

STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
100 Price Avenue Ste A
Stockbridge, Michigan 49285

Board of Education

Regular Meeting #8 – February 9, 2026
Junior/Senior High School Media Center– 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call

Present : Carrie Graham; President, Erin Gancer; Vice President, Rocky Ramalia; Trustee, Keven Numinen; Treasurer, Jimmy Chapman; Trustee, Jill Ogden; Secretary; Justin Richardson, Trustee

Absent : None

IV. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the board meeting agenda for February 9, 2026 as amended. - Add policy 9700.01 to discussion and consent agenda

Motion : Ramalia Second : Ogden Passed : 7-0

V. Public Comment Addressing Consent Agenda and Action Items

Please address your comments directly to the Board President. It's important to note that while the meeting is open to the public and conducted in a transparent manner, it is primarily a platform for the Board of Education to conduct its business. Board members will not engage in dialogue or respond to comments during the meeting. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in maintaining an orderly and productive meeting environment. Each speaker will be limited to three minutes, with a maximum of thirty minutes of public participation.

The board president may adjust the guideline as they see fit.

None

VI. Board of Education Comments

None

VII. Board Committee Reports

Facilities Committee - We met last week and walked through the district. We looked at the boilers at Heritage. There was discussion about moving them to floor level. Other discussions included parking lots, AG barn, home economics room and bathroom over by the high school gyms. There

was discussion about adding a loft in the barn to get things off the ground. We discussed the high school locker rooms and the Smith kitchen even though they are not on schedule until 2027.

VIII. Student Representative - JayLee Chapman
Absent

IX. Presentation - Kelsey Jennett - [The IEP Team: A Game Plan for Student Growth](#)

X. Superintendent Report

The electric buses should begin to be delivered at the end of the week. Three have been through the state inspection. Chromebooks should be delivered this week. Aidan will start prepping and getting them into elementary carts over the winter break and spring break. SAEF is gathering items for their annual online auction. Be on the look out for site information. Bond work - The surveyors will be out this week getting measurements for parking lots. I am expecting a revised version of the pole barn and a draft of the home economics room. We will get a timeline/calendar out to people and up on the website. Drawing for boilers will be ready in a week or so.

Veterans park - The easement is 30ft off the south of the property. We will be able to replace the apple trees where they are currently located.

XI. Discussion Items - we will work further on these during the work session.

1. -po5830 - Student Fund Raising - as written
2. -po6605 - Crowd Funding - as written
3. -po7250 - Commemoration and Naming School Facilities - we discussed leaving out naming after an individual - will be changing
4. -po9700 - Advertising and Community Activities - as written
5. -po9700.01 - Advertisement logo placements - change section A point 2 add exceptions for one time events left up to the superintendent for approval.

XII. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes - January 7, 2026, January 12, 2026, January 21, 2026 and January 26, 2026
2. Financials
 - a. \$314,699.54 from General Fund
 - b. \$32,404.44 from Cafeteria Special Revenues Fund
 - c. \$19,765.76 from Student Activity Special Revenues Fund
 - d. \$926,216.94 January Payroll
3. Move to approve the first reading of Neola Policies as follows:
 - a. -po5830 - Student Fund Raising
 - b. -po6605 - Crowd Funding
 - c. -po7250 - Commemoration and Naming School Facilities
 - d. -po9700 - Advertising and Community Activities
 - e. -po9700.01

Motion : Ramalia Second : Numinen Passed : 7-0

XIII. Old Business

1. Reproductive Health Meeting - March - hoping to get the new curriculum from the state.
2. Electric Buses - Update provided above in Superintendent report
3. Veterans Park North Trail - Update provided above in Superintendent report

XIV. Schedule of Meetings

Work Session	February 23, 2026	6:30 PM	Jr/Sr	SSC
Regular Meeting	March 9, 2026	6:30 PM	Jr/Sr	SSC

XV. Acknowledgements

Jeff Trapp - Coach Nate Lott - coaching our varsity basketball, acting referee for our younger kids basketball program and a huge component of a day as school liaison. He is awesome.

Bonnie Rattai - All the teachers; you all work really hard and are appreciated.

Amy Hodgson - Kim Machette and Dominic Parker. Kim for being the wizard of snacks for all our meetings. Dominic for all his help.

