

Board of Education Tom Buffett President, 2025-2026	Okemos Public Schools <a href="mailto:board@okemosk12.net">board@okemosk12.net</a> <a href="http://okemosk12.net">http://okemosk12.net</a>	4406 Okemos Road Okemos, Michigan 48864 Phone: 517-706-5010
---	--	---

*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.*

**7:00 PM**

**MEETING AGENDA  
Monday, January 26, 2026**

**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.

**RECOGNITION: Board of Education Appreciation (5 Min)**

**RECOGNITION: 24 Years of Service (10 Min)**

The board will recognize the following employees who have attained 24 years of service: **Brian Guggemos**, Chippewa Middle School; **Thomas Hopper**, Chippewa Middle School; **Jocelyn Mankowski**, Kinawa 5-6 School, **Elizabeth McNeil**, Okemos High School, **Amy Petersburg**, Cornell Elementary, **Matthew Prinz**, Chippewa Middle School, **Kara Stewart**, Chippewa Middle School, **Stacy Trumpie**, Kinawa 5-6 School, and **Paul Hinze**, Kinawa 5-6 School.

**Mission Minute/Around The Pack (5 Min)**

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

**PRESENTATION: BP 5 Donation Follow Up (10 Min)**

Operations Director Lieber and Athletic Director Hintze will discuss potential plans for fields at Okemos High School.

**Baseball Turf Field Donation**

Superintendent Hood shared a donation agreement for Boys Varsity Baseball at the January 12th meeting. That the board approve the donation agreement for Boys Varsity Baseball as presented and discussed at the January 12, 2026 meeting.

**PRESENTATION: Long Range Planning (20 Min)**

Superintendent Hood and Executive Finance Director Lentz will discuss long range planning.

**DISCUSSION MOVED FORWARD: Cornell Abatement (10 min)**

Director Lieber will present a recommendation for Cornell abatement as funded by the 2022 bond.

**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 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 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 and 2 for immediate implementation and appropriate action. Item 1: Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2026; Item 2: Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of January 12, 2026.

### **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

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

### **Hiawatha Playground**

Operations Director Brian Lieber and Hiawatha Principal Joseph Corr presented information regarding the needed updates to the Hiawatha Elementary School playground, funded through the 2022 Bond at the January 12th meeting.

That the board approve the proposed updates to the Hiawatha Elementary School playground as presented, funded through the 2022 Bond.

### **OHS New Course Recommendations**

The board has reviewed the proposed new course recommendations for Okemos High School that were presented by Assistant Superintendent Stacy Bailey at the January 12th meeting.

That the board approve the following new high school courses to be offered beginning with the 2026-2027 school year: AP Music Theory, AP Business with Personal Finance, AP Microeconomics, Strength, and Reset, and Trigonometry Through Design.

### **Board Operating Procedures**

The board has developed and reviewed the proposed Board Operating Procedures.

That the board waive the reading and adopt the 2026 Board Operating Procedures.

### **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.

**Montessori School of Choice Openings (10 Min)**

The board will discuss potential School of Choice openings to be advertised for the Pre-K through 8th grade Montessori program. The numbers being proposed will reflect available seats while maintaining the district's ability to accommodate resident students.

**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.

**OTHER MATTERS (5 Min)**

**Interim Superintendent**

**ADJOURN**



## Environmental Resources Group

3125 Sovereign Drive • Suite B • Lansing, MI • 48911  
Phone: 517-999-6020 • Fax: 248-924-3108

January 21, 2026

Mr. Brian Lieber  
Director of Operations  
Okemos Public Schools  
4406 Okemos Road  
Okemos, Michigan 48864

**Re: Bid Recommendation, Okemos Public Schools, Cornell Elementary School Pre-Demolition Hazardous Materials Abatement Contract, Okemos, Michigan.  
ERG Project No.: 250989**

Dear Mr. Lieber:

Environmental Resources Group, LLC (ERG) is pleased to present the following bid award recommendation. Three bids for the above-mentioned project were received, prior to the deadline. Each was opened, reviewed, and tabulated immediately after today's bid opening deadline.

Green for Life (GFL) Environmental of Lansing, Michigan is the apparent low bidder with a total bid of \$36,500.00. The unit prices they proposed are within the expected range and are consistent with industry trends at the time of bidding. GFL proposes to start the project in mid-July of 2026, and complete the work as required by the established schedule. GFL attended the mandatory contractor walk-through. No post bid interview was held with this contract given their good performance and good working history in the Okemos Public School District.

Quality Environmental Services, Inc. (QESI) of Beaverton, Michigan, with a total bid of \$51,000.00, was the apparent second-place bidder. The unit prices they provided are within the expected range and are consistent with industry trends at the time of bidding. QESI attended the mandatory contractor walk through. No post bid interview was held with this contractor.

Asbestos Abatement, Inc. (AAI) of Lansing, Michigan, with a total bid of \$68,720.00, was the apparent third-place bidder. The unit prices they proposed are consistent with expectations and industry trends at the time of bidding. AAI attended the mandatory contractor walk through. No post bid interview was conducted with this contractor.

ERG has had the opportunity to work with each of the bidders over the course of the last several years. In the case of GFL, ERG has found the quality of their work to be high with few, if any observed infractions during the course of that work. GFL has previously worked for Okemos Public Schools and successfully conducted several asbestos abatement removal projects at various schools within the Okemos Public School district as part of the 2022 Bond Project and outside the domain of the 2022 Bond Project.

Mr. Brian Lieber – Okemos Public Schools

January 21, 2026

Page 2



Given the competitive nature of the GFL bid, the results of the post bid interview, and our experience with GFL, ERG recommends award of the Pre-Demolition Hazardous Materials Abatement at Cornell Elementary School to GFL of Lansing, Michigan.

Should you have questions or need additional information feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES GROUP**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristin Peterson".

Kristin Peterson

Senior Industrial Hygienist