

Board of Education Tom Buffett President, 2025-2026	Okemos Public Schools board@okemosk12.net http://okemosk12.net	4406 Okemos Road Okemos, Michigan 48864 Phone: 517-706-5010
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This agenda is for general informational purposes only. Based on board policy, the board of education may revise this agenda and may take up other issues at the meeting.

6:30 PM

**MEETING AGENDA
Monday, December 8, 2025**

Community Conference Rm

CALL TO ORDER

Tom Buffett, Jason Burns, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Andrew Phelps, Leeni Shrestha and Jillian Winn

WELCOME AND MEETING FORMAT (2 Min)

Welcome to this regular meeting of the Okemos Board of Education held in public for the purpose of conducting the business of the school board.

There are two opportunities for public comment: Citizens who wish to address agenda or non-agenda items will have an opportunity at the beginning of the meeting, as well as near the end of the meeting. In-person individuals who wish to address the board must complete a blue form, located with the agendas near the room entrance, and present it to the board’s secretary prior to the start of the agenda item. Virtual participants must submit their name and address in a message through the chat box located in Zoom’s meeting controls prior to the start of the agenda item.

At the appropriate point in the agenda, the board president will call upon individuals who have submitted a blue card or chat message and that individual’s microphone will be un-muted for their comments.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION — Attorney-Client Privilege and Contract Negotiations

Pursuant to Sections 8(h) and 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act, the board of education may adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing attorney-client privileged communications and also for contract negotiations.

That the board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Sections 8(h) and 8 (a) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations (Roll Call).

RECONVENE

Tom Buffett, Jason Burns, Katie Cavanaugh, Shulawn Doxie, Andrew Phelps, Leeni Shrestha and Jillian Winn.

Mission Minute/Around The Pack (5 Min)

An opportunity for individual board members to highlight events, activities, and other items of interest.

RECOGNITION: New Hires (5 Min)

Human Resources Director Jennifer Emmendorfer will introduce new teacher hires for Okemos Public Schools.

DISCUSSION MOVED FORWARD - Planning for the Organizational Meeting (20 Min)

The board will discuss updates to board operating procedures adopted a year ago, as well as forecast the organizational meeting to be held the first meeting in January.

CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

At this time in the meeting, citizens have an opportunity to address the board regarding items of interest that that may or may not be part of the evening’s agenda. Citizens are required to limit comments to three minutes, except when this requirement is waived by the board president during the meeting. A designated timekeeper will communicate to the individual who is addressing the board at three minutes. The board highly values public comment and input; however, the board meeting format is designed to facilitate the evening’s agenda and,

therefore, restricts board members from engaging in conversation with speakers or immediately responding to questions. Questions and concerns may be addressed by the board later in the agenda and may be assigned for follow-up by the board or superintendent at a later date.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPORTS/REQUESTS (5 Min)

The high school student representative(s) will highlight events and issues of interest and take questions from the board.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS/REQUESTS (10 Min)

The superintendent will highlight events and issues of interest and take questions from the board.

BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS (10 Min)

The board will acknowledge receipt of correspondence.

Individual board members may request follow-up on other matters of concern.

Board sub-committees may present their reports or deliver updates.

ACTION ITEMS

Within Action Items, there is a Consent Agenda to expedite the business of the board which groups a number of items together to be dealt with by one action of the board. However, items in the consent agenda may be extracted by individual board member request for further discussion or clarification.

CONSENT AGENDA (5 Min)

In an effort to expedite the business of the board of education, but in no way meant to diminish the importance of each item, a Consent Agenda has been developed.

That the board approve items 1 through 4 for immediate implementation and appropriate action.

Item 1: Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 24, 2025; Item 2: Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of November 24, 2025; Item 3: That the board acknowledge receipt of the November financial statement and approve payment of bills for November; Item 4: Approval of the employment of Jason M. Brown, Louise Henderson, and Samantha Wolfer-Dilno to the Okemos Public Schools.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

The Other Action Items require additional discussion prior to board action.

MOU Senior Center (3 Min)

The board reviewed information regarding a memorandum of understanding for the Senior Center with Meridian Township at their November 24, 2025 meeting.

That the board waive the reading and adopt the Senior Center MOU between the district and Meridian Township.

Long Range Partners (15 min)

At the November 24, 2025 meeting Superintendent Hood provided an overview of long-range planning considerations and reviewed current partners (Veritus, Christman, Tower Pinkster).

