

OLD MISSION PENINSULA SCHOOL

Regular Board Meeting – Minutes

Friday, October 17, 2025 8:30am

Meeting held at:

Old Mission Peninsula School

2699 Island View Road, Traverse City, MI 49686

1. CALL TO ORDER

LaFond called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was held.

The following board members were present: Shaina LaFond (President), Susie Shipman (Secretary/Treasurer), Chris Johnston, Jen Kuhar and Todd Sanders. Amanda Igra arrived 8:35am.

Non-Board Members Attending:

Kaitlyn Bailey, OMPS Principal

Courtenay Kierczynski, OMPS Kindergarten Teacher and Preschool Director

Matt Missias, GVSU

Kelley Davis, Veritas Accounting (remotely)

Joy Stehlik, Axios HR

Ben Walmer (OMPS Parent and Incoming Board Member)

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by LaFond and supported by Kuhar to move item 10b to item 9b. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion made by Johnston and supported by Kuhar to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – None

5. MEETING MINUTES

a. August 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Kuhar and supported by Sanders to approve the August 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. OMPEF UPDATE

LaFond – Annual Boathouse Fundraiser scheduled for Nov 3. Bailey reported that Amy Couturier is a new member and that OMPEF is planning to have a table at the Old Mission Women's Club Annual Holiday Cookie Sale.

7. OMPS PTO UPDATE

Bailey – Track & Trail brought in around \$30,000 so the PTO is in good shape for the school year. OMPS Holiday Concert will be held at the Opera House. Pumpkin walk takes place on October 24.

8. GVSU REPORT

Missias:

- Acknowledged LaFond's participation at the GVSU Annual Board Presidents Retreat.
- Notes that the MDE has announced launch of charter school transparency dashboard.
- Reminder that new law: average salaries must be posted on transparency page before Nov 1.
- Board training – GVSU academic grant has been modified for more customized training.
- School aid budget has been signed into law with \$10,050 allocated per pupil.
- Budget includes new non-compliance penalties. 5% of state aid payments for certain non-compliance.
- 1 month left to apply for Impact 30 grants. Note – requires letter from school board.
- CSO office is now part of a new GVSU division: K-12 Education Innovation and Scholar Success (DEISS)

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9. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

a. Leadership Report

Bailey reported:

- Beginning of year assessments for all grade levels have just been completed. Teachers are set to meet with reading and math supports from the ISD for a deeper data dive to determine the best support for students. Results will be shared with families at parent teacher conferences coming up on the 21st and 23rd. Thank you to the PTO and the Boathouse Restaurant for providing meals for staff.
- At the first count day of the year OMPS had 142 K-5 students and 30 preschool students enrolled. OMPS is gaining two more students next week and staff have led five tours so far this year, most for preschool next year.
- Apple Crunch Day was celebrated last week: all students met in the gym and talked about the celebration of agriculture, healthy eating, and farmers and crunched their apples at the same time. Thank you to Farmer Warren, who donated all of the apples.
- The theme for the Impact 30 grant application is for a changeable storypath through OMPS' back garden, ending at a pumpkin patch.

b. OMPS Preschool Handbook 2025-2026 School Year

Courtenay Kierczynski: Using Creative Curriculum in the classroom and everyone is excited to work with the new curriculum. Parents have already been providing positive feedback for the new school year.

Shipman noted and expressed gratitude that Kierczynski stepped up when OMPS first opened and there was a sudden need to fulfill the requirements for childcare licensing for OMPS' before and after care programs.

Proposed Action Item: Approve OMPS 25-26 Student Handbook

Motion made by Sanders and supported by Johnston to approve the OMPS Preschool Handbook 2025-2026 School Year as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

10. BUSINESS

a. Quarterly Financial Report – 1st Q 2025-2026 School Year

Davis: State approved budget for per pupil at \$10,050 and OMPS approved an annual budget at \$10,000, so the school is in good shape. There are additional funds for 31A assistance for at risk students, which results in about \$20,000 for OMPS.

Audit firm has been difficult to communicate with since their recent merger.

Reevaluate after the audit is finished to decide what to do next year.

Board discussed options for managing situation if audit doesn't come in on time.

GVSU to elevate within and potentially do additional follow-up.

Board will plan to hold a special meeting in early November if necessary.

Proposed Action Item: Approve Quarterly Financial Report – 1st Q 2025-2026 School Year

Motion made by Sanders and supported by Kuhar to approve the Quarterly Financial Report 1st Q 2025-2026 School Year as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Committee Reports

a. Academic Committee: no report this month.

b. Finance Committee: Sanders will reach out to MILAF to move process forward.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Missias: Michael Cousins sent additional guidance regarding charter school transparency law: check dashboard for accuracy and make sure EEM is accurate. Link to MDE will be provided.

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LaFond: reviewed helpful information from the recent conference she attended, including Jim Goenner's presentation. Suggests the Performance Report shared at the event might be a useful tool to consider. Will share notes with board.

Shipman: board will need a secretary for the November board meeting because she will be away.

Missias: will be away for November meeting too.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Igra and supported by Johnston. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Board Secretary