

**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*Board of Education***

**Organizational Meeting – January 13, 2025**

**MINUTES**

President Shannon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Notary Public Kim Manning administered the Oath of Office to new board members Kali Stevens, Matt Oppenheim and Coban Holmes.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call by Superintendent Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Coban Holmes, Matt Oppenheim, Kali Stevens, Toni Glasscoe, Ashley Kuykendoll, Denise DuFort and Nicole Shannon. **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Adrienne Barna, Bill Albrecht, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Amy Hirshman, Karen Almcrantz, Rachel Parish, Stacy Kruse, Christina Holmes, Melissa Mazzola, Sean Stevens, Tim Totten, Brian Diller, Ashleigh Lore, Kristy Ford, Tessa Arbour, Lindsey Boots, Allyson Prince, Nicole Conner, Chris Chester and Kim Manning

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tim Totten shared his view on the 2024 election

Melissa Mazzola acknowledge January is School Board Recognition month and thanked the board members for all they do.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Board Secretary Ashley Kuykendoll conducted the Election of President.

**A. President**

**Nicole Shannon nominated Denise DuFort for the 2025 President of the Board of Education.**

There were no other nominations.

**The nomination of Denise DuFort as the 2025 President of the Board of Education carried unanimously.**

President DuFort Conducted the election for Vice President and Secretary.

**B. Vice President**

**Nicole Shannon nominated Ashley Kuykendoll for the 2025 Vice President of the Board of Education.**

There were no other nominations.

**The nomination carried unanimously.**

**C. Secretary**

**Ashley Kuykendoll nominated Nicole Shannon for the 2025 Secretary of the Board of Education.**

There were no other nominations.

**The nomination carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the January 13, 2025 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.**

Included on the Consent Agenda was setting the Board Compensation Rate, noting it remains the same rate as established in 2013 with no increase, the reaffirmation and adoption of the Legal Reference Note; approval of the depositories for school funds; designating the Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer of Grand Ledge Public Schools as the persons Authorized to Sign Checks, Contracts, Agreements, and Purchase Orders; naming the Lansing State Journal as the official newspaper for publication purposes and authorizing the Superintendent (or his designee) to be the designated person to post official business notices; the delegation of the district's election duties to the Superintendent (or his designee); reaffirming that all seven (7) members of the board of education will sign all ratified collective bargaining agreements; retaining The Thrun Law Firm as the district's legal counsel, Maner Costerisan & Ellis, PC as the district's financial auditors and the Michigan Association of School Boards as the district's labor relations consultant; and confirming the Standing Board Advisory Committees as the Bond and Sinking Fund Committee, the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, the Finance Committee and the Governance Committee.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**SELECTION OF BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

President DuFort made the following appointments for 2025:

- Parliamentarian: Nicole Shannon
- Legislation Liaison: Toni Glasscoe, with Kali Stevens serving as back-up.
- Board Representative to the GL Education Foundation: Nicole Shannon
- Members of the Board Bond & Sinking Fund Committee: Denise DuFort, Nicole Shannon & Kali Stevens
- Members of the Board Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee: Denise DuFort, Ashley Kuykendoll and Kali Stevens

- Members of the Board Finance Committee: Ashley Kuykendoll, Toni Glasscoe & Matt Oppenheim
- Members of the Governance Committee: Toni Glasscoe, Matt Oppenheim & Coban Holmes

**SETTING OF 2023 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve Option C as the 2025 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, as presented.**

It was noted there are three options to select from with Option A implementing a one meeting per month schedule, Option B implementing more one meeting months with a few two meetings per month, and Option C following the standard two meetings a month with a few months only having one meeting due to holidays and school breaks.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

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Nicole Shannon, Secretary

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Denise DuFort, President