



MUSKEGON HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION

2603 Leahy Street • Muskegon Heights, Michigan 49444 • Phone 231-830-3221

Dear Muskegon Heights Community and Partners,

Let's clear up the alphabet soup—BOE, Authorizer, Public School Board, Elected Board...same Board, different names!

The Muskegon Heights Public School closed in 2012 and currently has no employees or day-to-day school operations. Today, the Public School is governed by its seven-member Public School Board, with six members currently serving.

The Public School Board has two primary responsibilities. First, it is the owner of the school buildings—Senior High School, Martin Luther King, commonly known as “The Middle School,” and Edgewood Elementary. Second, it serves as the Authorizer for the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System, overseeing compliance as outlined in the Charter Agreement, which establishes the governance structure and roles and responsibilities.

The Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System is a separate entity and currently operates the school's day-to-day educational activities through its Management Company. Think of the relationship of the Public School and the Academy as a landlord/tenant relationship: The Muskegon Heights Public Schools own the buildings and are therefore the landlord. The Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System rents the buildings and are therefore the tenants. Two separate entities, two separate Boards, with clearly defined responsibilities.

Each Board moves as a whole—not individually. Board positions speak through official motions and votes at Board meetings. Unless specifically authorized, an individual Board member speaking publicly represents themselves, not the Board. The Board President is the official spokesperson for the Board.

We are grateful that the debt that contributed to the Public School's closure was forgiven in 2024. This provides an opportunity to look ahead. Our goal is to become financially sound and position the Public School to return by the 2028–2029 school year.

Our priorities are to update our buildings, support the Academy and its Management Company where appropriate, and rebuild community trust and relationships. Most importantly, we want students, staff, and parents to feel confident about the educational growth and future of our community.

We welcome you to attend our Board meetings, ask questions, and learn more about our direction and progress. If you are interested in serving on either Board or in any capacity in our educational community in any capacity, or if you have business matters you would like to discuss with either entity, please reach out to us.

We are working toward a stronger future—and we want you to be part of it.

GO TIGERS! 

With appreciation,

Muskegon Heights Public School Board