

The Kent ISD School Board held a regular meeting at the Kent Conference Center on Monday, July 21, 2025. President Haidle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Rettig, Drake, Hamming, Haidle.
Member Absent: Featherston

Kent ISD Staff Present: Superintendent Gorman; Assistant Superintendents Philipps, Rodgers;
Directors Houtman, Behm, Burns, Karsten; Recording Secretary Lovell
Staff Members: Joanne Boorsma, Cinnamon Mellema, Katherine O' Hara Wallis

Superintendent Gorman requested nominations for the position of Board President of the Kent ISD School Board for the 2025-2026 school year.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the following slate for board offices for the 2025-2026 school year:

President-Andrea Haidle
Vice President-Anne Hamming
Laura Featherston-Treasurer
David Drake-Secretary
Matt Rettig- Trustee

Ayes: Hamming, Rettig, Drake, Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the resolution to designate bank depositories.

Ayes: Rettig, Drake, Hamming, Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the resolution authorizing accounts through JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA.

Ayes: Drake, Hamming, Rettig, Haidle
Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the resolution designating the superintendent or his designee to assume the responsibilities of the treasurer for the administration of funds and to sign checks, contracts, agreements, and purchase orders.

Ayes: Hamming, Rettig, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the School Board meeting dates for the 2025-2026 school year.

Ayes: Rettig, Drake, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Rettig, it was resolved to approve the procedures to call special meetings of the Board.

Ayes: Drake, Hamming, Rettig, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Rettig, it was resolved to approve the resolution to appoint Legal Counsel to represent Kent ISD.

Ayes: Hamming, Rettig, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the resolution for Kent ISD staff members to use Kent ISD credit cards for district business.

Ayes: Rettig, Drake, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the resolution authorizing electronic transactions and designating an Electronic Transfer Officer.

Ayes: Drake, Hamming, Rettig, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

July 21, 2025

Director of Strategic Planning and Organizational Initiatives, Ron Houtman, provided an overview of the LEAD 2.0 Kent ISD's strategic plan. This will guide the organization's work through the next three years. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

Goal 1. Position Kent ISD as a leader for student-centered programming and regional educational services

Goal 2. Build an organizational culture of transparency and accountability.

Goal 3. Recruit and retain a thriving workforce invested in success for all

Goal 4. Develop and enhance community partnerships to maximize positive impact

Goal 5. Proactively addresses the evolving needs of the work environment

Upon motion of Member Hamming, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to combine and approve the consent agenda action items E.1-E.16.

Ayes: Hamming, Rettig, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the 35j grant purchase of classroom library books for the GSRP classroom and elementary special education classrooms across Kent ISD.

Ayes: Rettig, Drake, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Rettig, supported by Member Drake, it was resolved to approve the purchase of GSRP classroom furniture and supplies from Lakeshore Learning.

Ayes: Drake, Hamming, Rettig, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve Phase Two of the purchase and installation of cameras and access control systems for multiple Kent ISD buildings.

Ayes: Hamming, Rettig, Drake, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion of Member Drake, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the contingency increase for the ESC renovation project.

Ayes: Rettig, Drake, Hamming, Haidle

Nays: None

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion by Member Rettig, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to approve the Kent ISD Strategic Plan LEAD 2.0, which will guide the organization's goals for the next three years.

Ayes: Drake, Hamming, Rettig, Haidle

Nays:

Motion declared to have carried.

Upon motion by Member Rettig, supported by Member Hamming, it was resolved to adopt the resolution to propose a regional enhancement millage renewal and restoration for the November 4, 2025, election ballot.

Ayes: Hamming, Rettig, Drake, Haidle

Nays:

Motion declared to have carried.

President Haidle provided the opportunity for public comment. No public comments were given.

Dan Behm shared an update on the current status of the state and federal budgets, as well as the potential timeline for when the state budget is expected to be passed.

President Haidle shared the monthly calendar checklist as a reminder of the items to be brought before the board each month.

Superintendent Gorman thanked Ron Houtman for his comprehensive report on Kent ISD's strategic plan. He also shared with Board Members that KCSA has two new superintendents, including Mr. Rob Pouch of Thornapple Kellogg and Mr. Chad Conklin of Godwin Heights Public Schools.

Superintendent Gorman shared correspondence from Grand Valley State University Director Greg Warsen, commending Board Member Matt Rettig for his willingness to meet with a GVSU student and provide valuable insights regarding Superintendent-Board Member relations in support of the student's academic studies. Superintendent Gorman shared that Mr. Rettig's engagement reflects his commitment to education across all levels.

President Haidle adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

Minutes approved on August 18, 2025



Andrea Haidle, President



David Drake, Secretary