



House of Representatives Meeting

Date: Friday, February 6, 2026
Location: Virtual via Zoom
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order: 10:03a** **Steve Hamick**
- 2. Member/Guest Introductions and Roll Call** **Steve Hamick**
 - See attendance log
 - Liz Santamaria added to attendance log for Frankenmuth 2025
 - Notify Mandy if you find an error and you are not recorded on an attendance log. We will review the recording. Thank you!
- 3. Approval of Agenda** **Steve Hamick**
 - Motion to approve: Duane Croel
 - Second: Andrew Riveria
 - Discussion: none
 - House approved agenda
- 4. Approval of Consent Agenda** **Steve Hamick**
 - Motion to approve: Linda Zimosky
 - Second: Chris Culter
 - Discussion: none
 - House approved consent agendas
- 5. Approval of 10.6.25 Minutes** **Steve Hamick**
 - Motion to approve: Linda Zimosky
 - Second: Dave Panzlau
 - Discussion: none
 - House approved minutes
- 6. Treasurer's Report** **Kelly Fiorino**
 - See attached Treasurer's report
- 7. Legislative Report** **Bret Marr, MHSA**
 - See attached for Bill updates & status
 - i. Highlight- HB5150 Recommendation concurred 2/4/26
 - Bret: Good progress with a few changes. Should be through the house end of March then move onto Senate sometime between April-June
- 8. Committee Updates**
 - **2026 Spring Conference** **Carissa Novak**

Carissa: Finalizing speaker agreements; registration is open. Some price increases due to being negative last year and losing a sponsor. One of the prices that increased was student prices from \$60 to \$99 (matching previous price and AARC student price). Some concerns with student attendance and engagement during sessions (in/out) had been shared with the committee. Also, exhibitor rates increased by 15% for 2026.

Sarah Parker: These concerns should be brought to the attention of the education chair

Educators: Expressed concerns about price change along with no advance notice. Monetary price change creates a barrier to many students

Alicia/Carissa: Background given on how this decision to change prices was made. AARC student prices were reviewed along with other states' prices. Historically, MSRC student price was \$99. The price dropped a few years back to get more student attendees. Not seeing retention.

Steve: Question posed if we saw an increase with the discounted rate

Alicia: No

Bryan: It's important for faculty and schools to push MSRC; other factors may affect choice to attend.

Teena along with many other educators: College's budget to pay for conferences. Many of them fundraise, etc. Notifying them prior to planning would be helpful. Also suggested discount for sputum bowl participants.

Dave P: Expressed support to these concerns

Alicia/Steve: Discuss increasing cost over the year, ensure thoughtful process and communication

Liz S: Macomb previously didn't require students to attend, not they require them or write white paper

Teena: HFCC doesn't mandate, highly encourage.

Jessica S: Look at ways to incentivize attendance of therapists (attend and be exposed to the valuable material)

Angela P/Ann F/several other educators: Financial reasons #1 struggle/concern for many students. Suggested increasing price for therapist as an alternative

Steve: Asked if programs fundraising

Ann Flint along w/many others: Built in fundraising

Angela P: Ask to ensure the education section included in Spring Conference meeting invites and decisions.

Mandy: Noted email to programs went out last week. Volunteers asked to give 2-4hrs of time and in return will receive a 50% discount on registration.

Alicia/Carissa: Adjust 2026 prices to reflect previous pricing (\$60). Will continue to evaluate in the future and communicate any needs for change.

Keeli: updates are done and reflected on the website, can refund those that have already paid full price

Angela P: Ask to ensure the education section included in Spring Conference meeting invites and decisions.

- **2025 `Golf Outing**

Lindsay Greenstein

Sarah: **Event set for Friday, July 31st. Help is needed for event-golfers and volunteers.** Historically not a lot of MSRC representation. Reach out to Lindsay, Connie, and/or Sarah if you are able to assist.

