

## AGENDA

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Scan the above QR code with your phone to view this meeting agenda on your phone.

*Midland Public Schools Vision Statement:*

*Lead with respect, trust and courage.*

*Ensure an equitable, collaborative and inclusive culture. Enable all to achieve success.*

*Regular monthly meetings are held at the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 E. Carpenter Street, Midland, Michigan, at 7 p.m. with adjournment not later than 9:30 p.m. except by unanimous approval otherwise.*

*This meeting is a meeting of the Midland Public Schools' Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District'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 the agenda. The Board of Education receives agenda material in advance of the meeting and has the opportunity to ask clarification questions of the staff. In order to expedite routine items of business and operations and maximize the opportunity for discussion topics, the Board will utilize a consent format for portions of the agenda as noted.*

Watch the meeting live [HERE](#).

### 1. Call to Order

#### 1. Roll Call

**Board of Education:**

Phillip Rausch, President  
Scott McFarland, Vice President  
Jennifer Ringgold, Secretary  
Jonathan Lauderbach, Treasurer  
Brad Blasy, Trustee  
Meki Craig, Trustee  
Ann Horowitz, Trustee

**Central Staff:**

Penny Miller-Nelson, Superintendent  
Brian Brutyn, Assistant Superintendent

Kara Stark, Associate Superintendent of Student Services and Human Resources  
Anna Wamack, Associate Superintendent of Finance, Facilities, and Operations  
Kenneth Weaver, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

## 2. For Action: Election of Temporary Chairperson

The meeting shall be called to order by the ranking officer of the preceding Board who shall serve as presiding officer until the election of a temporary chairperson, who shall in turn serve until the election of a President.

## 3. For Information: Identification of District's Legal Status

Under the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1 et seq., the district's legal status was defined as a general powers school district, effective July 1, 1996.

## 4. For Action: Election of Officers of the Board

Election of Officers of the Board as outlined in Board Policy 2506, a three-person Board of Education Nominating Committee submitted a proposed slate of officers for 2026. The proposed slate is as follows:

- President: Phil Rausch
- Vice President: Scott McFarland
- Secretary: Jennifer Ringgold
- Treasurer: Jon Lauderbach

-  [Policy 2506 Organizational Meetings](#)
-  [2506-F Organizational Meeting Checklist.docx \(2\)](#)
-  [BOARD OF EDUCATION Past Presidents 2026](#)
-  [Board of Education 15 Year Membership2026](#)
-  [Board Seats and Terms 2026](#)

## 5. For Information: Appointments for 2026 Study Committees

2026 Study Committee Appointments:

Administrative Services:	Chair: Phil Rausch	Jon Lauderbach	Jennifer Ringgold
Finance, Facilities, and Operations:	Chair: Brad Blasy	Jon Lauderbach	Scott McFarland
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment:	Chair: Jennifer Ringgold	Meki Craig	Ann Horowitz
Human Resources:	Chair: Ann Horowitz	Meki Craig	Scott McFarland

Other Committee Appointments:

<b>2026 Gerstacker Teacher Proficiency Awards Committee:</b>	Jon Lauderbach	--
<b>2026 Distinguished Service Awards Committee:</b>	Scott McFarland	--
<b>2026 Administrator Inspiring Excellence Award Committee:</b>	Jennifer Ringgold	--
<b>2026 Advisory Board on Instruction in Sex Education/Birth Control</b>	Jennifer Ringgold	--
<b>2026 District School Improvement Committee</b>	Meki Craig	--
<b>2026 MPS School Board Association Representatives at CGRES</b>	Scott McFarland	

**6. For Action: Scheduled Meetings for 2026 Calendar Year**

The Board of Education is required to give public notice of the dates of its regular meetings and of any special meetings. The recommended regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Education of the Midland Public Schools for 2026 are listed below. All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 East Carpenter Street, Midland, MI, unless otherwise stated. Dates of special meetings or changes in the dates of regular meetings will be posted at least 18 hours prior to the time of a special or rescheduled meeting. The Superintendent, or designee, is authorized to post notices of meetings at the direction of the Board of Education.

