



The Organizational and Regular meeting of the Central Montcalm Public School Board of Education was called to order by Past President Bill Simpson in the High School Student Learning Center on Monday, January 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Bill Simpson, Jamie Hansen-Hopkins, Brennan Bowen, Jim Lingeman, Rob Train, Lisa Lund
Absent: Bill Collins

All trustees recited the Oath of Office.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Election of Officers:

- Motion to nominate Bowen as Temporary Chairperson. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.
- Motion to nominate Bill Simpson for President. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Simpson, Hansen-Hopkins, Lingeman, Train, Lund, Bowen, No – none. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.
- Motion to nominate Brennan Bowen for Vice-President. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.
- Motion to nominate Jamie Hansen-Hopkins for Secretary. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.
- Motion to nominate Lisa Lund for Treasurer. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

These individuals will serve until the next organizational meeting in January 2025.

Discussion of the 2025 Board Member Committee Assignments:

- Finance/Employee Relations/Marketing: Simpson, Lingeman, Lund
- District Improvement Team Liaison: Hansen-Hopkins

Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Train, supported by Bowen, that Central Montcalm Public School continue membership with the Montcalm County School Board Association for the remainder of 2025 and appointed Lund as representative and Lingeman as alternate. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lund, supported by Lingeman, that the Board of Education authorize the following individuals as signatories on the following internal accounts.

Accounts and authorizing signatories are as follows:

General Fund – Charles (Marty) James, Patricia Root, Susan Yaw, William Simpson, Jamie Hansen-Hopkins, Lisa Lund

Flexible Spending Account – Charles (Marty) James, Patricia Root, Susan Yaw

2005 Refunding Debt Fund – Charles (Marty) James, Patricia Root, Susan Yaw, William Simpson, Jamie Hansen-Hopkins, Lisa Lund

Payroll Account – Charles (Marty) James, Patricia Root, Susan Yaw

Sweep Fund – Charles (Marty) James, Patricia Root, Susan Yaw

Safety Deposit Box – Charles (Marty) James, Susan Yaw

Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Hansen-Hopkins, that the Superintendent be designated as the person responsible for posting notices of regular and special meetings of the Board of Education. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.



Motion by Lingeman, supported by Bowen, that the following law firms be appointed to provide legal services to the school district: Thrun Law Firms, PC as Primary General Counsel; Clark Hill, PLC as Labor Counsel, Counsel for special education and Section 504 matters. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Lund, that the Board approve Isabella Bank, Fifth Third Bank, BMO Harris Bank, and Huntington Bank as the designated depositories for Central Montcalm Public School for the 2025 calendar year. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Train, supported by Lingeman, that the Board designates the Montcalm Area ISD Associate Superintendent of Finance and HR, Tricia Root, to serve as the Electronic Transactions Officer of the Central Montcalm Public School District. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Hansen-Hopkins, supported by Lingeman, that the existing bylaws and policies for operation of the school district be adopted. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Bowen, that the Board of Education appoints the Superintendent as the person responsible for meeting with the NEOLA policy services representative to review recommended generic policy updates. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Hansen-Hopkins, that Tony Brace be designated as the District’s AHERA Compliance Officer for 2025. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lund, supported by Lingeman, that Charity Stephens, Jeff Wernette, and Abigail LaVictor serve as the District’s Title IX Coordinators in accordance with guidelines and recommendations. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Hansen-Hopkins, that the Board of Education designates Amanda McLaughlin as the District’s McKinney-Vento or Homeless Liaison for 2025. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Bowen, that the Board of Education approve the current District Emergency Operating Plan for 2025. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Bowen, supported by Hansen-Hopkins, that the Board of Education establish the following meeting schedule for regular meetings for the 2025 calendar year. These meetings will be held in the High School Student Learning Center, except where otherwise noted, and will begin at 7:00 p.m. on the dates indicated.

Monday, January 20, 2025	Monday, July 21, 2025
Monday, February 17, 2025	Monday, August 18, 2025
Monday, March 17, 2025	Monday, September 15, 2025
Monday, April 21, 2025	Monday, October 20, 2025
Monday, May 19, 2025	Monday, November 17, 2025
Monday, June 16, 2025	Monday, December 15, 2025

The Board will also establish the following dates as Board Workshop sessions for the 2024-2025 school year. These meetings will be held at Central Office, except where otherwise noted, and will begin at 5:00 p.m. on the dates indicated.

