

MINUTES
HOUGHTON-PORTAGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 19, 2026

Members Present: Baltensperger, Burns, Cischke, Foltz, Massaway, Vertin

Members Absent: Salmi

Also Present: Administrators Hill, Scullion, Filpus, Klein, Fay, Marcotte; Jason Evans, Callie Knuuttila, Representatives from Gundlach Champion

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Massaway called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Appoint Temporary Chairperson

Mr. Baltensperger with support from Mrs. Cischke moved that Mrs. Massaway be appointed temporary chairperson until officers are elected. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Recognition/Presentation

Board Appreciation - Board members were recognized for their service as part of Board Member Appreciation Month.

JROTC Presentation - JROTC presentation was cancelled due to weather

5. Consent Agenda

Mr. Baltensperger with support from Mr. Burns moved that the Board approve the minutes of the December 8, 2025, regular Board meeting and the January financial statements and bills in the amount of \$414,535.82. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Administrative Reports

Mrs. Scullion, Ms. Filpus and Mr. Klein reported on events occurring in their buildings. Mr. Fay reported on activities in the Athletic Department. Callie Knuuttila gave a student report. Mr. Hill reported on events occurring in the district.

7. MASA/MASB/CCASB Reports

There was no MASB or MASA report. Mrs. Massaway gave a CCASB report.

8. Discussion/Action Items

1) Election of Officers

Mr. Foltz with support from Mr. Baltensperger moved that the Board elect Mrs. Massaway as president, Mr. Burns as vice president, Mr. Salmi as secretary and Mrs. Cischke as treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Approval of By-Laws

Mr. Foltz with support from Mr. Burns moved that the Board approve the By-Laws from Section 2000 of the Policy Manual. Motion carried unanimously.

3) Resolution Fixing Time, Date and Place of Monthly Meetings

Mrs. Cischke with support from Mr. Burns moved that the Board approve the schedule for monthly meetings on February 17, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 14, January 18, to begin at 5:30 p.m. and the meetings to be held in the Houghton High School Board Room or Library or the Houghton Elementary School. Motion carried unanimously.

4) Bank Signature Authorization

Mr. Baltensperger with support from Mr. Burns moved that the Board authorize their officers Mrs. Massaway, Mr. Salmi, Mr. Burns, Mrs. Cischke and Superintendent Hill to sign checks. Motion carried unanimously.

5) Resolution to Accept Board Operating Procedures

Mr. Foltz with support from Mrs. Cischke moved that the Board accept the Board operating procedures. Motion carried unanimously.

6) Resolution to Accept Bid Recommendations for Series 1 Work at the Houghton Elementary School as Recommended by Gundlach Champion

Mr. Baltensperger with support from Mrs. Vertin moved that the Board accept bid recommendations for Series 1 work at the Houghton Elementary School as recommended by Gundlach Champion. Motion carried unanimously.

7) Resolution to Move Forward with Strategic Planning Update Winter/Spring 2026

Mr. Burns with support from Mrs. Vertin moved that the Board move forward with strategic planning update Winter/Spring 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

8) Resolution to Approve Issuance of Series 2 Bonds and Refunding of Bonds for Work at the Houghton Middle and High Schools

Mr. Baltensperger with support from Mr. Foltz moved that the Board approve issuance of Series 2 bonds and refunding of bonds for work at the Houghton Middle and High Schools. Motion carried unanimously.

9) Resolution to Approve Eli Luoma as elementary Resource Room Teacher and Head Varsity Football Coach

Mr. Foltz with support from Mrs. Cischke moved that the Board approve Eli Luoma as elementary resource room teacher and head varsity football coach. Motion carried unanimously.

10) Round Table/Discussion

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mrs. Massaway adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stefanie Baril, Acting Secretary

Mike Salmi, Board Secretary