- January 20, 2026 Regular Meeting (Tuesday, 6:30 PM)
- February 16, 2026
- March 16, 2026
- April 20, 2026
- May 18, 2026
- June 15, 2026
- July 20, 2026
- August 17, 2026
- September 21, 2026
- October 19, 2026
- November 16, 2026
- December 21, 2026

**7. 2026 Appointments, Designations, and Board of Education Matters**

**1. For Action: Appointment of the Board of Education's Legal Counsel (Board President)**

The firm of Thrun Law Firm, PC has been designated as the Board's legal counsel. In addition, the Superintendent is authorized to retain specialized legal counsel

through other legal firms, as appropriate. It is recommended that the Board approve legal representation as outlined through December 31, 2026.

## 2. For Action: Fiscal Designations and Authorizations (Miller-Nelson)

It is recommended that the Board designate Huntington Bank and any other public depositories qualified in accordance with MCL 380.1221, The Revised School Code of Michigan, as approved depositories of school district funds through December 31, 2026. The Treasurer of the Board of Education is the legal financial officer for the school district and, as such, is authorized to sign checks for the Midland Public Schools. The Superintendent and Associate Superintendent for Finance are the only members of the staff authorized to sign checks for the Midland Public Schools. It is recommended that the Board approve this authorization through December 31, 2026, for these staff members.

## 3. For Action: Personnel Authorizations (Miller-Nelson)

The Board, in previous years, has authorized the Superintendent or designee to sign any legal documents relating to personnel actions, which the Board has approved. This authorization has been made at the Organizational Meeting for the entire year rather than granting the authorization at each Board meeting.

It is recommended that the Board continue this authorization through December 31, 2026, to the Superintendent or designee. It is further recommended that the board delegate authority to accept resignations/retirements to the Superintendent of Schools or designee through December 31, 2026. Resignations/retirements will be reported in subsequent Agendas.

## 4. For Action: Administrative Assistant Authorization (Miller-Nelson)

It is recommended that the Superintendent's designee, the Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education, be authorized to assist the Secretary of the Board in election matters through December 31, 2026.

## 8. Requests to Address the Board

*Citizens are required to limit public comment to three minutes, except when this requirement is waived by the board president during the meeting. A designated timekeeper will communicate to the individual who is addressing the board at three minutes. The Board of Education highly values public comment and input; however, the board meeting format is designed to facilitate the evening's agenda and, therefore, restricts board members from engaging in conversation with speakers or immediately responding to questions. Questions and concerns may be addressed by the board later in the agenda and may be assigned for follow-up by the board or superintendent at a later date.*

*To ensure due process and respect of individual rights, the District maintains a formal process for handling complaints against individuals. A problem involving an individual or specific incident is best handled through administrative channels. For assistance, please contact the superintendent's office.*

*Speakers are asked to express themselves in a civil manner, with due respect for the dignity and privacy of others who may be affected by the comments. While it is not the District's intent to stifle public comment, speakers should be aware that if statements violate the rights of others under the law of defamation or invasion of privacy, the speaker may be held legally responsible. If the speaker is unsure of the legal ramifications of what they are about to say, the District urges them to consult first with a legal advisor.*

## **9. Board of Education Matters: Presentations to the Board**

### **1. For Action: Approval of MPS Emergency Operations Plans (Stark)**

Pursuant to PA 436 of 2018 requires that school districts review existing Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) and further require that these plans be adopted or reviewed in conjunction with at least one law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the district and includes a review of the vulnerability assessment. These EOPs are reviewed annually and approval is requested from the Board of Education every other school year. The EOPs are retained in the office of the Associate Superintendent of Student Services and Human Resources due to the confidential nature of the information and Board members may review them by request.

### **2. Building Board Capacity: Productive Communications and Shared Norms**

*Facilitated by A L Peterson Group LLC*

## **10. Scheduled Activities: For Information**

All meetings are Regular and Special Meetings of the Board of Education and begin at 7:00 p.m. at the MPS Administration Center (600 E. Carpenter, Midland) unless otherwise noted.

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## **11. Study Session Discussion**

This portion of the agenda is utilized by the Board to introduce topics for future study, to discuss school district related matters, to complete professional association business and to relate items of interest. No action is taken during this time. Occasionally closed sessions are scheduled to discuss confidential personnel,

negotiations or property matters.

