

Board of Education Meeting

Liberty School Board Room

December 12, 2023, at 6:30 PM



MINUTES

Mission

We, the Saline Area Schools, will equip all students with the knowledge, technological proficiency, and personal skills necessary to succeed in an increasingly complex society. We expect that our students, staff, and the Saline Community will share in these responsibilities.

OPENING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Education meeting of December 12, 2023 was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Michael McVey.

Board Members Present:

Tim Austin, Susan Estep, Brad Gerbe, Lauren Gold, Michael McVey, Jennifer Miller, and Jennifer Steben

Central Administration Present:

Superintendent Laatsch, Assistant Superintendent Owsley, Interim Assistant Superintendent Diglio, Executive Directors, Clary, Davis and Martin.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOGNITION - Prior to the recognition of the SHS Girls Swim & Dive Team, Superintendent Laatsch publicly introduced Carol Baaki Diglio as the Interim Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for the remainder of the 23/24 school year. Position will be reposted in the spring to hopefully widen the candidate pool.

SHS Girls Swim & Dive Team

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

STUDENTS

Alex Lillie, SHS Student - Spoke regarding the transgender and non binary locker room issues

OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS

Changming Fan, Community Member

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

*Kara Stemmer, Director
South and West Washtenaw Consortium*

Provided a points of pride review of the SWWC program which includes 934 students and 22 programs (Manchester, Milan, Dexter, Chelsea, Saline, Lincoln). Recruitment for the 24/25 school year has been taking place. The application process is also open with over 250 applications already received.. The 3rd Annual Open House just recently was held. Over 1000 people in attendance.

5. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT

AGENDA

6. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION made by Vice President Steben, support Treasurer Gerbe **to approve the agenda as printed.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

7. **STUDENT SHOWCASE**

SHS Esport Teams

*Presenters: Griffin Berwick, Nick Graden, Marco Mathews, Ben Burke, Jackson Cravens, Dylan Tatman
Advisor: Steve Vasiloff*

Team members provided a recap of the Fall 23 season, highlighting each team event. The mission of Saline Esports is to unite the gaming community at Saline High School to support the development of collegiate Esports, and to grow the next generation of leaders. Teams are Mario Kart, Rocket League, League of Legends, and Super Smash Bros. Members talked about the team building process and the importance of collaboration in making the teams successful. Collegiate scholarships are also available and being offered to some team members for Fall 2024.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support Trustee Estep **to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2023 closed session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 6-0**
(Austin was absent for the 11/14/23 meeting. Abstains from voting)

- B. MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Trustee Austin **to approve the allocation of funds for the Round I 23/24 CARES Grants in the amount of \$37,460.22 as submitted by Brian Puffer, Director of Community Education.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

- C. MOTION** made by Trustee Austin, support Treasurer Gerbe **to approve the recommendation of Clark Construction to award contracts for the Saline Area School Playgrounds and Harvest Parking Lot improvements in the total amount of \$4,839,328.00 as submitted by Rex Clary, Director of Operations.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

- D. MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Secretary Miller **to approve the Roofing and Solar Project Budget of \$15,400,770, including contracts to Ameresco for \$5,694,483, Quality Roofing for \$2,342,161, Roofing Technology Associates \$532,363 and Lecole Planners for \$327,392 per the recommendation submitted by Rex Clary, Director of Operations.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

- E. MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support Trustee Gold **to approve the 24/25 new courses to the Saline HS Course Catalog as submitted by Executive Director of Teaching & Learning Kara Davis**

1. Unified Physical Education
2. Intro to Cyber Security
3. Community Leadership
4. Housing & Interior Design

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

9. SCHEDULED REPORT

- a. Teaching & Learning Report, Continuous Improvement**

Presenters: Kara Davis, Jenn Nelson, Beth Russon, Caroline Stout

Members of the Teaching & Learning team presented on the district's goals for continuous improvement. The August presentation provided information from the spring test results with updated MICIP goals and the plans for this school year and areas of need that were identified and lifting up the strengths we see. This report, this evening, will highlight results of our fall testing, reflecting any summer slides and determining baseline data. Future plans for Teaching

and Learning updates may shift to one update in the fall and maybe one in April to give updates on how the plan that gets set up in the fall has worked which then will also include fall/winter data and update on scores.

