

RECORD OF MINUTES

The Board of Education of the Public Schools of Calumet, Laurium and Keweenaw held its regular monthly meeting on April 8, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the CLK Board Room.

Present were members: Phyllis Locatelli, Jason Wickstrom, Daniel Zubiena, Melanie Parker, Philip Halonen, Adam Loukus and James Vertin. Also present was Joel Asiala, Superintendent.; Elsa Green, Executive Administrative Assistant; Trevor Salata, Chief Financial Officer, Jennifer Peters, Calumet High School Principal, Troy Reuter, Washington Middle School Principal, Darren Kinnunen, Horizons Alternative High School Principal, Matthew Hampton, CLK Elementary School Principal, Julie Giachino, CLK Elementary School Assistant Principal, and Daniel Giachino, Director of CLK Virtual Programs. Also present were CLK Staff members Tristan Baranowski, Jayna Johnson, Karmen Markham, Calumet High School senior Allison Bjorn, CLK Elementary student Callie Asiala and community members Eric and Jennifer Bjorn and Christina Asiala.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Vertin) unanimous decision, minutes from previous meetings were approved.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Parker) unanimous decision, the bills were approved to be paid. The General Fund bills were \$168,424.81, Athletic bills were \$26,322.11, Cafeteria bills were \$14,920.65, and Community Service bills were \$79.92, for a total of all invoices of \$209,747.49.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read on motion, seconded (Halonen-Wickstrom) unanimous decision. The General Fund showed a bank balance of \$553,751.46, plus a Money Market of \$2,541,518.18, less outstanding checks of (\$57,567.93), less a Transfer in Transit (ORS) of (\$162,682.03 for a total General Fund balance as of March 31, 2025, of \$2,875,019.68.

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The Athletic Account showed a bank balance as of March 31, 2025, of \$50,831.17, for a total Athletic Fund of \$50,831.17.

The Cafeteria Fund showed a balance of \$56,805.64, for a total School Service Fund balance of \$107,636.81.

The Bond Debt Retirement Fund showed a bank balance of \$2,168,473.50, for a total Debt Retirement Fund balance as of March 31, 2025, of \$2,168,473.50.

Board Members presented CCASB Awards:

Jason Wickstrom presented Karmen Markham with the School Service Award.

Philip Halonen presented Allison Bjorn with the Student Leadership Award.

Melanie Parker presented Jayna Johnson with the Outstanding Education Employee Award.

CLK Elementary student Callie Asiala presented her 1<sup>st</sup> place Invention in the Superior Maker Fest Western U.P. Inventcon.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Zubiena) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated inductees into the Calumet High School National Honor Society, along with Advisor, Katie Bonacorsi.

Braylinn Antilla  
Serenity Cane  
Grace Dee  
Nynna Jarvi  
Ted Loukus  
Drake Niemela  
Axl Schneiderhan

Cameron Bessner  
Chloe Coppo  
Claire Goss  
Nathan Londo  
Tessa Meneguzzo  
Kaitlyn Pennala  
Jordyn Wendling

Chaice Binder  
Aster Davis  
Paxtyn Goulette  
Millie Loukus  
Lewis Nagel  
Evelyn Robb

On motion, seconded (Parker-Wickstrom) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated Bella Thompson and Gwenyth Skoog on their performance at the U.P. Spelling

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Bee held in Ishpeming and Negaunee on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Bella Thompson – 3<sup>rd</sup> – Grade 7

Gwenyth Skoog – 6<sup>th</sup> – Grade 7

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Loukus) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated band students who competed in the Solo and Ensemble Festival on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Trista Berryman – Division 2 on Proficiency 1 Flute Solo

Lizzy Crouch – Division 1 – Trumpet Solo

Lizzy Crouch, Ava Rauvala & Maddie Myhren – Division 1 – Woodwind Trio

Paxtyn Goulette – Division 1 on Proficiency 1 Horn Solo

Ione Laramore – Division 2 on Proficiency 1 Tuba Solo

Bethany McParlan – Division 1 on Clarinet Solo

Myra Yohe – Division 2 on Alto Sax Solo

On motion, seconded (Halonen- Zubiena) unanimous decision, the Board of Education commended Calumet High School students Ava Lis, Kayla Standridge, Nathan Thyron and Kristen Ylitalo on competing in the Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference held in Grand Rapids from March 13-16. BPA Advisors are Darin Goke and Elsa Green.

On motion, seconded (Loukus-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education commended Calumet High School student Elli Harju for her performance at the Poetry Out Loud State Finals held in Lansing on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education commended those students who took part in the Drama Club Play, "The One Act Play That Goes Wrong" and their Director Matthew Riutta.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated members of the girls' basketball teams along with varsity coach Charlie

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Kemppainen, JV coach Adel Riutta, and volunteer assistant varsity coaches Julie Giachino and Sarah Hampton on their seasons. The varsity finished the season as state semi-finalists with a record of 22-6. The Board also congratulated the Team and individual members on receiving WestPAC and U.P. Sportswriters and Sportscasters All U.P. honors:

UPSSA Team of the Year Division 3

Jackie Kiilunen – UPSSA 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Division 1-3

Jackie Kiilunen - WestPAC All Conference Dream Team – Guard

Jackie Kiilunen - WestPAC All Conference All Defensive Team – Guard

Bailey Strom - UPSSA 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Division 1-3

Bailey Strom - WestPAC All Conference 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Guard - Copper

