

**MORLEY STANWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANZATIONAL MEETING  
 Monday, January 27, 2025, – 6:30 P.M.**

Superintendent Cole called an organizational meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:31 p.m. immediately followed by the regular meeting. The meetings were held on Monday, January 27, 2025, in the Media Center of the High School, 4700 Northland Dr., Morley, Michigan, 49336.

*Oath of Office* – Member Brent Beemer and Member Edward Frisbie

***In Attendance***

***Declaration of Quorum Yes X No***

Bd. Member Emily Bongard	X	Bd. Member Greg Babbitt	X	Bd. Member Edward Frisbie	X
Bd. Member Mary Engelsman	X	Bd. Member Randy LaPreze	AB	Supt. R. Cole	X
Bd. Member Brent Beemer	X	Bd. Member Michelle Frisbie	X	Rec. Sec. J.Weeks	X

***Election of Officers (2025 President will assume chair when elected) – Supt. Cole***

The Board unanimously appointed Emily Bongard to fill the position of Board President. President Bongard assumed meeting leadership with the election of the remaining officers: The Board unanimously appointed Greg Babbitt to fill the position of Board Vice President. The Board unanimously appointed Mary Engelsman to fill the position of Board Secretary. The Board unanimously appointed Michelle Frisbie to fill the position of Board Treasurer.

***Organizational Items:***

The Board unanimously designated Jamie Weeks recording secretary.

The Board unanimously determined to designate committees as needed.

The Board unanimously designated Matthias Stevens to serve on the Library Board.

The Board unanimously approved the listed fund depositories: Isabella Bank, Huntington Bank, and UMB.

The Board unanimously approved the following memberships for 2025-2026 School Year:

MASA (Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators)  
MASB (Michigan Association of School Boards)  
MHSAA (Michigan High School Athletic Association)  
MIEM (Michigan Institute for Educational Management)  
MEMSPA (Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals)  
MASSP (Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals)  
MPAAA (Michigan Pupil Accounting & Attendance Association)  
MSBO (Michigan School Business Officials)  
CSAA (Central States Activities Association)  
MIAAA (Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association)  
MSBOA Dist. 1 (Michigan School Band & Orchestra Association)

The Board unanimously approved the following designated persons responsible for:

1. Check signature authorization – see list
2. Authorization of transfer of funds – Kellsey Fairris and Roger Cole
3. Posting Meetings/Official Notices – Jamie Weeks and Roger Cole
4. School election administrator – Jamie Weeks

The Board unanimously approved Thrun Law Firm – East Lansing as Legal Counsel for the District.

The Board unanimously approved UHY, LLP as auditors for the District.

The Board unanimously approved the Big Rapids Pioneer: daily and/or weekly issues to publish legal notices.

***Workshop Discussion:***

Bond Invoice –One invoice was submitted for review from Mathison|Mathison.

Incentive to announce retirement early – Mr. Cole would once again like to offer teachers a \$2500 incentive to notify the district in writing of intent to retire at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Detention Pond Update – Superintendent Cole, Mr. Bassett, lawyers for both parties along with Mr. Bill Tingley and Elaine Westinghouse meet recently and reviewed plans for a possible solution.

Food Service Bid renewal – Our current Food Service provider contract is ending. Mrs. Teresa Bowser is currently working on a RFP to post for bids.

Pathways to Potential – This contract with MDHHS is up for renewal. The program's focus thus far has been at the Elementary building. They assist with chronic absenteeism, reducing grade retention and improving graduation rates.

**Recognition of Board Appreciation Month:** MSCS expresses appreciation for the time and dedication our board members have for the students, staff and community.

**Recess:** NA

**Approval of Agenda and Order of Priority**

The Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

**Public Comment:** Time and Billie Deater addressed the Board concerning the abandonment of 175<sup>th</sup> Ave that is located along their property and school owned property. They are in favor of the abandonment to help deter trespassers, littering and illegal activity.

**Communications:** Mr. Cole shared a thank you note on behalf of Project Starburst. Food and a monetary donation was made as a result of the collections leading up to the Veteran's assembly held at the Elementary.

**Administrator and Supervisor Reports:** Supervisor/Administrator reports are submitted in writing, in advance to the Board. Reports can be viewed on the district's website.

**Consent Agenda:** The Board unanimously approved the consent agenda, December 16, 2024 regular meeting minutes and bills and financial reports presented.

**JANUARY CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Board unanimously approved to pay the 2020 bond project invoice totaling \$29,347.50.

The Board unanimously approved the Morley Stanwood Series III Elementary Renovation Recommendation to Award (contract to successful bidders).

The Board unanimously approved the Morley Stanwood Series III bid day summary budget.

The Board unanimously denied the motion to support the abandonment of 175<sup>th</sup> Ave. (between 9 Mile and 8 Mile Road) that is adjacent to school owned property.

The Board unanimously approved an update to the 24-25 Curriculum Guide, course name change from Links A/B (Human Resources) to Career Readiness.

***Closed Session – Student Reinstatement Hearing***

The Board went into closed session at 7:30 pm and returned from closed session at 7:41 p.m. for a student reinstatement hearing.

The board unanimously approved to reinstate student #2-2425 as a virtual student effective Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The board unanimously approved to expel student #4-2425 for Possession/Distribution of THC Vape Pen for the remainder of the second semester of the 24-24 school year with educational services provided. Student #4-2425 must appear in front of the Board of Education to apply for reinstatement prior to returning from expulsion.

**Discussion items:** Mr. Cole discussed possible date change for the June meeting. Member Bongard expressed concern about lighting at entrances and leading up to them. Member Babbitt asked about school closings (Snow Days) and how that affects athletic practices. Member Engelsman asked about the evaluation process for Coaching staff with Member M. Frisbie inquiring of the same.

**Reminders and informational items:**

- **Next Board meeting February 17, 2025**

**Adjourn** at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Engelsman, Secretary  
Morley Stanwood Community Schools