Reviewed 10 years of reading and math data. Trends are starting to show increases in performance from the pandemic but not yet up to pre-pandemic levels. Pleased with how things are looking for both reading and math levels.

On the secondary level we are expanding resources to support all learners by using decodable text, new intervention tools, homework hive, english for EL class, use of evidence based interventions and discussing opportunities to start screening students' literacy. Regarding math, the data is a little more specific. We are in the process of a math curriculum review and also expanding resources to support all learners in math as well. This may include a Math Learning Lab, more 1 on 1 tutoring for students who qualify.

Highlighted the School & Family Partnership Series "Strategies for Supporting Early Literacy" in early December. About 15 parents attended. We walked them through elements that are essential for early literacy, provided resources that could be used at home and had a productive Q&A portion as well.

We have partnered with Dr. Sarah Powell in providing professional development for our staff on Foundational Math Practices.

Also review the early warning intervention and monitoring system.

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. MASB Board of Directors

Facilitator: President McVey

President McVey would like to run for the three (3) year term for the MASB Board of Directors representing Region 7. A motion indicating local Board approval must appear on the minutes of this meeting.

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Secretary Miller **to support President Michael McVey as a candidate for the MASB Board of Directors for Region 7.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

B. Board Policy Committee Meeting Update

Facilitator: Jenny Miller, Chair

Update on the Board Policy Committee Meeting which occurred at 5:30 pm prior to the Board Meeting. Continued discussion regarding gun safety and safe gun storage resolution which will be discussed tonight as well. Committee is in agreement that a resolution should be placed on an upcoming agenda for Board consideration. Updates and acceptance of Neola recommendations to Policy 5511 Dressing & Grooming will be revisited in January by the new committee. There may still be some recent Neola updates for the new committee to consider

in the new year as well. Thank you to Trustee Estep and Trustee Gold for their work on the Policy Committee this year.

C. Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage Resolution

Facilitators: Lauren Gold, Susan Estep

It was brought to the Policy Committee this past fall to consider a resolution regarding Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage. Moms Demand Action (Be Smart) made a presentation to the Board earlier this fall and recently to the community in an open forum and asked for this consideration as well. Both Northville and Chelsea schools have adopted similar resolutions which were considered in the discussion for this evening. The recommended resolution was read to the Board. The policy committee is in support of the resolution.

Board members spoke their thoughts about this resolution.

MOTION made Secretary Miller, support President McVey that the Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage Resolution be added to the January 9th Regular Board Meeting agenda as an action item.

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

11. ADMINISTRATION / BOARD UPDATES

Superintendent Laatsch: Acknowledgement to Curt Ellis upon his retirement for his many years of service to our district. Deepest gratitude for his leadership and contributing so positively to the formation of many HR processes. Congratulations to the SMS Robotics Teams recently placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd and have set a world record for points in “Center Stage”. We will recognize them on January 23rd. Very exciting for these middle school students who will get to experience a new STEAM Center. Congratulations to SHS Senior Sarah Yousif, one of 2 delegates from Michigan to be chosen as part of the US Senate Youth Program in Washington DC. Congratulations to Rex on his continuing education and 90 hours of professional development with MSBO regarding facilities management certification. Will be attending AI Summit at MSU.

Student Representatives Clark & Iadipaolo: The SHS Marching Band just returned from Disney. The 1st Varsity gymnastics meet is on December 21st. Students recently returned from a service learning trip to Ecuador with Mrs. Denzin and Mrs. Trainor. Would highly recommend students participate in these Capstone Learning projects. Very rewarding service projects.

Trustee Austin: Had a great time accompanying the Marching Band to Disney. Appreciate all the work that goes into organizing a trip like this. Fun to watch the kids.

Treasurer Gerbe: Congratulations to the HS Band for a successful Disney Trip. Congratulations to Mateo Iadipaolo on being part of the 100 points member of the Saline Varsity Hockey Team. Happy Holidays and wishing everyone a restful break.

Secretary Miller: Remembrance of Rhys Mitchell who recently passed away. Rhys was a student in our district through the Young Adult Program. A very special young man who touched many lives not

only in the district but throughout the Saline community. Donations can be made to the Concussion Legacy Foundation via the CTE Center of Boston University.