Brian Friddle - Jessica Lane - Our W-2's went out on time and she is doing double duty. Thank You

Kate Fox - Varsity and JV basketball boys for being really great role models. Koen Griffith for all his extra effort during the skills and scrimmage with younger players.

Dena Sommer - Nate Lott and Dominic Parker for working their tails off for the Red Cedar games and the Mayhem Wrestling tournament. Varsity players for helping out as well.

XVI. Public Comments

Please address your comments directly to the Board President. It's important to note that while the meeting is open to the public and conducted in a transparent manner, it is primarily a platform for the Board of Education to conduct its business. Board members will not engage in dialogue or respond to comments during the meeting. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in maintaining an orderly and productive meeting environment. Each speaker will be limited to three minutes, with a maximum of thirty minutes of public participation.

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Patty Pniewski - SEA President - we are here tonight to introduce or reintroduce ourselves to you. I was hired in 1999 by Bruce Brown as band director. The band is performing tomorrow at Mason Festival. I have 6 classes all day and various ages. This past summer 14 former students came back to perform with us at the Town Hall. We want to share moments with you and share that the SEA contract did expire on 12/31/25.

Kate Fox - I have been a social worker in the district since August 2022. I have 25 years of social work experience. My work encompasses special education students, and supporting 504 general education students the last 2 years due to not having a school counselor. I am our Ele's Place coordinator. We have had 49 students participate in Ele's Place. It is an honor and privilege to do this work.

Rita Stricklin - I have been in the district since 2019. I have helped over 500 seniors through their senior portfolio. Showing them there is value in what they may do next.

Luke Thorburn - I have been in the district since 2002 and currently teach 4th grade. I invest in the school daily, with students, accepting the transition of 4 sections to 3 sections resulting in extra students in the classroom. I work alongside the amazing educators here today. I invest in the district by remaining here for 23 years. I continue to serve the district without a contract.

Kerri Allen - I started in the district in 1995. After 25 years of service I retired but returned 3 years ago. I have the privilege to return to working among amazing coworkers. I was born, raised, graduated, have had children graduate and now have grand kids enrolled in Stockbridge. Currently I am working without a contract.

Mike Gurecki - I have been in the district since 2010. I teach 2nd grade. I bring my kids from outside the district because of the great staff we have. I am currently working without a contract.

Michelle Hedding - I have been in the district since 2001. When I came, I thought this would be a stepping stone. I have learned that this is home. I have watched kids grow from wide eyed kindergarteners to graduates. I invest in the school and this community and am proud of the work we are doing.

Naomi Carson - I have been a special education teacher in the district since 2022 which puts me at the step BA4 on the scale. Recently my students had a chance to present to this board. I am incredibly proud of them. I am the teacher rep on SAEF, ag board and unified basketball coach which are all volunteer positions. I have chosen to stay and invest in my community and I am working without a contract.

Geoffrey Gauthier - I have been a 6th grade teacher at Heritage since 2022. I am on the second step of the salary scale and drive an hour to school. On my way I drive through various districts that make more. 35 of our 6th graders can recognize and identify European countries. The Snowflake Shuffle was designed and planned for a fundraiser for 6th grade camp. 115 students are planning on attending this dance in which I will be the DJ. I have done this and will continue to do despite working without a contract.

Julie Rentfrow - I have been in the district since 2008 working with grades 1-4 in speech and language development. I participate in IEP meetings and conduct screenings. I have invested in our schools by volunteering at many events including carnivals and craft shows. I am currently working without a contract.

Angie Filice - I have been teaching kindergarten for 30 years in the district. I have been helping families feel connected. Investing in our youngest learners is

extremely critical. I will not be for the next 20 years but am speaking out for the younger teachers to support and retain. I too am working without a contract.

Amber Robidou - I have been in the district since 2019. I am a special education teacher at Heritage and previously taught 5th grade. I invest in my students as if they are my own children. I am on DSIT and a mentor. I am grateful to work alongside amazing people. I am a lifelong Stockbridge resident, my family and I have been committed to Stockbridge for generations.

