MUSKEGON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SYSTEM

Board of Directors Special Board Meeting
September 23, 2026, 5:00 PM
2441 Sanford Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

I. Call to Order

The Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors, conducted at the Muskegon Heights Academy, 2441 Sanford Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444, was called to order by **Trustee Brown @ 5:09 pm.**

II. Roll Call

Board of Directors
President -Vacant
Vice President- Vacant
Secretary Sanders-Present
Treasurer Bryant-Present
Trustee McIntosh-Absent
Trustee Brown-Present
Trustee Ware-Absent/Resigned

Administrative Staff
Teacher`s First Director-Dave Patterson-Present

III. Consent Agenda:

The Board discussed the approval of the Consent Agenda, to run as stated.
MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders,** No further discussion was had and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

IV. New Business

a. Approval of Resignation of Board Member Antionette Ware:

The Board discussed the approval of the Resignation letter of Board Member Antionette Ware, effective September 21, 2026.

MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders,** No further discussion was had and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

b. Approval of the School Operations checklist developed by the Board:

The Board discussed the School Operations checklist as presented. Board members were provided an opportunity to ask questions or provide additional discussion.

MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders,** No further discussion was had and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

V. Old Business

a. Approval to Amend the Annual Resolution for FOIA Coordinator

The Board had discussion to approve that the Administrative Assistant, Board Liaison or designee shall serve as the Freedom of Information Act Representative for the Corporation to ensure compliance with the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976. Being Sections 15.231 to 15/246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and other applicable law providing for public disclosure of privacy.

MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders** to Amend the Annual Resolution for FOIA Coordinator. No further discussion was had, and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

VI. Correspondence

a. Signatures and Approval Required-MDE Alternate Agreements for SFA Sponsor, MHPSAS and Chartwells with Lighthouse Academy, and Muskegon Lakeshore High School and Career Center.

MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders** to approve the MDE Alternate Agreements for SFA Sponsor, MHPSAS and Chartwells with Lighthouse Academy, and Muskegon Lakeshore High School and Career Center. No further discussion was had, and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

VII. Other Board Business

a. Approval of the Square One Settlement

The Board had discussion on the Approval of the Square One Settlement Agreement.
MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders** for the Approval of the Square One Settlement Agreement. No further discussion was had, and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

b. MAISD Lease Agreement

The Board discussed the renewal of the MAISD lease agreement and concerns of limited classroom and office space at the Edgewood Building.The district's need for additional space and the current use of approximately five rooms by MAISD. It was reported that MAISD is exploring relocation to another facility but it could take approximately 12 months because of inspections and renovations. It was also noted that the current lease is for one year, providing an opportunity for the district to evaluate the arrangement before the next renewal period. Administration encouraged the Board to consider providing MAISD with sufficient advance notice if the district ultimately determines that the space will be needed for school operations.

MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders** to Approve the Renewal of the MAISD lease agreement. No further discussion was had, and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

c. Discussion Items or Approvals for:

i. Superintendent Search

The Board discussed the superintendent search process and materials provided to assist the Board with the search. Discussion on the possibility of requesting an amendment to the charter contract that would allow the District's Board to hire the superintendent directly.
The Board discussed the importance of having greater direct control over the superintendent and business-management functions so that the Board can make informed decisions regarding district affairs.
MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders** to request for the authorizing board to amend charter contract to allow the PSA Board to conduct a search and hire a Superintendent directly. No further discussion was had, and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.
Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Bryant-Aye.

ii. Approval of HR Solutions and CFO/Business Services Agreement with Teacher`s First.

The Board considered an agreement concerning HR Solutions and CFO business services agreement with Teachers First.

MOVED by **Brown**, MOTION by **Bryant**, SECONDED by **Sanders** for the approval of HR Solutions and CFO Business Services Agreement with Teachers First date October 1, 2026. No further discussion was had, and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

Roll Call Taken: Sanders-Aye, Brown-Aye, Ware-Aye.

VIII. Reports

a. Teacher`s First State of the School Report.

Teacher`s First reported on the recent MDE/ISD visit to the district. Two district Board members participated in the visit that was characterized as "positive". The State Superintendent was present, and the visiting team toured both school buildings, observed classrooms, and interacted with students and staff. Positive feedback was reported regarding the district and its schools. Recognition was given to the principals and staff, including Mrs. Johnson. The State Superintendent subsequently shared positive comments and photographs from the district visit through social media.

i. Current Student Enrollment

The Superintendent report states current K–12 enrollment of approximately 442 students at the time of the report. It was noted that enrollment may change as the school year progresses, particularly as the district reviews attendance and determines whether students who have not attended or whose families have not responded to outreach need to be withdrawn. The Superintendent report emphasized that enrollment has a significant impact on the district's State Foundation Grant and overall budget. A more accurate enrollment figure was expected after the district completed its enrollment review.

ii. Special Education Department Updates

The Board was informed that the Alliant contract had been renewed and would provide additional Special Education support, including three additional Special Education teachers and a psychologist. The services are expected to be provided virtually while the district continues searching for in-person staff. The district will continue seeking qualified in-person personnel and will provide appropriate notice if and when in-person staff is secured. The current Special Education staff, substitute teachers, and therapists were recognized for their professionalism and diligent work with students.

iii. Compliance-Epicenter Report

The Board and Administration discussed Epicenter requirements and outstanding submissions. Administration noted that there are older items in Epicenter that have not yet been submitted or uploaded, and that clarification is needed regarding the appropriate district-level contact or point person responsible for Epicenter. Administration will work with the district Board to determine the appropriate process and ensure required materials are properly dated and submitted.

b. Financial Report

i. Budget Review Update-N/A
ii. Grant Updates-N/A
iii. 25-26 Audit Updates-N/A
iv. Chartwells outstanding debt resolution-N/A
v. C. Kloska outstanding debt resolution-N/A
vi. Update on any other outstanding debts-N/A

Financial reports were tabled, and no board discussion as the board did not receive the information in a timely fashion.

IX. Public Comments

Public comments were limited to approximately two minutes per speaker.

Public Comment - Joe Rone

Mr. Rone addressed the Board regarding district agreements, compliance, FOIA requests, and the current recertification process. He expressed concerns regarding agreements involving Teachers First and other organizations and questioned whether current documentation properly reflects the district's current contractual relationships.

Mr. Rone referenced documents obtained through FOIA requests and encouraged the Board to review the documentation, work with legal counsel, and ensure that current agreements and supporting documents are properly reflected during the recertification process.

Additional concerns were expressed regarding the district's special education staffing at the beginning of the school year, including the absence of certain special education leadership and instructional positions. Mr. Rone also asked about a document indicating a potential transition to a hybrid service model and requested clarification regarding how that change would affect the district.

Public Comment-Joy Cooper — Middle School Math Teacher

Mrs. Cooper addressed the Board regarding PTO days discrepancy and stated that she had used approximately one and one-half days during the year. Mrs. Cooper PTO hours were not carried over into the next year, and that she was informed the policy was contained within the agreement previously approved by the Board. A board representative stated that the matter would be reviewed. Ms. Cooper thanked the Board.

IV. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting was announced as **October 19, 2026.**

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the presiding officer asked whether there were any objections to adjournment. Hearing no objection, **The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.**

Kesha Sanders

Kesha Sanders-Board Secretary
September 23, 2026 minutes