

Board of Education Meeting

Liberty School Board Room
January 9, 2024, 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

Organizational Meeting of January 9, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** of the Organizational Meeting of January 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm by Board President Michael McVey
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support Secretary Miller **that the Board of Education elect a temporary chairperson to serve until such time as a president is elected per Policy 0151.**

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

MOTION made by President McVey, seconded by Trustee Miller **to appoint current Vice President Jennifer Steben as the temporary election chairperson.**

Ayes - All Present **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**
 - B. **Election of Board Officers**
 1. **President**

Trustee Gerbe nominates Michael McVey

Trustee Estep self nominates

Vote:

Austin, Gerbe, Gold, Miller, McVey, Steben (McVey)
Estep (Estep)

2024 Board President will be Michael McVey

2. Vice President

Trustee Miller nominates Jennifer Steben
Trustee Estep self nominates

Vote:

Austin, Gerbe, Gold, Miller, McVey, Steben (Steben)
Estep (Estep)

2024 Board Vice President will be Jennifer Steben

3. Secretary

Trustee Gerbe nominates Jennifer Miller
Trustee Estep self nominates

Vote:

Austin, Gerbe, Gold, Miller, McVey, Steben (Miller)
Estep (Estep)

2024 Board Secretary will be Jennifer Miller

4. Treasurer

Secretary Miller nominates Brad Gerbe
Trustee Estep self nominates

Vote:

Austin, Gerbe, Gold, Miller, McVey, Steben (Gerbe)
Estep (Estep)

2024 Board Treasurer will be Brad Gerbe

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION without objection to adjourn the Organizational Meeting of January 9, 2024, at 6:41 PM.

Regular Board of Education Meeting of January 9, 2024

6. **CALL TO ORDER** of the regular Board of Education Meeting of January 9, 2024 at 6:41 am by President Michael McVey.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

STUDENTS - None

OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS - None

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

Aliyah Corrao-Taylor, SHS Black Student Union

Presented on the vision and mission of the SHS Black Student Union

*Sue Treber and Monique Hunter, Be Smart
Resolution in Support of Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage*

Spoke in support of the Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage Resolution

8. **RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT**

AGENDA

9. **REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION made by Steben, support Gerbe move to **approve the agenda as revised to include the name of Jennifer Miller, as Board Secretary under Action Item A.**

Ayes - All Present - MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

10. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Trustee Estep to appoint the Board's Recording Secretary, Betty Jahnke, Board Secretary, Jennifer Miller, and Superintendent, Steve Laatsch to serve as the Board's designees for posting legal notices.

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

- B. **MOTION** made by Secretary Miller, support Vice President Steben. to appoint Ben Goodman and Jackie Martin to the Local Access Cable Television Commission for 2024 as submitted by Superintendent Laatsch.

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

- C. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Secretary Miller to approve the purchase of 500 HP Chromebooks competitively bid by the REMC Association and awarded to Inacomp TSG for the amount of \$123,810 as submitted by Jay Grossman, Director of Technology.

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

- D. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support Treasurer Gerbe to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2023 closed session for the purpose of Superintendent Evaluation Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act.

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

- E. **MOTION** made by Trustee Gold, support Secretary Miller to adopt the *Gun Safety and Safe Gun Storage* Resolution as submitted by the Board Policy Committee.

Vote:

Ayes (Gerbe, Gold, Estep, Miller, Steben, McVey)

Nays (Austin)

MOTION CARRIED 6-1

11. SCHEDULED REPORTS

- A. **Strategic Council Update**

Superintendent Steve Laatsch

The Strategic District Council is guided by the district's vision, mission and SAS Compass. It's made up of volunteers who represent a diverse group of stakeholders from the community, student body, and district departments. They serve as thought partners with the District Continuous Improvement Leadership Team. They are not a deciding body. At the initial meeting the guiding question was "What shifts could be made to build upon the strengths of existing district programming in order to best serve students and help maintain fiscal responsibility?" At the first meeting they also developed a timeline which includes 4 focus groups that will be meeting during the months of January thru April and then will culminate in a summary of the work presented to the Board of Education in May.

Considerations to this work will include planned bond improvements, district mission and vision, MiCIP School and District improvement plan as well as the SAS Compass. The discussion focus areas will be Early Childhood & Elementary (PK-3), Middle Grades (4-8), High School (9-12+), Activities (Athletics, Clubs, etc.) and factoring in mental health and

safety/security into these discussions. Goal is to reduce \$1M from the General Fund for the next 3 school years so as not to go into the fund balance.

12. ADMINISTRATION / BOARD UPDATES

President McVey: Thank you for trusting me to be President again for the 2024 year. Also congratulations to Trustee Lauren Gold for obtaining MASB Certified Board Member status.

Superintendent Laatsch: Proud to report that the Michigan Department of Education gave all Saline Area Schools an “A” rating. Only 18% of schools in Michigan received this academic success rating in the State of Michigan. Congratulations to the Transportation Dept for being 100% functional and not having to cancel routes. We will no longer be reporting route cancellations unless needed. Congratulations to the SMS Robotics Team congratulations for their recent accomplishments. We look forward to recognizing them at the January 23rd Board Meeting. This is an exciting validation of the STEAM programs in our schools and for the upcoming bond work to create new STEAM centers at our buildings.

Trustee Gold: Thank you to BSU for their presentation at our meeting tonight. Also congratulations to the Robotics Team. Also wanted to acknowledge the students at Saline Middle School and their support of the “Knots for Mott” initiative and making so many blankets for children in need at the hospital.

Student Representatives Clark / Iadipaola: Thank you to BSU for coming to the meeting this evening. Caroline reported that as a yearbook staffer, she was responsible for the BSU spread and how much she enjoyed learning more about the group and interacting with their members to complete this project.

Trustee Austin: Happy New Year. Acknowledgement of the HR Report and sad to see some really impactful SWWC staff members who will be leaving at the end of this school year.

Treasurer Gerbe: Acknowledgement to the Buildings & Grounds Crews.

Secretary Miller: Happy New Year. Congratulations to SMS Robotics Team

Vice President Steben: Congratulations to the SMS Robotics Team. Attended the Saline City Council Meeting. Remember that winter sports are in full play. Thank you to BSU for attending our meeting this evening.

Trustee Estep: WM Winter RUNderland taking place on Saturday, January 20th. Thank you to the BSU for speaking this evening.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

- A. **Approval** of the Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2023
- B. **Approval** of the Board Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2023
- C. **Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of January 9, 2024, in the amount of \$4,558,261.44
- D. **Approval of Payment** of 2023 Bond Fund Series I Accounts Payable of January 9, 2024, in the amount of \$97,934.25
- E. **Receive and File** Human Resources Report

CLOSING

14. **ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA**

- A. SWWC Report
- B. FSAS Update

15. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

STUDENTS - None

OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS

Changming Fan, Community Member

16. **NEXT MEETING**

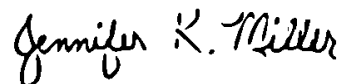
The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on January 23, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Trustee Estep to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of January 9, 2024, at 8:25 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Miller
Board Secretary

Recorded by: Betty Jabnke