202.
- Oakland Schools 2026-27 Proposed Budget - First Reading: The Board reviewed the proposed general fund revenue and expenditure summaries. The Board will take action on this item on May 12.

*March Monthly Financial Report:* General fund/cash balance reports were reviewed.

*Finance Committee Report:* Jake Singer reported the committee met April 13 to discuss debt structure for the 2018 Series 3B sale and the draft budget forecast.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Faber, to approve the consent agenda items as presented:

- a. Approve Payment of the March Bills in the Amount of \$8,958,113.74
- b. Approve Minutes from the March 25 Regular, March 20 Curriculum, April 6 Special, April 10 Curriculum and April 13, 2026 Finance Committee Meetings

Ayes - all; Motion carried

Moved by Taylor, seconded by Sinawi, to approve the new instructional resources request for Social Studies for Fall 2026 implementation, as presented. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Flaherty, seconded by McQuiston, to approve two certified new hires as presented. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by Faber, to approve appointing Alisa Orłowski as the Elementary Curriculum Supervisor, as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by Taylor, to approve appointing Sara Wendland as the Secondary Curriculum Supervisor, as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Singer, seconded by Sinawi, to authorize administration to finalize and execute a contract for Paint Creek Elementary playground equipment to Play Environments Design LLC in the amount of \$345,338 with allowance and contingencies of \$65,591, for a total recommendation of \$410,929. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Taylor, seconded by McQuiston, to authorize administration to finalize and execute a contract for LOHS roofing improvements to Royalty Roofing USA LLC in the amount of \$558,110 with allowance and contingencies of \$113,092, for a total recommendation of \$671,202. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Taylor, seconded by Singer, to deny the FOIA appeal submitted on April 16, 2026 challenging the District's fulfillment window, untimely response, and labor estimates for a FOIA request submitted on March 12, 2026. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by Faber, to deny the FOIA appeal submitted on April 16, 2026 challenging the District's untimely response and labor estimates for a FOIA request submitted on March 6, 2026. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by Flaherty, to approve appointing Daniel Mattar as the Scripps Middle School Assistant Principal, as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Sinawi, seconded by Faber, to approve appointing Gabriel Whiteley as the Waldon Middle School Assistant Principal, as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by Faber, seconded by Taylor, to approve appointing Dakotah Cooper as the Orion Oaks Elementary School Principal, as recommended. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

Moved by McQuiston, seconded by Taylor, to approve Dr. Sara Leggett as the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Access, effective July 1, 2026. Ayes - all; Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS/TOPICS

Linda Hake, a district parent, addressed the Board regarding concerns she has with the PHASES program.

Paul Cassise, a community resident, was not present when called to speak.

RECAP/NEXT STEPS: Nothing noted

CLOSING COMMENTS: Administrator and Board member items were provided for and so noted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

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Board Secretary