

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**May 19, 2025**

**I. Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the Hale Area Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Spaw at 6:00 pm

Present: Cryderman, Shellenbarger, Spaw, Olmstead, Sheldon, and Reilly  
Absent-Members: Lynch  
Guests in Attendance: 32

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Mission, Vision and Belief Statement**

**IV. Additions/deletions/corrections of agenda items:** Mr. Yorke suggested the addition of Action Item L.) Acceptance of Tawas into North Star League; all members were in favor

**V. Student Recognition:** teacher notes were read by Mr. Yorke, while Mr. Bowman handed out certificates of recognition.

**VI. Guest Comments - Members of the public may address the board at this time:** None

**VII. Reports to the Board**

**A. Principal's Report:** Mr. Bowman provided information on final evaluations, and other upcoming events including, this week's science/music program, senior trip/graduation practice, and graduation ceremony.

**B. Business Manager's Report:** Mr. Boensch gave a review of financials, and the expected summer property tax collection at 18 mills; final numbers will not be available until all information is received from the townships/counties. An update was given on the Skyward financial software implementation plan/costs/timelines, he also relayed that the roof replacement at the old administration building has been completed, and paid.

**C. Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Yorke introduced the Board to the upper elementary school teaching candidate Cassidy Grezeszak; discussion occurred about incoming student needs at the elementary level, as it relates to staffing needs. One Title IX Coordinator position has been vacated, with the retirement of Mr. Bowman & will be filled by Mr. Boensch. He reminded everyone that Kindergarten Graduation is June 5; reviewed information about local North Star League participating districts/contest schedules, and gave a breakdown of in-house Coaching vs through third-party, including review of recent issues concerning volunteers.

**D. MICIP:** Mrs. Blomquist and Mrs. Nieman reviewed highlights of their recent perception survey data of staff students and parents alike.

**VIII. Action Items**

**A. Consent Agenda**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Sheldon, supported by Shellenbarger to accept the consent agenda dated May 19 2025, as presented.

**Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**B. NEOLA Update; Volume 39-2 - Second Reading & Adopt**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Reilly, supported by Olmstead to consider as second reading & adopt policies 0131.1, 5320, 5330, 5330.01, 5350, 8320, & 8510 from the February NEOLA Volume 39-2 update. Discussion occurred **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**C. Hire Special Education Paraprofessional for 2025-26 -Edward Francis**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Shellenbarger, supported by Spaw to hire Edward Francis as a Special Education Paraprofessional for 2025-26, at the established probationary hourly rate pending background check completion. Discussion occurred **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**D. Hire Upper Elementary Teacher for 2025-26- Cassidy Grezeszak**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Cryderman, supported by Reilly to hire Cassidy Grezeszak as an Upper Elementary Teacher for 2025-26, starting at Step 1 at \$50,000 until the step and lane is reached according to the HFT Salary Schedule, pending background check completion and credential evidence. Discussion occurred **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**E. Hire K-12 Principal - Sara Griffin**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Cryderman, supported by Shellenbarger to hire Sara Griffin as the K-12 Principal beginning with the 2025-2026 school year pending completion of background check. **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**F. Approval of Superintendent Contract - Mr. Yorke**

A motion was made by Reilly, supported by Cryderman to approve the Superintendent contract for Mr. Yorke, as presented. **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**G. Approval of Supplemental Contract - Mrs. Grove**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Spaw, supported by Cryderman to approve the supplemental contract of Erin Grove. **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**H. Approval of Student Handbook**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Sheldon, supported by Shellenbarger to approve the student handbook for the 2026 school year, as presented. Discussion occurred;

Amended motion by Sheldon, and support by Shellenbarger to approve the student handbook, as discussed & amended **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**I. IRESA 2026 General Fund Proposed Budget Acknowledgement**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Reilly, supported by Olmstead to acknowledge the IRESA proposed budget for fiscal year 2026, as presented. Discussion occurred **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**J. IRESA Biennial Election & Delegate Selection**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Sheldon, supported by Shellenbarger to appoint Shellenbarger and Sheldon (alternate) to vote for Helen Lounsbury, for the 4 year partial term & Tana McKulsky, for the 6 year term, at the upcoming biennial Election at 4:00 pm., on Monday, June 2 at IRESA.

**Roll call:** 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent, 2 abstain (Olmstead & Reilly); motion carried

**K. New Financial Software Approval - Skyward**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Cryderman, supported by Sheldon to approve the financial software conversion to Skyward, as outlined, with a "live" date of January 2027. **Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**L. Acceptance of Tawas into North Star League**

At the recommendation of Mr. Yorke, a motion was made by Cryderman, supported by Reilly to extend the probationary period for Tawas in the North Star League, with re-evaluation in 6 months (December). Discussion occurred

**Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**IX. Superintendent Evaluation**

**Discussion:** Each area of the Evaluation Tool was reviewed; scoring was averaged/compiled. Recommendation / Motion made by Spaw, supported by Cryderman, to find Mr. Yorke Effective on his evaluation, with a combined score of 2.735 / 91%.

**Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

- X. Board Comments:** Sheldon commented concerns with high student need; Cryderman & Shellenbarger echoed this as well, also stating the need to keep disruptions at a minimum to promote learning for all students. Reilly commented that he is happy with the staff; he also stated concerns with lack of involvement with PTO, Boosters, & Concessions. Olmstead and Spaw had no comment.

**XI. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Shellenbarger, supported by Olmstead, that the meeting be adjourned.

**Roll call:** 6 yes, 0 no, 1 absent; motion carried

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:14 pm**



---

Cindy Sheldon, Secretary

**Hale Area Schools  
Consent Agenda  
May 19, 2025**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

- April 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- April 21, 2025 Closed Session Minutes
- April 28, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

**B. Approval of Bills**

• General Fund	\$423,333.73
• Food Service	\$ 28,087.65
• Athletics	\$ 7,681.15
• Student Activity	\$ 11,966.65