

Wayne Kuipers

Wayne Kuipers was elected to the Michigan Senate in 2002 after serving two terms in the House of Representatives. He represents the 30th District, which encompasses Ottawa County and the City of Grandville and Sparta Township in Kent County.

Kuipers chairs the Senate Education Committee, bringing a wealth of experience to that position after serving as chair of the House Education Committee for two years. He also serves as vice-chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor and the Senate Transportation Committee.

While in the House of Representatives, Kuipers was appointed to chair the House Republican Task Force on Government Waste and the select committee on Strategies to Reduce Teen Pregnancy and was a member of the Michigan Virtual High School Advisory Council—all in addition to his standing committee assignments. He currently serves as a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council's Education Task Force, a committee made up of legislators from across the county who are devoted to promoting excellence in education.

A lifelong resident of the Holland area, Kuipers worked at Hollandia Gardens Inc. since 1983, serving as a project manager, general manager, and vice president. He currently serves as a management consultant for Bosch's Landscape and Lawn Specialties, Inc.

Kuipers is an active member of the Holland Area Chamber of Commerce and has served on its board of directors and on the Leadership Holland Executive Committee. He was also on the board of directors for the Holland Home Builders Association, as well as chair of its Legislative Committee.

Kuipers is an honorary Rotarian and a past member of the Holland Kiwanis and Rotary clubs. He is actively involved in educational service programs including Kids in Career Kaleidoscope, a mentorship program for local youths; Lakeshore Link, a job shadowing series; and the Holland Special Education Ministries. He also served as director of Kids Hope, a program in which he still participates that matches volunteer tutors from community churches with disadvantaged youths from area schools.

He earned his BA in special education from Calvin College in 1983 and a master's degree in management from Aquinas College in 1995.