- **2025 District 2 Conference**

Duane Croel

Duane: Planning has begun, more info to come

- **HOSA**

Connie Lane/Lindsay Greenstein

Liz S: Macomb students recently attended a HOSA event and there was great interest in Respiratory field and was a great experience

Sarah P: Lindsey helping with a simulation event at college so unable to attend. Encouraged program directors to get involved, a great way to help the community.

- **Sputum Bowl**

Dave Panzlau

Dave: The Committee has been meeting monthly. See consent agenda for 5 goals. One of the goals was to have the congress attendees evaluate and report. Looking at logistics due to having a record number of teams interested. Current manual/rules did not have specific number- this is new territory. Sputum bowl committee is meeting again soon to finalize decisions and will send out in sputum bowl news email.

Angela P: The Sputum bowl brings all the students together and is fun- what they look forward to. No previous communication of a limit and there are barriers to having a college competition- how do you pick?

Steve: Look at ways to make this the most fair

Chris: Suggested considering doing the sputum bowl for 2 days to spread out and allow more teams. Prelim day historically w/2 rooms, and had student/practitioner teams

Carissa: Noted the sputum bowl room is reserved and sits empty until sputum bowl on Tuesday prior to finals that evening. Option to use during day on Tuesday if needed.

Kathy: Running 2 rooms creates too many issues logistically. Will look at options at committee meeting and communicate final plans. Noted the national level (Congress); Cap was set for 30 teams.

- **Nominations and Elections**

Erica Basile

Steve: Orientation prior to this meeting for newly elected 2026 members offered. Reviewed History, Districts, Volunteer activities, website, position statements, executive committee, district reps, and specialty membership sections. Plan to put together a PP for those involved as a resource. Possibly offer another option at Spring Conference if there is more interest from other members currently holding positions.

Steve: Erica is not on due to schedule conflict. Thank you, Shane, for sharing an update. Still some unfilled positions. Looking for recommendations and/or volunteers. These can be appointed by the president. Below we have the following nominations/updates.

1. Industrial Relations Co-Chair update - Laurie Niemer has resigned
2. Budget Co-Chairs: Connie has resigned; Connie recommends Brad Haddix
3. Legislative Co-Chairs: Chris/Nick to serve as Leg Co-Chairs (replacing Steve)
4. PACT – Add Christa Rowe, move Alicia to PACT sub if needed
5. District I Rep – only Annette, could use 1 more Rep to work with Annette
6. District IX Rep – only Renee, could use 1 more Rep to work with Renee
7. Asthma Chair (Christine serving as Chair-Elect)- Angela Piccirilli interested
8. Diagnostics Chair (Lindsay serving as Chair-Elect)
9. Research Support Chair *any recommendations???*
10. Medical Advisor – would like to add Dr Paul Bozyk as another Medical Director as he has recently helped us with MTS/MSMS regarding HB5150 (is Past President of MTS and Chair of the Board of Directors of MSMS)

- Motion to nominate the above positions: Steve Hamick
- Second: Haley McGee
- No discussion, House approved

9. Membership Sections Update

- **Fall Conference**

Mandy Ausmus

Mandy: Committee meets at the end of the month to start planning. Save the date: 10/5 & 10/6 in Frankenmuth.

- **Pulmonary rehab**

Jackie Evans

Jackie: Earlier this week, congress advanced the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (H.R. 7148), a funding package that includes provisions to extend Medicare telehealth flexibilities and in-home cardiopulmonary rehabilitation flexibilities through December 31, 2027. This is a major Advocacy Victory for Virtual Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation!

- **Management**

Jessica Sturgill

Jessica S: US dept of Labor approved federal funding for apprentice program. West Michigan Works & Corewell have a partnership (cap apprentice). Helps way through the Respiratory Program.

Liz S: Inquired if there were apprentice limits?

Jessica S. Unsure of all the rules. Corewell- community college only

Teena: No changes for educators, more on employers. Basically, a 2yr contract to work for the employer, but doesn't limit clinical placement during school.

10. Old Business

- **Policies and Procedures Update**

Chris Culter

Chris: All needs work. One working on is the duties of representatives. Looking for feedback on attached P&P document in house materials. Looking for members to read and give feedback versus doing with no input then it being rejected and having to redo...this way is ready to go!

