

Superintendent Report: July Board Meeting

Submitted on July 16, 2026

Administrative Updates

You probably noticed on the personnel report that we have no changes this month. That is fantastic news! July continues to be a great time for rejuvenation and planning as we prep for the upcoming school year.

Preparations are nearly complete for our professional development sessions scheduled for August 13 and 17. This year, we are trying something new by not holding a traditional Registration Day. Instead, pictures will be taken during the first week of school, and student schedules will be finalized and sent out well in advance. We still have the Back-to-School Bash and 6th Grade Orientation scheduled for August 13. We are excited to get students back in the building—it is always wonderful to feel that back-to-school energy start up again.

Budget Development

We are currently in the midst of audit season. Once again, we closed the fiscal year without needing to borrow from the State Treasury for September cash flow. This is a very positive financial outcome and a clear sign that right-sizing the district was the responsible and necessary thing to do.

Because we paid off our debt through the School Qualified Bond and Loan program by refinancing our 2016 bonds, you won't see the typical July renewal for the School Loan Revolving Fund application on this month's agenda.

We are waiting on the Governor's signature for the state budget. Fortunately, there were very few, if any, surprises this year, which is a welcome relief.

Facilities

On July 14, I met with Sgts. Doerr and Newton from the Ingham County Sheriff's Office to review a new draft of our Emergency Operations Plan. Fire Chief Whipple has also independently reviewed it. We are transitioning to the new template provided by the Michigan State Police Office of School Safety. By law, all schools must use standardized language to address certain emergencies, which this updated plan reflects. The Board of Education is also required to review the plan; we will do this in closed session, and then bring it back next month for formal approval.

Mr. Sykes has been gathering quotes for crack repair and sealing on our newest paved lots. I have also been working with the DDA and the Village to share the cost of striping Dakin and Adams streets to improve safety during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up at the elementary.

Upcoming Dates

August 13 Elementary Back-to-School Bash
 & 6th Grade Orientation

August 13 First Day for Teachers

August 17 First Day for Students

Special Invitation to Board Members:

*We invite all board members to attend the **Welcome Back Breakfast** at 8:00 AM on **August 13** in the **Ebert Commons**. We would be delighted to have you join us in welcoming staff back for the new school year.*