

March 6, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

The Board of Trustees of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital expresses our strong support for the hospital expansion project.

As board members, we are entrusted with ensuring that our hospital continues to meet the healthcare needs of the communities we serve today and into the future. Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital plays a vital role in providing high-quality care for residents throughout our county and across the Upper Peninsula. Over time, we have seen increased demand for both emergency services and swing bed care, which has highlighted the need for additional space to safely and efficiently care for our patients.

Expanding the hospital swing bed capacity will allow the hospital to care for more patients locally rather than transferring them to other facilities due to limited capacity. This is particularly important to allow patients to continue their recovery and rehabilitation close to home following an illness, injury, or surgical procedure. For many rural residents, access to swing bed services means they can heal and regain strength while remaining near their families and support systems.

The addition of capacity in the Emergency Department will also improve the hospital's ability to manage patient volume and provide timely care during periods of increased demand. Ensuring that emergency patients can be treated in appropriate clinical spaces helps maintain patient safety, efficiency of care, and the overall quality of the emergency services our community depends on.

In addition to serving our local residents, these improvements will strengthen the regional healthcare system by allowing Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital to accept appropriate patient transfers when larger medical centers are operating at capacity. By expanding our ability to care for patients, we can help ensure individuals across the Upper Peninsula receive the care they need without unnecessary delays.

The Board of Trustees is committed to supporting investments that strengthen healthcare access for our community and the region. This expansion represents an important step toward ensuring Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital remains a strong, reliable healthcare provider for years to come.



# SCHOOLCRAFT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely the members of the Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees,

Peter J. Hood, Chair

pp Howard Parmentier, Vice Chair

pp Kevin Knaffla, Treasurer

pp Cindy Olli, Secretary

*Unavailable for Signature*

Mark Rayner, MD, Trustee

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