1. Points of Clarification

2. Announcements from Superintendent Miller-Nelson

**12. Adjournment**

## 1. Call to Order

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## 1. 1. Roll Call

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### Recommendation

#### **Board of Education:**

Phillip Rausch, President  
Scott McFarland, Vice President  
Jennifer Ringgold, Secretary  
Jonathan Lauderbach, Treasurer  
Brad Blasy, Trustee  
Meki Craig, Trustee  
Ann Horowitz, Trustee

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### **Recommendation**

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#### 4. For Action: Election of Officers of the Board

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##### Recommendation

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- Vice President: Scott McFarland
- Secretary: Jennifer Ringgold
- Treasurer: Jon Lauderbach

##### Supporting Documents

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-  [2506-F Organizational Meeting Checklist.docx \(2\)](#)
-  [BOARD OF EDUCATION Past Presidents 2026](#)
-  [Board of Education 15 Year Membership2026](#)
-  [Board Seats and Terms 2026](#)

**Policy 2506: Organizational Meetings**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 06/20/2022 | **Last Revised Date:** 01/29/2024 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 01/29/2024

The Board's first regular meeting each calendar year will be an organizational meeting.

The Board may perform any other act and conduct any other business it deems appropriate during an organizational meeting.

The Board may conduct additional organizational meetings during the calendar or fiscal year.

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## Series 2000 Bylaws

### 2500 Board Meetings and Open Meetings Act Compliance

#### 2506-F Organizational Meeting Checklist

The following issues may be addressed by the Board at an organizational meeting conducted pursuant to Policy 2506:

Elect Board officers (see Policy 2405):

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee appointments (see Policy 2505)

Establish the schedule for regular Board meetings

Designate District staff member(s) authorized to post Board meeting notices under the Open Meetings Act: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate authorized check signers: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate depository(ies) for District funds: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate legal counsel: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate auditor: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate official publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Establish rental fees for District facilities and equipment (see Policy 3304)

# BOARD OF EDUCATION      MIDLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

600 E. CARPENTER STREET · MIDLAND, MI 48640 · TELEPHONE: 989-923-5001 · FAX: 989-923-5003

January 5, 2026

## PRESIDENTS

### Presidents of the Board of Education since 1929

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>
July 1, 1929	Dr. Joseph H. Sherk
1930	Dr. Joseph H. Sherk
1931	Dr. Joseph H. Sherk
1932	Mr. Ivan F. Harlow
1933	Mr. Ivan F. Harlow
1934	Mr. Ivan F. Harlow
1935	Mr. Ivan F. Harlow
1936	Mr. Ivan F. Harlow
1937	Mr. Ivan F. Harlow
1938	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1939	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1940	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1941	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1942	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1943	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1944	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1945	Mr. Lester J. Richards
1946	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1947	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1948	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1949	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1950	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1951	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1952	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1953	Mr. Donald D. Hall
1954	Dr. Everett N. Luce
1955	Dr. Everett N. Luce

Presidents of the Board of Education Since 1929

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<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>
July 1, 1956	Dr. Everett N. Luce
1957	Dr. Everett N. Luce
1958	Dr. Everett N. Luce
1959	Mr. R. William Caldwell
1960	Mr. R. William Caldwell
1961	Dr. Lester Dankert
1962	Dr. Lester Dankert
1963	Dr. Lester Dankert
1964	Dr. William K. Schweitzer
1965	Dr. William K. Schweitzer
1966	Dr. W. Brock Neely
1967	Dr. W. Brock Neely
1968	Mr. Stuart Bergstein
1969	Mr. Stuart Bergstein
1970	Dr. Bernard A. O'Hora
1971	Mr. Duane R. Brooks
1972	Mr. Duane R. Brooks
1973	Mrs. Frances G. Ruhl
1974	Mrs. Frances G. Ruhl
1975	Mr. Walter E. F. Rupprecht, Jr.
1976	Dr. Bernard A. O'Hora
1977	Mrs. Donna J. Roberts
1978	Mrs. Donna J. Roberts
1979	Dr. David B. Kellom
1980	Mrs. Elizabeth R. Wineland
1981	Mrs. Elizabeth R. Wineland
1982	Mr. Wilbur W. Kennett
1983	Mr. Wilbur W. Kennett
1984	Dr. Richard Dolinski
1985	Dr. Richard Dolinski
July, 1986	Dr. Richard Dolinski
November, 1986	Mrs. Terry Townley
1987	Mrs. Terry Townley
1988	Mr. Smallwood Holoman, Jr.
1989	Mr. Smallwood Holoman, Jr.

