

**CLIMAX-SCOTTS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

Date: January 19, 2026
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Board Room

1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

Board President, Sue Reichert, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Members Present

Mrs. Terri VandeGiessen
Mrs. Susan Reichert
Mr. Trent Piper
Mr. Steve Wurtzel
Mr. Matt Birkam
Mrs. Lori Bagwell

Member's Absent

Ms. Jackie Longman

Other School Personnel Present

Mr. Doug Newington, Superintendent
Ms. Heather Wechsler, Board Recording Secretary
Mrs. Angela Gilbert, Jr. & Sr. High School Secretary & Athletic Secretary
Ms. Jennifer Wright, Jr. & Sr. High School Teacher
Mr. Josh Vick, Jr. & Sr. High School Teacher
Mr. Kevin Harvey, Jr. & Sr. High School
Mrs. Janna Langs, Pre-K
Mr. Kevin Langs, Career Coordinator
Mrs. Allison Charles, Elementary Teacher

3. Agenda Modifications

6. Board of Education Statement

Terri VandeGiessen **moved**, supported by Lori Bagwell to add 6. Agenda modification. **Motion carried 6-0.**

4. Consent Calendar Items

- a. December 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. December 15, 2025, Closed Session Minutes
- c. January 12, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes
- d. January 12, 2026, Closed Session Minutes
- e. General Fund and Construction Fund Check Registers

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board approve the Consent Calendar items with change to 12.15.25 Regular Meeting Attendance as presented. **Motion carried 6-0.**

5. Items for Action or Discussion

- a. **Election of Officers for January-December 2026**
 - i. President

Terri VandeGiessen **moved**, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board elect Sue Reichert to fill President. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

ii. Vice President

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board elect Trent Piper to fill Vice President. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

iii. Secretary/Treasurer

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board elect Terri VandeGiessen to fill Secretary/Treasurer. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

b. Organization Meeting Resolution

Terri VandeGiessen **moved**, supported by Lori Bagwell, that the board approve the 2026 Organizational Meeting Resolution as presented. **Roll Call Vote: Matt Birkam, Yes; Lori Bagwell, Yes; Trent Piper, Yes; Sue Reichert, Yes; Terri VandeGiessen, Yes; Steve Wurtzel, Yes; Motion Carried 6-0.**

c. Board Compensation Resolution

Trent Piper moved, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board approve the 2026 Board Compensation Resolution as presented. **Roll Call Vote: Matt Birkam, Yes; Lori Bagwell, Yes; Trent Piper, Yes; Sue Reichert, Yes; Terri VandeGiessen, Yes; Steve Wurtzel, Yes; Motion Carried 6-0.**

d. Designation of Depositories

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Trent Piper that the Board approve the recommended designation of depositories as Sturgis Bank & Trust & MILAF (Michigan Liquid Asset Fund) as presented. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

e. Check Signature Authorizations (All Accounts)

Terri VandeGiessen **moved**, supported by Matt Birkam that the Board approve the Check Signature Authorizations for all accounts for 2026 as presented. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

f. Appointment of Recording Secretary

Steve Wurtzel **moved**, supported by Trent Piper that the Board approve the Superintendent's Assistant, Heather Wechsler as the recording secretary for 2026 as presented. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

g. Designation of Person to Post Public Notice of Board Meetings

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Terri VandeGiessen, that the Board approve the Superintendent's Assistant, Heather Wechsler as the person to post public notice of board meetings for 2026. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

h. Delegation of Election Duties

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Terri VandeGiessen, that the Board delegate Heather Wechsler to handle district election duties for 2026. **Motion carried 6-0.**

i. Approval of Legal Representation

Terri VandeGiessen **moved**, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board approve Thrun Law Firm, PC as legal representation for the district in 2026. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

j. Appointment of Legislative Representative

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Trent Piper, that the Board appoint Sue Reichert as the legislative representative for the district in 2026. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

k. Appointment of KRESA Voting Delegate

Steve Wurtzel **moved**, supported by Matt Birkam, that the Board appoint Terri VandeGiessen (Alternate: Lori Bagwell) as the KRESA voting delegate for the district in 2026. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

l. Appoint of MASB Voting Delegate

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Trent Piper, that the Board appoint Jackie Longman as the MASB voting delegate for the district in 2026. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

m. Appointment of Standing Committees

- i. Building & Grounds - Steve Wurtzel (Chair), Matt Birkam, & Trent Piper (Alternate-Jackie Longman)
- ii. Policy - Terri VandeGiessen (Chair), Sue Reichert, & Lori Bagwell
- iii. Public Relations (PRC) - Lori Bagwell (Chair), Jackie Longman, Sue Reichert

Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Steve Wurtzel, that the Board approve the 2026 Standing Committees as noted above. **Motion Carried 6-0.**

6. Board of Education Statement

7. Public Forum

Cody Leverage, Tyler Langs Investigation
Shelby Brueck, Tyler Langs Investigation
Trevor Haas, Tyler Langs Investigation
Jamie Dault, Communication & Elementary Experience
Shelley Girdley, Tyler Langs Investigation
Josh Vick, Tyler Langs Investigation
Mike Clore, Tyler Langs Investigation
Danielle Brodhagen, Tyler Langs Investigation
Britnie Langs, Tyler Langs Investigation
Brenda Sutherland, Tyler Langs Investigation
Mike Gibson, Tyler Langs Investigation
Kevin Langs, Tyler Langs Investigation

8. Adjournment

At 7:12 p.m., Lori Bagwell **moved**, supported by Terri VandeGiessen to adjourn the January 19, 2026, Regular meeting of the Climax-Scotts Board of Education. **Motion carried 6-0.**


Susan Reichert, Board President


Terri VandeGiessen, Board Secretary/Treasurer