

Ludington Board of Education

Public Meeting Notice

Please Post

Mission: The Ludington Area School District, in partnership with parents and community, will educate and empower students to adapt and succeed in their future.

Co-Curricular Committee Meeting: Electronic/ Virtual

Date: March 9, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Electronic/Virtual

Ludington Area School District Administration Office
809 East Tinkham Avenue, Ludington, Michigan

- 1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL
 - ☐ [Bret Autrey](#)
 - ☐ Josh Snyder
 - ☐ Leona Ashley
- 2) CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
- 3) AGENDA MODIFICATION
- 4) DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a) West Michigan Conference Letter of Acceptance and Communication
- 5) OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 6) ADJOURNMENT

This is a meeting of the 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. Official minutes of the Ludington Board of Education are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Board of Education's Central Business Office, 809 E. Tinkham Avenue, Ludington, Michigan, 231-845-7303. The Ludington Area School District is an equal opportunity employer and provider. If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of special accommodations to attend or participate in a public meeting please contact Superintendent Jason J. Kennedy at 231-845-7303 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting or as soon as possible.

Memorandum - Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Jason J. Kennedy, Superintendent
RE: Electronic/Virtual Committee Meeting

Meeting Notice and Meeting Access Information:

This notice is given and published pursuant to the Epidemic Emergency Order issued by the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director.

The Co-Curricular Committee of the Board of Education for Ludington Area School District will meet on March 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. as a virtual meeting (online and/or by phone) to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Ludington Area School District from Coronavirus/COVID-19. This virtual meeting is authorized pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.263a.

Public comment will be handled using the participant controls of the Google Meet platform. These will be discussed at the start of the meeting. If you are listening by telephone only, you will be called upon by the host during the time for public participation in the meeting.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting and/or to obtain this notice in an alternative format, should contact Superintendent Jason Kennedy, Ludington Area School District at (231) 845-7303 at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to this meeting.

Google Meet Instructions for Participants

To join the conference by telephone:

1. On your phone, dial the teleconferencing number provided below:
 - Phone number: (US) +1 435-731-4850
2. Enter the meeting pin number below when prompted using your touch-tone (DTMF) keypad:
 - Pin number: 818 410 145#

Before the meeting:

1. You will need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with speakers or headphones. You will have the opportunity to check your audio immediately upon joining the meeting.

To join the meeting via video conference or technology device:

1. At the start time of the meeting, click on the link below to join via computer. You may be instructed to download the Google Meet application.

Meeting Link: meet.google.com/zfk-widu-ejt

Memorandum - Office of the Superintendent

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Jason Kennedy, Superintendent
RE: Co-Curricular Committee Meeting ~ Agenda Notes

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Review Board Policy 0167.3: Public Participation at Board Meetings

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on District matters.

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board shall provide a period for public participation at every regular meeting of the Board and publish rules to govern such participation in Board meetings. The rules shall be administered and enforced by the presiding officer of the meeting.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- A. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business, or at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- B. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address, and group affiliation, if and when appropriate.
- C. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration. D. No participant may speak more than once.
- E. Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants. F. The presiding officer may:
 1. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 2. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 3. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
 4. call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action;
 5. waive these rules with the approval of the Board when necessary for the protection of privacy or the administration of the Board's business.
- G. The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public is invited shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes, but the timeframe will be extended, if necessary, so that no one's right to address the Board will be denied.
- H. Tape or video recordings are permitted. The person operating the recorder should contact the Superintendent prior to the Board meeting to review possible placement of the equipment, and agrees to abide by the following conditions:
 1. No obstructions are created between the Board and the audience.
2. No interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Board is in session.
 3. No commentary, adjustment of equipment, or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Board or members of the audience while the Board is in session.
- I. Each Board agenda will include the following statement, "Public participation shall be permitted only as indicated on the order of business."

Revised: January 21, 2019

Legal: M.C.L.A. 15.263(4)(5)(6), 380.1808

DISCUSSION ITEMS

West Michigan Conference Letter of Acceptance and Communication

The District has been notified in writing by the West Michigan Conference (WMC) that Ludington Area Schools has been accepted into the West Michigan Conference. The Letter of Acceptance outlines the alignment of schools in the conference at both the high school and middle school levels, if all schools that were accepted into the league move forward with joining the WMC. At the high school, the conference would be arranged by enrollment. Ludington High School would be the largest school by enrollment in the proposed conference alignment. Ludington would join Whitehall, Fremont, Orchard View, Oakridge, Manistee, and Montague in the top tier of the WMC. At the middle school, the league would be divided into a north and south division by geography to help with transportation costs and the time that middle school students spend traveling to games. This is a great benefit of this conference alignment, and will reduce lost instructional time due to travel for our middle school athletes.

In an updated communication from the WMC on February 25, 2021, each school of the WMC has voted unanimously (8-0) to approve the proposed alignment at their Board meetings in February. Schools joining the conference are now asked to have their Boards approve the conference alignment no later than April 2021.

We will review details of the conference alignment and seek feedback from committee members, along with understanding the questions that each committee member has.

Then, if the co-curricular Board committee supports moving this conference alignment to a Board agenda for approval, we will do so at the Board meeting on March 15th and vote to consider the approval of the conference alignment. This will be in advance of the April 2021 deadline provided by the WMC, while providing two meeting opportunities for the co-curricular committee and Board to review and ask questions in preparation for any vote.

We will discuss school alignment, travel and financial benefits, as well as competition and athletic offerings that would benefit LASD. We will also discuss our desire to align other extracurricular opportunities that may be of benefit to joining a league with the stability that the WMC has had. Finally, if it is decided to move the item forward for approval of the full Board, the Board will be asked to consider the following action item:

To approve Ludington Area Schools joining the West Michigan Conference and beginning competition as a member school of the West Michigan Conference starting with the 2022 - 2023 school year, effective July 1, 2022.