Presidents of the Board of Education Since 1929

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<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>
1990	Ms. LoLita Dawson Pfeiffer
1991	Ms. LoLita Dawson Pfeiffer
1992	Dr. Roger Mead
1993	Dr. Roger Mead
1994	Ms. Denise K. Spencer
1995	Ms. Denise K. Spencer
1996	Mr. Rick Ohle
1997	Mr. Rick Ohle
1998	Dr. Richard Dolinski
1999	Dr. Richard Dolinski
2000	Dr. Richard Dolinski
2001	Mr. Rick Ohle
2002	Mr. Rick Ohle
2003	Mr. Rick Ohle
2004	Mr. Colin K. Buell
2005	Mr. Colin K. Buell
2006	Mr. Gerald L. Wasserman
2007	Mr. Gerald L. Wasserman
2008	Ms. Lee Rouse
2009	Ms. Lee Rouse
2010	Mr. Ken Mault
2011	Mr. Ken Mault
2012	Mr. Ken Mault
2013	Mr. Gerald L. Wasserman
2014	Mr. Gerald L. Wasserman
2015	Mr. Gerald L. Wasserman
2016	Ms. Angela Brandstadt
2017	Ms. Angela Brandstadt
2018	Ms. Pamela Singer
2019	Ms. Pamela Singer
2020	Scott McFarland
2021	Scott McFarland
2022	Scott McFarland
2023	Scott McFarland

Presidents of the Board of Education Since 1929

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January 6, 2026

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>
2024	Phillip Rausch
2025	Phillip Rausch

2010-11	2011-12	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
(Interim—Buell)	Brandstadt (term ends 12/31/14)	-----	-----	Brandstadt (term ends 12/31/18)	-----	-----	-----	Lauderbach (term ends 12/31/22)	-----	-----	-----	Lauderbach (term ends 12/31/28)	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	McFarland (term ends 12/31/16)	-----	-----	-----	McFarland (term ends 12/31/20)	-----	-----	-----	McFarland (6 year-term ends 12/31/26)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Baker (term ends 12/31/14)	-----	-----	-----	Singer (term ends 12/31/18)	-----	-----	-----	Singer (term ends 12/31/22)	-----	Frazeé (term ends 12/31/22)	-----	Ringgold (term ends 12/31/28)	-----	-----	-----
-----	Gorton (term ends 12/31/16)	-----	-----	-----	-----	Fredell (term ends 12/31/20)	-----	-----	-----	Hatfield (4 year-term ends 12/31/24)	-----	-----	Craig (term ends 12/31/30)	-----	-----
Kaminski (term ends 12/31/14)	-----	-----	-----	Frazeé (term ends 12/31/18)	-----	-----	-----	Rausch (term ends 12/31/22)	-----	-----	-----	Rausch (term ends 12/31/28)	-----	-----	-----
-----	Wasserman (term ends 12/31/16)	-----	-----	-----	-----	Blasy (term ends 12/31/20)	-----	-----	-----	Blasy (6 year-term ends 12/31/26)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	VanderKelen (Resigned 9/9/13) Singer (10/7/13 thru 11/2014)	-----	Baker (term ends 12/31/16)	-----	Baker (term ends 12/31/20)	-----	-----	-----	Baker (4 year-term ends 12/31/24)	-----	Horowitz (term ends 12/31/2024)	-----	Horowitz (term ends 12/31/30)	-----



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
2026 SEATS AND TERMS**

**(PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL AT THE JANUARY 5, 2026 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING)**

<b>President</b> .....	<b>Phillip Rausch</b> Term expires: <b>12/31/28</b> First elected: 2018
<b>Vice President</b> .....	<b>Scott McFarland</b> Term expires: <b>12/31/26</b> First elected: 2012
<b>Secretary</b> .....	Jennifer Ringgold Term expires: <b>12/31/28</b> First elected: 2022
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	<b>Jonathan Lauderbach</b> Term expires: <b>12/31/28</b> First elected: 2016
<b>Trustee</b> .....	<b>Ann Horowitz</b> Term expires: <b>12/31/30</b> First elected: 2023
<b>Trustee</b> .....	<b>Brad Blasy</b> Term expires: <b>12/31/26</b> First elected: 2016
<b>Trustee</b> .....	<b>Meki Craig</b> Term expires: <b>12/31/30</b> First Elected: 2024

