Central Montcalm Public School
Board of Education
Minutes of October 7, 2026 Board Workshop

The Board Workshop of the Central Montcalm Public School Board of Education was called to order by President Brennan Bowen in the CMMHS Student Learning Center on Monday, October 7, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brennan Bowen, Jamie Hansen-Hopkins, Lisa Lund, Bill Simpson, Betty Wakefield
Absent: Elizabeth Buskirk, Rob Train

Motion by Lund, supported by Wakefield, to approve the agenda as presented. Those in favor 5, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Presentation: Legal Issues in Board Governance, Brad Banasik -MASB

- Open Meetings Act – Key Points:
  - Take simple minutes at committee meetings to ensure there are no violations of OMA.
  - Offer a Public Comment time at committee meetings.
  - Avoid emergency adjournment of any meeting if no Public Comment time has been allowed.
  - Take a recess (up to 36 hours is allowable) if time is needed to settle audience.
  - Insert "Board Member Alert" from presentation into all emails to or between trustees.
  - Disorderly Conduct: Attendee should be provided 2 verbal warnings before being asked to leave/being removed from a meeting.
  - The Board may wish to revise the Public Comment introduction at a future date.
- Parliamentary Procedure - Key Points:
  - Due to size, the CMPS Board falls under the "Informal" Robert's Rules of Order guidelines.
  - Clarification: Misuse of Tabling a Motion
    - "Lay on the table" suspends the order of the agenda to allow a speaker listed later on the agenda to present at the current point of the meeting due to time constraints. After the speaker is finished, resume the agenda as listed.
    - "Postpone to the next meeting" ends the current discussion on a motion with a second. Discussion will resume at the next meeting under Unfinished Business.
  - Discussion of a topic is allowable under Superintendent Report and Committee Reports. This can guide the wording of a motion under the New Business portion of the meeting.
- Time was allowed to answer trustee questions.

Ad-Hoc Millage Education Committee:

- Postcards were mailed today.
- An ad is being created for publication in the Daily News in the next 2 weeks.
- Matt Reed is creating a series of Facebook posts using the postcard information.

Superintendent Goals Update:

- Strategic Plan – DCIT is developing action items for each goal. Channels are being established to communicate regular updates on action items and the plan as a whole.

- Staff Culture – A committee organized 8 staff events during the 2025-2026 school year, and activities will continue this school year. Buildings and departments were recognized and honored at Board meetings last year. A staff survey will be conducted at the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

Board Orientation Workbook:

- Preliminary notebooks were distributed to attending trustees for review. Adoption of the Board Orientation Workbook will come up for a vote at a future meeting. Submit feedback about the notebook to the committee members.

Write-In Candidates for the partial term Trustee Position ending 12/31/2028: Two community members, Ronald Retzloff and Erin Stratton, have submitted paperwork to the County Clerk.

Pre-Organizational Meeting: Discussion of the election of officers will be part of the December 2 Board Workshop.

NOTE: At the January 2026 Organizational meeting, the December regular Board Meeting was moved up one week to December 14 due to Winter Break.

Superintendent Evaluation: Board consensus is to use a facilitator for the evaluation process. Mandy will check on available dates, with one option possibly December 14. Mandy is requesting the evaluation be held in a closed session.

Around the Table: None at this time.

President Bowen opened the floor to public comment: None at this time.

Motion by Simpson to adjourn the Board Workshop at 8:24 pm. With no objection, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Hansen-Hopkins
Secretary