Kiirsi Johnson - WestPAC All Conference 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Guard - Copper

Allison Bjorn – WestPAC All Conference Honorable Mention

On motion, seconded (Loukus-Zubiena) unanimous decision, the Board of Education thanked Mr. Rob Bohlsen and Mr. Bill Darnell and the Industrial Technology Classes for creating projects for the Camp Josh Fundraiser. The projects raised over \$3000 for Camp Josh. Camp Josh is a camp for individuals with disabilities and/or special needs with their teachers or support persons to come out and learn about outdoor life. The items donated were a river table with steel legs, a gun rack, and a recipe box. They also created a Camp Josh sign which was a donation directly to Camp Josh.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education expressed their appreciation to Philip Ruppe for his \$15,000 donation to support the CLK Maker Space Programs.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the following students at the CLK Virtual Program on having their art projects selected to be a part of the Copper Country Community Arts Center "Celebrate Youth Arts Month" showcase. Their projects were on display at the Copper Country Community Arts Center from March 8th-29<sup>th</sup>.

Harper Bouman  
Olivine Brady

Ireland Brady  
Ernie Beutler

Maple Brady  
Scarlett Beutler

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Finley Dellinger  
Annaliese Fanta  
Isaac Goldner  
Josephine Shaw  
Hazel Warstler

Porter Dellinger  
Zachariah Fanta  
Molly Goldner  
Theodora Shaw  
Wrenna Zaycheck.

Lilliah DeMerse  
Heidi Goldner  
Adrienna Kochsiek  
Lilly Shebby

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Loukus) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the following CLK Elementary School students on participating in the Western UP InventCon at the Superior Maker Fest on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations should also be extended to CLK Elementary Teachers **Tristan Baranowski** and **Amy Burmeister**. Callie placed 1<sup>st</sup> with her invention idea and received a scholarship to attend the MTU Summer Youth Program. Callie, Adelyn and Ella have been invited to attend The Henry Ford Invention Convention state competition at the Henry Ford Museum in Detroit on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Callie Asiala  
Ella Mattson

Adelyn Erkkila  
Bentley Rayner

Fiona Lasanen  
Carson Raasakka

On motion, seconded (Parker-Zubiena) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the Washington Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> grade band on receiving a Division 1 Rating at the Keweenaw Music Educators Association Band Clinic/Festival at Dollar Bay Schools.

On motion, seconded (Halonon-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education established Tuesday, September 2, 2025 as the first day of school for students for the 2025-2026 school year.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education commended School Library staff on April 2025 being School Library Month.

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education commended CLK Administrative Professionals on April 23, 2025, being Administrative Professionals Day.

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On motion, seconded (Halonen-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education commended CLK Educators on May 5-9, 2025, being Teacher Appreciation Week.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education honored CLK Food Service Staff on National School Lunch Hero Day, Friday, May 2, 2025. On this day, we celebrate and honor the role our food service staff plays in keeping our students fed healthy and nutritious meals, which contribute to their ability to learn.

On motion, seconded (Loukus-Halonen) unanimous decision, the Board of Education honored the UGL-CLK School Nurses, Jessica Coltas and Carie Leiter, on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, being declared School Nurse Day.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Halonen) Loukus abstained, the Board of Education resolved to commence on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> to appoint Melanie Parker as representative and James Vertin as alternate to serve as electors for the CCISD Board Elections.

On motion, seconded (Parker-Halonen) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the varsity boys' basketball team on earning Academic All-State honors with a GPA of 3.340. The Board also congratulated Gavin Sturos on being named UPSSA All U.P. Special Mention and Micah Pieti on being named UPSSA All U.P. Honorable Mention.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Zubiena) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the following students on placing in the VFW Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest sponsored by the Calumet VFW Post and Ladies Auxiliary. Nynna, Aili and Briana's submissions will now compete in the state contest.

High School:  
1st place - Nynna Jarvi  
2nd place - Jack Sever  
3rd Place - Ione Laramore  
4th Place - Byron David

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3-Dimensional - 1st Place - Aili Heflin

Middle School:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Briana Antilla

2nd Place - Biana Jarvi

3rd place - Anna Kesti

4th Place - Ellie Kesti

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Halonen) unanimous decision, the Board of Education accepted with regret the retirement notice of Mrs. Jennifer Torola, effective June 30, 2025.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education accepted with regret the retirement notice of Mr. Clay Cotey, effective June 30, 2025.

On motion, seconded (Vertin-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education accepted with regret the retirement notice of Mrs. Joan Darnell, effective August 31, 2025.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Loukus) unanimous decision, the Board of Education accepted the resignation notice of Mrs. Julie Catherino, effective April 25, 2025.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education accepted the resignation notice of Mr. Trevor Salata, effective June 30, 2025.

On motion, seconded (Parker-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education approved the maternity leave of CLK Elementary administrative assistant Elsa Tervo from September 8, 2025 through November 28, 2025.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Vertin) Loukus abstained, the Board of Education accepted the agreement with the Copper Country ISD to contract business services for the 2025-2026 school year.




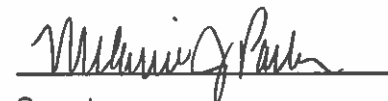
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Building Principals updated the Board on "what's happening" in their buildings.

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Halonen) unanimous decision, the Board of Education appointed Tyler Rautio to the girls' track coach position at Washington Middle School for the 2025 season.

On motion, seconded (Vertin-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

  
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President

  
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Secretary