

**NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR SESSION**

**Performing Arts Center**

**1112 E. Clay Street**

**P.O. Box 280**

**New Buffalo, MI 49117**

**March 23, 2026**

**6:00 PM**

New Buffalo Area Schools will be a beacon of academic excellence and individualized learning, where every student thrives in a supportive and inclusive environment. We will lead in preparing students for future success, driven by strong community partnerships and a commitment to growth and sustainability.

1. Call to Order by President Denise Churchill - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
2. Roll Call: Denise Churchill, Stephen Donnelly, John Haskins, Jennifer Summers, Vanessa Thun, Greg Vosberg, Lisa Werner  
Absent: Vosberg  
Board Member Lisa Werner participated in the meeting remotely. In accordance with board policy and applicable Michigan requirements, remote participation did not permit the member to vote on board actions.  
Also in Attendance: Mr. Adam Bowen, Superintendent of Schools  
Devinnie Wysocki, Adm. Asst. to Superintendent
3. Expressions from the Public: None
4. Items too Late for Printed Agenda: None
5. Adoption of the Agenda  
Motion: Thun  
Second: Summers  
All ayes, motion carried.
6. Adoption of the Consent Agenda: Items on the Consent Agenda are to be voted on as a single item by the Board. Board Members may remove items from the Consent Agenda prior to vote. Discussion of the items that have been removed can take place at the appropriate time listed on the Agenda.
  - A. Minutes:  
Meeting Minutes: 02/09/2026  
Meeting Minutes: 02/23/2026  
Meeting Minutes: 03/09/2026
  - B. General/Associated Funds - Bills Payable:
    1. General Fund: \$477,630.70
    2. Payroll: \$871,733.44
    3. Food Service: \$40,974.67
    4. Scholarship Fund: \$30,152.66
    5. Public Improvement: \$32,442.97
  - C. Financials  
Motion: Thun  
Second: Donnelly  
All ayes, motion carried.

7. Communications

A. Class President: August Johnson 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Reported on winter sports ending and spring sports beginning. Wizard of Oz was entertaining and a good production. 5K Event will be a “Carnival” theme. Friday, March 27 high school will be experiencing the annual “Fun Surprise” day and kids are anticipating a good time. Thank you to the Board for your continued support.

8. Committee Report(s): None

9. Presentation: Cabinet Members - District Scorecard Update

Administrative reports were provided highlighting key district initiatives and progress across multiple areas. Updates included a continued focus on strengthening academics through professional development, grade-level collaboration, and the use of instructional frameworks to support student writing across all content areas. Staff emphasized the importance of utilizing formative and summative data to guide instructional decisions, along with expanding the use of technology, including a pilot of iPads at the high school and exploration of appropriate artificial intelligence tools for staff and students. Reports also reflected efforts to enhance staff culture, improve student attendance, and increase communication and engagement with families and the broader community. Building leaders shared continued work to strengthen school-community connections, increase student participation in extracurricular activities, and create meaningful opportunities for student involvement in fine arts, leadership, and career-focused experiences.

10. The Superintendent and Middle School Principal recommend the Board approve the appointment of Lakeicha Hayes as Middle School Science Teacher.

Motion: Summers  
Second: L Donnelly  
All ayes, motion carried.

11. The Superintendent and High School Principal recommend the Board approve the appointment of Angela Smith as High School Science Teacher.

Motion: Thun  
Second: Summers  
All ayes, motion carried.

12. The Superintendent and Daycare Director recommend approval of the revised 2026 Daycare Handbook, as presented.

Motion: Summers  
Second: Donnelly  
All ayes, motion carried.

13. The Superintendent and High School Principal recommend the Board approve the following overnight trips: (Trip itinerary attached)

**2026 Robotics Competition:** April 9, 2026, through April 11, 2026.  
**2026 HS Quiz Bowl Competitions:** April 17, 2026, through April 18, 2026,  
May 9, 2026, through May 10, 2026, and June 5, 2026, through June 7, 2026.  
**2026 5th Grade Camp:** May 28, 2026, through May 29, 2026.  
**2027 Band Disney Trip:** November 21, 2027, through November 27, 2027.  
**2027 World Travel Club/Japan:** March 25, 2027, through April 3, 2027.  
**2026 Envirothon State Competition:** May 12, 2026, through May 14, 2026.

Motion: Haskins  
Second: Thun  
All ayes, motion carried.

14. The Superintendent and Director of Finance recommend the Board approve the resolution, authorizing and approving the execution and delivery of a Master Lease Purchase Agreement with Apple, Inc., per the attached resolution.

Motion: Haskins  
Second: Donnelly  
All ayes, motion carried.

15. The Superintendent and Director of Finance recommend the Board approve the Chikaming Township Agreement for Collection of Summer School Property Taxes, per the attached.

Motion: Donnelly  
Second: Haskins  
All ayes, motion carried.

16. Remarks from the Superintendent

- The Wizard of OZ play was this weekend and it was a wonderful performance put on by our students. Thank you Chris B., Dwayne and Jonny for all of their hard work.
- K-2 spring musical performance will be this Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the PAC.
- Some of our spring sports competitions have already started with more starting this week.
- We have our opening ceremonies for baseball and softball this Thursday starting at 4:00 PM. Vanessa has been planning so I'll let her share the details.
- Spring break is March 30 - April 6.
- State testing begins when students return to school after spring break until the month of May

17. Remarks from the Board President and Members

President Churchill commented on *The Wizard of Oz*, noting that it was a fantastic production. She shared that the entire team did an outstanding job and truly "knocked it out of the park." She also expressed how impressive it is that students are leading the production, adding that it was exceptionally well done.

18. Discussion Item(s)

A. The Superintendent approved the following hires:

Middle School Track Coach: Lisa Knoll, Vance Price, and Leanne Lamport.

B. Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Kim Magro, effective June 10, 2026.

19. Other Business

20. Adjournment

Motion: Thun  
Second: Donnelly  
All ayes, motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Vanessa Thun, Secretary  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS