

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CALUMET

CALUMET, MICHIGAN

December 9, 2025

RECORD OF MINUTES

The Board of Education of the Public Schools of Calumet, Laurium and Keweenaw held its regular monthly meeting on December 9, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board of Education Room.

Present were members: Phyllis Locatelli, Jason Wickstrom, Melanie Parker, Daniel Zubiena, Philip Halonen, and James Vertin. Absent was Adam Loukus. Also present were Joel Asiala, Superintendent; Jennifer Peters, Calumet High Principal; Darren Kinnunen, Horizons High School Principal; Matthew Hampton, CLK Elementary School Principal and Julie Giachino, CLK Elementary School Assistant Principal.

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

On motion, seconded (Vertin-Parker) unanimous decision, the bills were approved to be paid. The General Fund bills were \$265,402.97, Athletic bills were \$20,300.20, Cafeteria bills were \$14,863.94, Community Service bills were \$1,204.57, and Public Improvement Fund bills were \$6,400.00 for a total of all invoices of \$308,171.68.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read on motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Vertin) unanimous decision. The General Fund showed a bank balance of \$516,101.25, plus a Money Market of \$2,788,029.89, plus a CD Balance (restricted) of \$89,074.26, less outstanding checks of (\$124,934.34), less a Transfer in Transit (ORS) of (\$246,696.99), for a total General Fund balance as of November 30, 2025, of \$3,021,574.07.

The Athletic Account showed a bank balance as of November 30, 2025, of \$56,304.53, plus a deposit in transit, for a total Athletic Fund of \$56,304.53.

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The Cafeteria Fund showed a balance of \$55,270.40, for a total School Service Fund balance of \$111,574.93.

The Bond Debt Retirement Fund showed a bank balance of \$2,355,149.82, for a total Debt Retirement Fund balance as of November 30, 2025, of \$2,355,149.82.

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated members of the varsity football team on receiving All Region and Academic All-State Awards:

Ben Anderson – All Region Team
Trent Anderson – All Region Team
Rogan Gronlund – Academic All-State
Joe Halonen – All Region Team
Eric Kesti – Academic All-State
Riley Kiilunen – Academic All-State
Dirk Koskela – Academic All-State
Dirk Koskela – All Region Team
Erik Loukus – Academic All-State
Peter Torola – Academic All-State

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated members of the varsity volleyball team on earning All Region and Academic All-State Awards.

Varsity Volleyball Team – Academic All-State – GPA: 3.30
Jess Anderson – All Region Team
Chloe Coppo – All Region Team
Grace Keranen – Academic All State
Millie Loukus – All Region Team
Amiina Tarnowski – Academic All State

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated those students who placed in the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Essay contests. The Board also wished Sophie and Eliza good-luck in the district level competition.

Voice of Democracy
Sophie Bonen – 1st Place
Ozzie Nykanen – 2nd Place
Eleanna Hokenson – 3rd Place

Patriot Pen
Eliza Leiter – 1st Place
Anna Kesti – 2nd Place

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Joseph Kaura – 3rd Place

On motion, seconded (Parker-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education thanked the efforts of the Calumet High School JROTC, under the direction of Major Michael Farley, 1SG Mark Powell and Lt. Col. Jonathan Leiter, along with the Calumet High School Band, under the direction of Ryan Watt and Calumet High School's Studio Music and Friends, under the direction of Matthew Riutta, for another successful Veteran's Day Program. The program recognizes the men and women who put their lives on the line for our country and freedom. Thanks also go out to CLK Elementary students who said the Pledge of Allegiance: Fynn Eskola, Freya Fryer, Hallie Hyrkas, Beckett Laplander, Gus L'esperance, Paizley Martell, Landen Moyryla, Brynn Pelli, Annie Pennala, Morgan Reilly, Keygan Sladek and Deanna Saari. First grader Jacob Frantti was recognized for leading Calumet High School in the Pledge of Allegiance every day. Additional thanks should be extended to Eric Kinnunen and the CLK Custodians for preparing the gym for the ceremony.

On motion, seconded (Halonon-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated Band Director Ryan Watt along with the CHS Band students and Matthew Riutta and the Studio Music Class who took part in the annual Christmas concert held on December 3rd at the Calumet Theatre.

On motion, seconded (Halonon-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated those students that auditioned and were accepted to perform at the MSBOA District 13/14 U.P. Honor Band held on December 5th & 6th at Northern Michigan University.

Evelyn Robb on Flute
Maddie Myhren on Bass Clarinet
Melody Woods on Alto Sax
Ava Rauvala on Alto Sax
David Makolin on Trumpet
Lizzy Crouch on Trumpet
Lillian (Alex) Fritz on Horn
Paxtyn Goulette on Horn
Lyla Huuki on Percussion

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On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Wickstrom) unanimous decision, the Board of Education expressed appreciation to Mr. & Mrs. Daniel and Joan Steck for their generous donation of \$7,500.00 to the Maker Space Programs.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education expressed appreciation to Martin and Cynthia Faassen for their generous donation of \$500 to Horizons Alternative High School.

On motion, seconded (Parker-Halonen) unanimous decision, the Board of Education expressed appreciation to Paul Hyrkas Construction for their generous donation of \$3,532.50 to the Horizons Alternative High School's Ice Rink Project.

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education expressed appreciation to CLK Elementary School teacher Rebecca Mattila for her DonorsChoose.org Grant entitled "Meeting Sensory Needs" in the amount of \$614.79. This grant will provide "Chair Bands, Fidget Toys, Wobble & Sensory Cushions a Balance Ball Seat and other sensory resources" for the students in 2nd grade.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education adopted NEOLA Policy Revisions.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Wickstrom) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the varsity football team on earning Academic All-State First Team with a team GPA of 3.95. The team placed in the Top 4 schools in Division 6.

On motion, seconded (Parker-Zubiena) unanimous decision, the Board of Education congratulated the Washington Middle School on being recognized as one of the "Best Middle Schools" by U.S. News & World Report. Washington Middle School was ranked 170th in

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Michigan.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education authorized the Family Medical Leave of Washington Middle School teacher, Callie Rastello from January 20, 2026 to March 30, 2026.

On motion, seconded (Wickstrom-Parker) unanimous decision, the Board of Education appointed Stephanie Kesti to the CLK Elementary School Great Start Readiness Teacher position effective January 5, 2026 pending the receipt of her official Michigan Teaching Certificate.

On motion, seconded (Halonen-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education set the following tuition rates for students attending the Calumet, Laurium & Keweenaw School District for the 2025-2026 school year:

K-6 non-resident pupils attending our schools:	\$16,460.47
7-12 non-resident pupils attending our schools:	\$17,036.58

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

On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of Education approved a one year leave of absence for Callie Rastello from her WMS Volleyball coaching position for the purpose of child care.

Informational items submitted to the Board for review and discussion:

-Parent/Teacher Conference numbers.

-Library Advisory Board Minutes for November 19, 2025

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On motion, seconded (Zubiena-Vertin) unanimous decision, the Board of
Education adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Phyllis H. Locatelli
President

Melanie J. Parker
Secretary