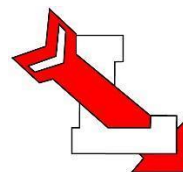


Board Briefs



Regular Meeting of November 10, 2025

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Gianna Gates-Duprey reported that the football team won the district championship and will host the regional playoff game at home Friday. Golf, volleyball, and cross country have all completed successful seasons within the conference finals. The first trimester is wrapping up and students will be receiving test reviews and getting in study time for final exams. The annual blood drive will take place on November 18. Students are preparing for the Positive View Conference, which will include a school assembly during the day and a parent night event. This event will help students and parents understand the impact of social media and how to navigate it.

CONSENT GROUPING

Approval of October 2025 minutes, payment of bills for October 2025 and approval of a new hire, Jacquelyn Cruz, Middle School teacher.

AUDIT REPORT

Tyler Booneberg from Hungerford CPAs and Advisors provided the Board of Education an audit report. The full audit report is located on the transparency page of the district website.

ACTION ITEMS

The following action items were approved - AP Biology resources and the Summer Tax Resolution

DISCUSSION

The Board conducted a first reading of multiple policies. Revisions to Board policies occur on a regular basis to reflect changes in state and federal laws. These revised policies will be brought to the Board at the next meeting for approval. The following policies were reviewed:

HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Dustin Cichocki stated that open enrollment for staff ends Friday. The Human Resource Department has been communicating information accordingly. The Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) will be holding an informational meeting for staff in January at the middle school. Descalation training will be provided to new hires. Driver negotiations will begin next week.

BUDGET UPDATE

Sonia Hodge stated that with the audit done, the focus is now on various fiscal year 2025 reports, providing a budget amendment to the Board, and continued training for the payroll specialist. We are using leftover training hours from the software conversion to provide one-on-one training directly with the software company.

CURRICULM UPDATE

Steve Gough stated that 88% of the students completed the belonging survey. The sense of belonging increased slightly. State index scores for schools were released last week, but are still embargoed. A preliminary review shows our scores are strong. The MTSS team met to review systems of support in academics, attendance and student wellness. Mr. Gough clarified a public comment that was made at the last Board Work Session. He wanted to assure the Board of Education that he and Mrs. Beachler were not gaslighting the community with the media center newsletter that was sent out. The newsletters are public and he encouraged everyone to read the October entry. The newsletter contained factual information about how books are selected and placed into the library. The commenter also stated that the October newsletter claimed that LAS cannot rate books because it was prohibited under the first amendment. That claim was not made. The newsletter explained that there is currently no official rating system for books and that previous attempts to create such systems have run into first amendment challenges. He reminded parents that the entire library collection is available on line with a searchable database. Parents can use this resource to determine what additional restrictions they want in place for their children, including specific titles, authors, themes or topics.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

One audience member made a public comment. No action taken.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Fowler stated the district's transparency has improved. He is confident that the district is compliant with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). He thanked all the veterans in the community for their service and wished all the students good luck on their exams. He stated that fall athletics were very successful. Girls golf placed 3rd in Division 1 at the state finals and boys cross country placed 8th in Division 1. He wished the football team good luck in the regional final on Friday. Winter weather is fast approaching with potential impacts. Staff tested the Infinite Campus communication system on Friday. The test of the new system sent over 12,000 emails, text messages and phone calls to nearly 4500 recipients. People are able to manage their own preferences for how they wish to receive messages from the system. Last month the Board authorized the purchase of a mower. There was a reduction of approximately 50% for the time it took to mow Alto and Murray Lake. One of the maintenance staff was completing work orders during the time that previously would have been spent on a mower. He also noted that the high school track has been completed. He thanked everyone that voted on November 4. The enhancement millage funds will allow Lowell to continue to offer outstanding programs to students in grades K-12 so they will be prepared when they graduate from high school.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Jared Blough thanked the voters.
- Laurie Kuna thanked all the veterans.
- Jennifer Dougherty thanked the Business Office for a successful audit and thanked Mr. Gough for his comments regarding library books.
- Pat Nugent thanked the Business Office and school administrators and offices for their work in securing another unmodified opinion on the audit.
- Brian Krajewski thanked the veterans and the voters. He also wished all the hunters a safe season.