11. New Business

- a. **2026 MSRC Strategic Goals Plan**

Steve Hamick

1. **HB51050- Licensure Update Passage**

Steve- Must involve all. District reps can contact hospitals in district. Students can tell friends/families. Number of calls counts. A plan will be needed when it is time to lobby.

2. RCIC- Compact Licensure

Steve: This process is underway- 7 states will be needed, and the goal is to have the State of Michigan to be part of this. RRT minimal is the biggest hurdle at the moment in our state. Current bill should help.

3. APRT Ad Hoc Committee Creation

Steve: Would like to develop a Ad Hoc committee. Ohio to pass House soon then off to Senate. NBRC is holding off credential exams but has developed a competency exam. So many opportunities- run clinics, etc. The Committee will be helpful to standardize, flush out practice, help with license draft).

Nick: Tool kits already exist

Teena Culhane and Angela Sherman are both interested in being part of the committee.

Motion to create committee and have Nick as chair: Steve Hamick

Second: Teena Culhane

Approved by House, motion carries.

4. Reactivating Advocacy Fund (reinforce HB 5150)

Steve: Historically this fund was used for various advocacy projects. I would like to utilize it to reinforce HB5150

Motion to reactivate advocacy funds and donate \$250.00 to Representative Thompson

Second: Chris Culter

Discussion: Nick- this is not to just help re-elect Representative Thompson; it gives us presence. Thompson is a big advocate for RTs "love my RTs".

The house approves, motion carries.

5. MSRC Webpage for Agenda/Minutes

Steve: Would like to share agendas/minutes put together secretary (not the recording) on MSRC website. This matches the practice of LARA and increases transparency.

Chris: This has been done in the past, just behind. Under Events/Meeting minutes on page

Steve: Possibly include executive committee minutes but note if any closed-door topics.

6. EBM Disease-Specific Care Plans algorithms/education

Steve: Professional practice committee is working on. Setting templates for each section with a goal to create tools and algorithms to help. Help will be needed as this work progresses.

7. MSRC Life Membership Award

Steve: Lifetime award through MSRC no longer exists due to no longer having a MSRC membership separately. Ann Flint had brought this up before. The awards/scholarship committee already exists.

Dave/Kathy: Recommend changing the name to "lifetime achievement"

Steve: Committee work on to update so there is a written foundation/description providing something to go from for future MSRC members/volunteers

Teena: Note- AARC 'Awards season' is upcoming. Email blast sent with more info with description of each of the other awards (ARCF achievement awards, AARC Honorary Membership, Life Membership). Deadline 7/31/26

8. Student Member Committee

Steve: Thoughts/discussions on this?

Kathy: This already exists, just needs involvement.

Dave: Historically we have student involvement, but idea to have the tag up with a mentor of house.

Steve: Plans to recruit student members at pizza w/president at 2026 Spring Conference.

12. Open Forum

- Chris: Kenny Harker (AARC Diagnostic chair) putting on a 1-day conference 6/6/2026 @ Muskegon College
 - Have Exhibitors
 - Professional development and district reps are encouraged to be involved
 - Reminder- any funds needed need to be approved by the executive committee.
- Teena: Reminder about nominations- more info on the AARC website.
- Teena: AARC museum is looking for photographs of old equipment or virtual museums. Also, consider sending student representatives to participate in House of Delegates meeting which takes place prior to Congress.
- Kathy: AARC delegate report was missing on agenda, add to next meeting's agenda
- Chris: No updates yet- no meetings.
- Teena: Reminder from AARC board, if sharing any info about AARC, request approval from Dana Evans prior to presenting the information. This helps ensure that information being shared is factual.

13. Call for Motion to Adjourn: 12:38p

Motion: Teena Culhane

Second: Duane Croel

House approved

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 14 Radisson Plaza Hotel- Kalamazoo

2026 meetings:

February 6 (virtual); April 14 (Radisson-Kalamazoo); June 5 (virtual); August 14 (virtual); October 5 (Bavarian Inn); December 4 (virtual)