Central Montcalm Public School
Board of Education
Minutes of November 9, 2026 Special Meeting

The Special Meeting 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, November 9, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Present: Brennan Bowen, Elizabeth Buskirk, Bill Simpson, Betty Wakefield
Absent: Jamie Hansen-Hopkins, Lisa Lund, Rob Train
Since the Secretary was absent, President Bowen asked Bill Simpson to serve as acting secretary for the meeting.

Motion by Buskirk, supported by Wakefield, to approve the agenda as presented. Those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Wakefield, supported by Buskirk, to enter a closed session at 6:01 pm to consider disciplinary measures for Student 2026-C (CMUE), at the parent's request. This is an allowable topic under Section 8 (8.1.b) of the Open Meetings Act. By roll call vote, those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Attending closed session: Trustees, Superintendent Amanda McLaughlin, Principal Abigail LaVictor, Student, Parent.

Motion by Simpson, supported by Wakefield, to return to open session at 8:58 pm. By roll call vote, those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Wakefield, supported by Simpson, based on the preponderance of the evidence, and after careful consideration of the pre-disciplinary factors required by law, that Student 2026-C be suspended for 35 school days due to threat of a weapon, which is in violation of the student handbook and district policy. During the time of this suspension, the student shall not be on Central Montcalm Public School grounds or attend any function at the District without prior written approval from the administration. By roll call vote, those in favor: Bowen, Simpson, Wakefield; opposed Buskirk. Motion carried 3-1.

Motion by Buskirk for a 5-minute recess, supported by Wakefield.

Motion by Simpson, supported by Buskirk, to enter a closed session at 9:10 pm to consider disciplinary measures for Student 2026-D (CMMHS), at the parent's request. This is an allowable topic under Section 8 (8.1.b) of the Open Meetings Act. By roll call vote, those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Attending closed session: Trustees, Superintendent Amanda McLaughlin, Principal Jeff Wernette, Assistant Principal Ed Beickman, Principal Abigail LaVictor, Student, Parent.

Motion by Wakefield, supported by Buskirk, to return to open session at 9:47 pm. By roll call vote, those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Buskirk, supported by Wakefield, based on the preponderance of the evidence, and after careful consideration of the pre-disciplinary factors required by law, that Student 2026-D be expelled until the end of the 2026-2027 School Year due to possession of a weapon on school grounds, which is in violation of the student handbook and district policy. During the time of this expulsion, the student shall not be on Central Montcalm Public School grounds or attend any function at the District without prior written approval from the administration. The student may apply for reinstatement at the end of the expulsion period or as allowed by State Law. Reinstatement will be contingent upon proof of ongoing social work services, successful completion of any court ordered requirements, and board approval. By roll call vote, those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Wakefield, supported by Simpson, to adjourn the Special Meeting at 9:50 pm. Those in favor 4, opposed 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Simpson
Acting Secretary