Vice President Steben: Happy to approve the new courses this evening to the 24/25 HS Course Catalog. Thank you to the Finance Committee Team for your work on the committee this year. Was happy to see all the posts and videos from the recent SHS Marching Band trip to Disney. Attended the SWWC Open House. Very well attended. Also attended the last FSAS meeting for the year. They have awarded \$54,000 in grants with more grants being funded at today's meeting. There is still money available for additional grant allocations. Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Trustee Estep: Best wishes for Happy Holidays

Trustee Gold: Congratulations to the SHS Marching Band and Orchestra groups for your Disney trip performances. Happy Hanukkah.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION made by Vice President Steben, support Secretary Miller **to authorize the Consent Agenda as printed:**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

- A. Approval of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2023
- B. Approval of Payment of the General Fund Accounts Payable of December 12, 2023, in the amount of \$3,707,034.66
- C. Approval of Payment of Bond Series III Accounts Payable of December 12, 2023, in the amount of \$48,850.00
- D. Approval of Payment of 2023 Bond Fund Series I Accounts Payable of December 12, 2023, in the amount of \$1,197,793.00
- E. Approval of 2023 Board Stipends
- F. Receive and File Human Resources Report

CLOSING

13. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA

- A. Strategic Council Update

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

STUDENTS - None

OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS - None

15. NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on January 9, 2024, at 6:30 PM. This will include the Organizational Meeting immediately followed by the Regular Meeting.

16. CLOSED SESSION

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Trustee Estep **to enter Closed Session of the Board of Education at 9:10 PM, with the intent to re-enter Open Session at approximately 10:00 PM, for the purpose of Superintendent Evaluation Section 8(a). Under Section 8(a) a simple majority vote is sufficient to enter into a closed session.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

RE-ENTER without objection to Open Session of the Regular Board of Education Meeting at 10:55 PM.

17. DISCUSSION ITEM

- A. **Superintendent Evaluation Results, *President McVey***
Reviewed the evaluation instrument provided by MASB and addressed each functional area.

MASB Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument

Professional Practice: Effective Rating 90% 3.605 out of 4
Overall Effectiveness: Effective Rating 89% 3.58 out of 4

Governance & Board Relations (weight of 20%) Achieved: 3.38	Community Relations (weight of 15%) Achieved: 3.55	Staff Relations (weight of 15%) Achieved: 3.38	Business & Finance (weight of 20%) Achieved: 3.8	Instructional Leadership (weight 30%) Achieved: 3.58
Policy Involvement - 3.39	Parent Feedback - 3.36	Staff Feedback - 3.4	Budget Development & Mgmt - 3.7	Performance Evaluation System - 3.6
Goal Development - 3.64	Communication w/ Community - 3.39	Staff Communications - 3.6	Budget Reports - 3.7	Building-Level Leadership - 3.8
Information - 3.39	Community Feedback - 3.39	Personnel Matters - 2.9	Financial Controls - 3.9	Staff Development - 3.4
Materials &	Media Relations -	Delegation of	Facility	School

*Board of Education Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2023*

Background - 3.57	3.64	Duties - 3.6	Management - 3.9	Improvement - 3.8
Board Questions - 2.93	District Image - 3.75	Recruitment - 2.7	Resource Allocation - 3.6	Curriculum - 3.4
Board Development - 3.36	Approachability - 3.75	Labor Relations (Bargaining) - 3.5		Instruction - 3.5
		Visibility in District - 3.9		Student Feedback - 3.4
				Student Attendance - 3.8
				Support for Students - 3.3
				Professional Knowledge - 3.8

Other required components:

Student Growth (40%) Achieved: 3.5

Progress Toward District-Side Goals (weight 10%) Achieved: 3.75

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Vice President Steben **to approve the Superintendent's Evaluation summary report as presented.**

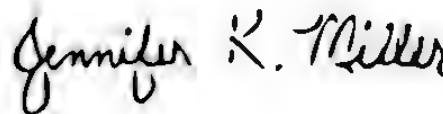
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

18. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by Secretary Miller, support Trustee Austin **to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of December 12, 2023, at 11:03 PM.**

Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer K. Miller
Board Secretary

Recorded by: Betty Jahnke