

LEELANAU MONTESSORI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY

Minutes - Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

At the Leland Township Public Library

Munnecke Community Room

203 E Cedar St.

Leland, MI 49654

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the Academy's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in agenda item 6.

1. CALL TO ORDER

4:01pm

2. ROLL CALL

The following board members were present: Anita Abbott (President), Sarah Bordeaux (Vice President), April Fiorelli (Treasurer), Deb Kuhn (Director) (left at 5:46pm), Hallie Kutschke (Director), Tom McConnell (Director)

Non-Board Members Attending:

Arden Wilson, LMPSA

Nora Goodell, LMPSA

Ralph Geraci, LMPSA Parent

Dani Geraci, LMPSA Parent and LMFF President

Lisa Thauvette, Community Member

Katie Skowronski, LMPSA Staff and Parent

Bethany Sparling, LMPSA Outreach Coordinator and Community Member

Drew Smith, LMPSA Parent

Rebecca Clinton, LMPSA Parent

Erik Bahle, LMPSA Parent

Elizabeth Channer, LMPSA Staff and Parent

Corine Couturier, LMPSA Staff

Laura Piskor, LMPSA Staff and Parent

Jessica Vitale, LMPSA Staff and Parent

Josh Deters, Community Member

Emma Cloninger, LMPSA Parent

Eli Rutila, LMPSA Parent

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Bordeaux noted that the resignation of Sue Brown needs to be added to the agenda as Item #4 and the subsequent items renumbered.

Motion Made by Bordeaux and seconded by McConnell to approve the agenda amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. RESIGNATION OF SUSAN BROWN

Our Mission Statement

Leelanau Montessori Public School Academy nurtures the whole child in a Montessori prepared environment based on respect, individuality, a love of learning, and freedom with responsibility.

Motion Made by Bordeaux and seconded by Kuhn to approve the resignation of Susan Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. PRESENTATION BY ANGI BELAND, EXTERNAL CONSULTANT, ON SUSTAINABILITY MODELS & OPTIONS

Angi provided the board with an overview of enrollment trends for our school and others in the community, and highlighted the need to maximize enrollment as well as fundraise to cover the gap in what we receive and what we spend.

6. BOARD DISCUSSION

The board discussed enrollment trends, building and staffing limitations, and the importance of marketing and social media to raise awareness of the school, for both enrollment and fundraising. Various options were discussed, but no decisions were made.

Action Item:

- Put out a parent and staff survey prior to the next meeting to explore some of the issues raised, and measure the level of commitment.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was given by some of the parents and staff in attendance. Ideas for staffing and programming were presented to the board for their consideration, and offers were made to assist in the fundraising effort.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Bordeaux and seconded by Kutschke. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03pm.

The School has provided public notice of this meeting by posting it at the entrance of Leelanau Montessori.

Minutes of all board meetings are available after approval by the Board on the school website, or in the school office during normal business hours.



Debra Kuhn (Jan 23, 2026 08:37:01 EST)

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Meeting Minutes January 7, 2026 (1)

Final Audit Report

2026-01-23

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