Trustees discussed considerations for continuing with current partners versus bidding out pre-bond services.

That the board authorize Superintendent Hood to enter into pre-bond contracts with Veridus, Christman, and Tower Pinkster for purposes of long range planning.

Board Policy - Final Reading (15 Min)

The board approved first reading of the following policies during its October 27, 2025 meeting. The policies were then posted to the district's website for public review/comment for thirty days or more.

4408 Termination;
4409 Non-Renewal;
5202 Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Students;
5405-O Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy;
and 5406 Title 1 Funds

Policies given first reading by the board are posted on the district website for thirty days for public review. Policies not given first reading are returned to the committee for further review and editing.

That the board waive the reading and adopt final reading of board policies 4408 Termination; 4409 Non-Renewal; 5202 Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Students; 5405-O Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy; and 5406 Title 1 Funds.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion items are intended to provide an opportunity for review of material and interaction concerning the individual items. Action is not taken during the board meeting. Discussion items may be acted upon by the Board of Education at a later date. The board president may move a discussion item forward in the meeting agenda to facilitate timely discussion and/or community input on that discussion item.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

At this time in the meeting, citizens have an opportunity to address the board regarding any item(s) of interest. Individual comments at this time will be limited to three minutes but may be extended at the discretion of the board president. A designated timekeeper will communicate to the individual who is addressing the board at three minutes. The board highly values public comment; however, our meeting format does not allow the board to engage in conversation with speakers. Questions or concerns may be assigned for follow-up by the board or the administration at a later date.

WORK SESSION: Superintendent Search Planning

The board will engage in a work session to review and discuss the superintendent search process, including but not limited to: interview dates, profile finalization, and salary posting.

OTHER MATTERS (5 Min)

ADJOURN

**Okemos Public Schools
Board Expenditures at 11/30/25**

Description	2025-26		
	Budget	Actual	Available
Legal Services	85,000	95,083	(10,083)
Audit Services	44,500	38,850	5,650
Contracted Services	20,000	7,300	12,700
Travel and Conferences	4,200	1,637	2,563
	<u>153,700</u>	<u>142,870</u>	<u>10,830</u>

**Okemos Public Schools
General Fund Budget vs. Actual
Year to Date as of November 30, 2025**

	2025-26		
	Revised Budget	Actual YTD	% Budget Rec'd/Used
Revenues			
Local	14,361,099	5,967,490	41.6%
State	51,250,444	11,423,506	22.3%
Federal	359,134	72,722	20.2%
Transfers - ISD	5,156,000	619	0.0%
Other Financing Sources	238,240	158,240	66.4%
Total	71,364,917	17,622,577	24.7%
Expenditures			
Elementary Instruction	9,927,880	2,695,387	27.1%
Middle School Instruction	9,056,047	2,332,419	25.8%
High School Instruction	9,373,454	2,539,296	27.1%
Montessori (PPK-8)	3,676,548	1,009,091	27.4%
Summer Programs	34,650	(274)	-0.8%
Special Education	10,744,876	2,870,386	26.7%
Compensatory Education	2,005,552	568,471	28.3%
Gifted Programs	149,821	37,950	25.3%
Guidance Services	1,614,769	437,178	27.1%
Other Pupil Services	613,671	218,127	35.5%
Improvement of Instruction	1,863,014	614,963	33.0%
Educational Media Services	599,758	188,491	31.4%
Direction of Special Education	333,166	108,378	32.5%
Other Instructional Staff Services	162,763	45,308	27.8%
Board of Education	253,700	142,869	56.3%
Executive Administration	655,762	257,399	39.3%
School Administration	3,941,897	1,256,330	31.9%
Fiscal Services	725,815	247,205	34.1%
Internal Services	130,810	52,224	39.9%
Other Business Services	218,600	151,977	69.5%
Communication Services	199,104	74,647	37.5%
Staff/Personnel Services	346,901	101,181	29.2%
Technology Services	1,710,768	714,328	41.8%
Operations & Maintenance	6,402,012	2,915,931	45.5%
Pupil Transportation	1,486,181	521,089	35.1%
Athletics	970,985	316,141	32.6%
Community Education	3,543,897	994,439	28.1%
Other Financing Uses	66,244	35,003	0.0%
Total	70,808,645	21,446,575	30.3%
	556,272	(3,823,998)	