Monday, February 3, 2025	Monday, October 6, 2025
Monday, April 7, 2025	Monday, December 1, 2025

Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.



President Simpson opened the floor to questions or comments from the public about the Organization of the Board for 2025. No comments at this time.

REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Train, to accept and approve the following minutes as submitted: December 16, 2024 Regular Meeting. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Train, supported by Bowen, to accept and approve the Finance Report for the period ended December 31, 2024. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Lund, supported by Hansen-Hopkins, to ratify the payment of bills for December 2024 for the amount of \$1,140,781.16. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Hornet Highlights:
 - a. CMMHS: Charity Stephens informed the Board of two student teachers who will be training at Central Montcalm for this semester. Matt Mudgett will be working with Matt Reed, and Bruin French will be working with Elizabeth Adams and Scott Cripe. Mr. Reed introduced Nicole Fickle, an 8th Grade trumpet player. She has been selected for the All State Middle School Honors Ensemble for 2025.
 - b. CMUE: Abigail LaVictor reported grades 3-5 are showing gains following Winter Benchmarking based on assessments from Acadience, NWEA and Open Court Writing.
 - c. CME: Shannon Bowen shared that Brianna Collins-Raymond is leading a Healthy Kids Running Club. The students can run laps during recess breaks, earning punch cards and tokens for achievement.
2. School Board Member Recognition: Mr. James thanked the trustees for their volunteer hours as board members and presented certificates of appreciation to each member.

Previous Concerns: None at this time.

President Simpson opened the floor to public comment on agenda items: Betty Wakefield expressed interest in the open Trustee position and distributed her resume to the Board members.

Old Business: None at this time.

President Simpson addressed the consent agenda.

1. To accept the resignation of Bill Collins, Board Trustee, effective January 20, 2025
2. To accept the resignation of Laura Morrison, CMUE Paraprofessional, effective January 17, 2025
3. To accept the resignation of Sarah Akkerhuis-Collier, CMUE Paraprofessional, effective January 20, 2025
4. To employ Terrie Weston as GSRP Associate Teacher at ELC, effective January 6, 2025, contingent on criminal and unprofessional background checks
5. To employ Alayna Kooistra as Paraprofessional at CMUE, effective January 6, 2025, contingent on criminal and unprofessional background checks
6. To employ Sheri LeFebre as Jail Aide/Proctor at CMLC, effective January 13, 2025, contingent on criminal and unprofessional background checks



7. To employ Samantha Ruid as Paraprofessional at CMMS, effective January 14, 2025, contingent on criminal and unprofessional background checks
8. To employ Katherine Rasmussen as Adult Ed Instructor at CMLC, effective January 15, 2025, contingent on criminal and unprofessional background checks
9. To employ Sheena Sanders as Talent Revue Advisor, per Schedule B, effective December 20, 2024
10. *To approve the request of an unpaid leave of absence for Sheena Sanders, CMMHS teacher, for January 22-25, 2025*
11. *To approve the request of an unpaid leave of absence for Gabrielle Webb, CME teacher, for February 19, 2025*

Request by Hansen-Hopkins to address items 10 and 11 separately. Motion by Lingeman, supported by Bowen, to approve the consent agenda items 1-9. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Train, supported by Bowen, to approve item #10, the request of an unpaid leave of absence for Sheena Sanders, CMMHS teacher, for January 22-25, 2025. Discussion of Criteria: Medical leaves are always approved. "Once in a Lifetime" and curriculum related events are usually granted. There is no limit on the number of leaves that may be requested. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Simpson, Hansen-Hopkins, Lingeman, Train, Lund, Bowen; No – none. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Bowen, supported by Lund, to approve item #11, the request of an unpaid leave of absence for Gabrielle Webb, CME teacher, for February 19, 2025. Roll Call Vote: Yes – Simpson, Hansen-Hopkins, Lingeman, Train, Lund, Bowen; No – none. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

New Business: None at this time.

President Simpson opened the floor to public comment on non-agenda items. There were no comments.

Motion by Lingeman, supported by Hansen-Hopkins, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:33 p.m. Those in favor 6, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Hansen-Hopkins
Board Secretary