Jeanette Wetzel - I am a paraprofessional and mother of 3 students. Our superintendent sent this survey out without stating it was from the board and anonymous. Several staff members did not feel comfortable submitting the survey through the email as they were unsure who would be receiving it. It was extremely concerning that the board did not accept them. It is deeply troubling that transparency is lacking. We deserve to feel acknowledged. The issue of lack of transparency deserves attention.

Dena Sommer - Thank you to all these teachers. I have a graduate from here. He is deaf and had amazing support.

Lissa Avis - I have been in the district for 24 years. I teach three sections of 8th grade math as well as one section of AP Calculus and AP Pre-Calculus. Last year's AP classes scored above the state average. I have been the Math Chair since 2008. I have been a Coach for decades; volleyball for 8 years and cross country for 6 years. I volunteer at sports events. I am a graduate of Stockbridge. We need to retain our young teachers. I am working without a contract.

Emily Hoard - I am a 1st grade teacher in the district as of 2024. I was previously in Dansville for 7 years. I am a Stockbridge girl through and through. I am proud to teach and graduate from here. Both of my parents dedicated their teaching careers here. I left my job in Dansville to come home. This is where I want to raise my kids. In three weeks I will complete my masters degree. I invest in this community and students. I want this district to be a place where staff feel valued and heard and want to stay. I am currently working without a contract.

Cindy Stacy - I work with the teachers, paraprofessionals, food service and custodians. I have never seen a more dedicated staff in my 25 years in the field.

Bob Richards - When I started teaching here it was a retirement gig as I was in the military. I have coached wrestling, soccer and track. I have a lot of money to help fund robotics and the Ag program. I am not a short timer. I will have 30 years of service this summer. I am eligible for social security and my pension in 2 weeks. What really bothers me about the school district is what we pay our teachers. My daughter is a teacher in Williamston and she couldn't work here. I couldn't work here if I wasn't earning an army retirement check. I would like you to take that into consideration during negotiations. If we do not take care of these teachers they are going to leave. The turnover rate in the district is atrocious. The army retains people better than we have in the last 10 years. It begs you to question why. We need to do better.

Bonnie Rattai - I have been in the district for 17 years. I moved into the district 21 years ago. Both of my girls have graduated from here. I have one grandchild

starting in GSRP. Please consider everyone when you go into negotiations. Staff should make a living wage.

Tracy Pardiac - I have been a high school math teacher in the district since 2022. I have been teaching just shy of 20 years. I have taught algebra 1, algebra 2, geometry, pre-calculus and academic support classes during my time here and I am working without a contract.

XVII. Closed Session

Move to enter into a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations at 7:31pm

Motion : Ogden Second : Chapman Passed : 7-0

XVIII. Open Meeting

Move to return to open session at 8:55

Motion : Ramalia Second : Chapman Passed : 7-0

XIX. Adjournment

Move that regular meeting #8 of the Stockbridge Community School District Board of Education be adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Motion : Ramalia Second : Richardson Passed : 7-0

**BOARD COMMITTEES & REPRESENTATIVES
January 13, 2026 - December 31, 2026**

Board Committees

Committee Name	Chair	Member	Member	Meeting Frequency	
Technology/Curriculum	Gancer	Ogden	Chapman	Quarterly	
Athletics Committee	Ramalia	Numinen	Chapman	As Needed	
Safety/Wellness/Repro Health/Food & Nutrition	Ogden	Gancer	Richardson	Annually	
Facilities Committee:	Graham	Ramalia	Richardson	As Needed	
Personnel Committee:	Numenin	Chapman	Gancer	Bi-Annually	
Policy Committee:	Ramalia	Graham	Ogden	Bi-Annually	
Finance Committee	Numinen	Graham	Richardson	As Needed	

Board Representatives

Student Representative	JayLee Chapman		Monthly	Reg Board Mtg
SAEF Member	Richardson		Quarterly	

MASB Legislature	Ogden		Annually	
MASB Voting	Ogden		Annually	
ISD Budget Voting	Delegate: Numinen	Alt:Graham	Annually	
ISD Election Rep	Delegate: Numinen	Alt:Graham	Annually	
ISOA Ingham School Officers Association	Graham	Numinen	Monthly	

School Organizations

Panther Cubs PTO	Katie Schafer			Bi-Annually	Sept/Mar
Athletic Boosters	Monique Coffman	Cassie Horstman	Tracy Warren	Bi-Annually	Sept/Mar