## 5. For Information: Appointments for 2026 Study Committees

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### Recommendation

2026 Study Committee Appointments:

<b>Administrative Services:</b>	<b>Chair: Phil Rausch</b>	Jon Lauderbach	Jennifer Ringgold
<b>Finance, Facilities, and Operations:</b>	<b>Chair: Brad Blasy</b>	Jon Lauderbach	Scott McFarland
<b>Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment:</b>	<b>Chair: Jennifer Ringgold</b>	Meki Craig	Ann Horowitz
<b>Human Resources:</b>	<b>Chair: Ann Horowitz</b>	Meki Craig	Scott McFarland

Other Committee Appointments:

<b>2026 Gerstacker Teacher Proficiency Awards Committee:</b>	Jon Lauderbach	--
<b>2026 Distinguished Service Awards Committee:</b>	Scott McFarland	--
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<b>2026 Advisory Board on Instruction in Sex Education/Birth Control</b>	Jennifer Ringgold	--
<b>2026 District School Improvement Committee</b>	Meki Craig	--
<b>2026 MPS School Board Association Representatives at CGRES</b>	Scott McFarland	

## 6. For Action: Scheduled Meetings for 2026 Calendar Year

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### Recommendation

The Board of Education is required to give public notice of the dates of its regular meetings and of any special meetings. The recommended regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Education of the Midland Public Schools for 2026 are listed below. All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Midland Public Schools Administration Center, 600 East Carpenter Street, Midland, MI, unless otherwise stated. Dates of special meetings or changes in the dates of regular meetings will be posted at least 18 hours prior to the time of a special or rescheduled meeting. The Superintendent, or designee, is authorized to post notices of meetings at the direction of the Board of Education.

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## **7. 2026 Appointments, Designations, and Board of Education Matters**

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## **7. 1. For Action: Appointment of the Board of Education's Legal Counsel (Board President)**

---

### **Recommendation**

The firm of Thrun Law Firm, PC has been designated as the Board's legal counsel. In addition, the Superintendent is authorized to retain specialized legal counsel through other legal firms, as appropriate. It is recommended that the Board approve legal representation as outlined through December 31, 2026.

## **7. 2. For Action: Fiscal Designations and Authorizations (Miller-Nelson)**

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### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board designate Huntington Bank and any other public depositories qualified in accordance with MCL 380.1221, The Revised School Code of Michigan, as approved depositories of school district funds through December 31, 2026. The Treasurer of the Board of Education is the legal financial officer for the school district and, as such, is authorized to sign checks for the Midland Public Schools. The Superintendent and Associate Superintendent for Finance are the only members of the staff authorized to sign checks for the Midland Public Schools. It is recommended that the Board approve this authorization through December 31, 2026, for these staff members.

### **7. 3. For Action: Personnel Authorizations (Miller-Nelson)**

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#### **Recommendation**

The Board, in previous years, has authorized the Superintendent or designee to sign any legal documents relating to personnel actions, which the Board has approved. This authorization has been made at the Organizational Meeting for the entire year rather than granting the authorization at each Board meeting.

It is recommended that the Board continue this authorization through December 31, 2026, to the Superintendent or designee. It is further recommended that the board delegate authority to accept resignations/retirements to the Superintendent of Schools or designee through December 31, 2026. Resignations/retirements will be reported in subsequent Agendas.

## **7. 4. For Action: Administrative Assistant Authorization (Miller-Nelson)**

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### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Superintendent's designee, the Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education, be authorized to assist the Secretary of the Board in election matters through December 31, 2026.

## **8. Requests to Address the Board**

---

### **Summary**

*Citizens are required to limit public comment to three minutes, except when this requirement is waived by the board president during the meeting. A designated timekeeper will communicate to the individual who is addressing the board at three minutes. The Board of Education highly values public comment and input; however, the board meeting format is designed to facilitate the evening's agenda and, therefore, restricts board members from engaging in conversation with speakers or immediately responding to questions. Questions and concerns may be addressed by the board later in the agenda and may be assigned for follow-up by the board or superintendent at a later date.*

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## 9. Board of Education Matters: Presentations to the Board

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## **9. 1. For Action: Approval of MPS Emergency Operations Plans (Stark)**

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## 9. 2. Building Board Capacity: Productive Communications and Shared Norms

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### Recommendation

*Facilitated by A L Peterson Group LLC*

## **10. Scheduled Activities: For Information**

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### **Recommendation**

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## 11. 1. Points of Clarification

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## **11. 2. Announcements from Superintendent Miller-Nelson**

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## **12. Adjournment**

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