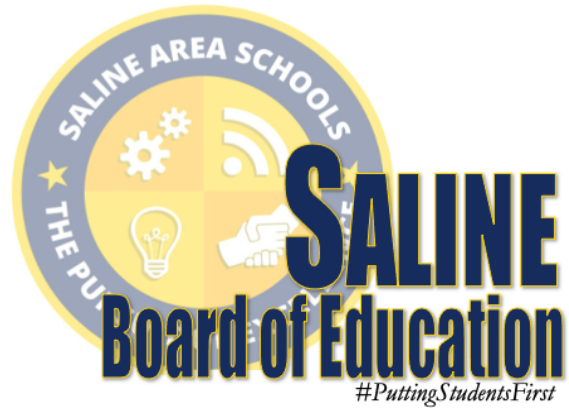


Board of Education Meeting

Liberty School Board Room

August 8, 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 August 8, 2023 was called to order by President, Michael McVey at 6:30 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT: I wished to thank the schools for their prompt response in locking for the schools during the tragic incident that happened near Linden Square on August 3rd. Also, please note that Policy 2240 will not be discussed at this evening's meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Changming Fan, Community Member - Spoke regarding School Aid Budget.

Lisa Slawson, Community Member - Spoke in appreciation of the response to the recent Linden Square Assisted Living event that occurred on August 3.

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Osterling

Service Organizations in Saline

Provided an overview of the service organizations here in Saline and the partnership they have with both the city and school district. Asked for assistance in recruiting new members.

4. **RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Michael McVey

Thank you to the community members for sharing their opinions about Policy 2240.

AGENDA

5. **REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Secretary Miller, **to approve the agenda as printed.**

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

6. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support Vice President Steben **to approve the recommendation by Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, per Board Policy 2510 - Approval of the textbook and associated ebook digital license: *Biology for the AP® Course* First Edition| ©2022 James Morris; Domenic Castignetti; John Lepri; Rick Relyea.**

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

B. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support Trustee Austin **to approve the purchase of additional security cameras in the amount of \$119,144.20 to Sentinel Technologies Inc. as recommended by Jay Grossman, Director of Technology.**

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

C. **MOTION** made by Trustee Estep, support Vice President Steben **to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2023 closed session for the purpose of the school board to consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students and staff under Section 8(k).**

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

D. **MOTION** made by Secretary Miller, support Treasurer Gerbe **to appoint the Thrun Law Firm, P.C., of Lansing, Michigan and Collins & Blaha, P.C as legal counsel for the school district or board for the 2023-2024 school year. In addition, the District is authorized to utilize other law firms pending areas of expertise.**

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

7. SCHEDULED REPORTS

1. Handbook Reviews

Presenters: Musetta Deneen, Ashley Mantha, James Rafko, Emily Sickler and Michelle Szczechowicz.

School handbooks set expectations and provide guidance for students and families. They all include district and building mission and vision statements, information about bldg operations, programming as well as Code of Conduct. The handbooks are all live documents that reside on the district website and as changes occur or language needs updating, this can occur easily. If changes are such that parents would need notification, then communication regarding changes would be sent. The review process is an annual one which includes bldg administrators, athletics, club & activities. Board Policy changes that impact handbook language would be communicated as policies are updated. There are portions of each bldg handbook that are the same, specifically dealing with Code of Conduct, programming, helpful district information and links. Differences would be age-appropriate needs of the learners within the bldg, areas specific to building operations and logistics and expectations based on activity, developmental age, and other agencies that provide governance to schools and school activities. There was also a brief overview of both the Athletic & Activities handbooks as well.

2. K12 Insight School Quality Survey Report

Presenter, Kara Davis Director, Teaching & Learning

K12 insight is the survey company that we've been using for several years. This is the annual end of year school quality survey benchmarking study results.. This report gathers information collected by parents, students and staff to rate the quality and climate of the schools. This survey collected data from grades 4-12 and sought feedback about various aspects of the school environment to better understand what schools do well and to identify opportunities for improvement. The survey addressed the areas of: academic support, academic curriculum, future focused skills, student support, social emotional learning, school leadership, family involvement, safety and behavior, district operations, Superintendent feedback, and school/district recommendations. The final report summarizes results by participant group. An overview of the study was presented and discussed and will serve as a benchmark for improvements and where the focus should be moving forward into the coming school year.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Finance Meeting Update

Brad Gerbe Chair

Reviewed the PreK-12 Approved State Aid Budget that was recently approved by Governor Whitmer and signed into law. The per pupil funding increased 5%, or an additional \$458 per student which is what we based our budget on (\$9608/pupil). Review of all areas supported.

2. Policy Meeting Update
Jenny Miller, Chair

Provided an update to Policy 2240. It was originally decided at the policy committee on July 25th to move this policy to the full board as a discussion item. The committee had also asked that legal counsel review the final draft one more time prior to that. Legal counsel made some suggestions and it was agreed that the policy committee needed to review those recommendations before it was presented to the full board. So it did not appear on the 8/8/23 Board agenda and will be brought back to the policy committee for discussion and review on 8/9/23 at 5:30 pm in Room 33 at Liberty.

Policy 5511 Dress & Grooming. We have a draft of a policy and notes to consider from the DEI AC. It will remain on our agenda for the next policy committee meeting. We have similar policies for Administrators / Support Staff / Certified Staff.

Policy 9150 School Visitors. This policy and the Neola recommended changes were accepted back in the fall of 2022. In consideration of some public comments, the policy committee reviewed this policy again. There were changes made to be in compliance with the new laws to SORA (Sex Offender Registry Act). These changes needed to be made to remain in legal compliance with the new updates to the law. Chair Jenny Miller reviewed the updates to the law which affected the need for changes to the policy.

3. Thrun Legal Services
Michael McVey

There was an ad hoc committee that was put together in 2022 to consider the idea to moving our policy platform from Neola Policy Services to something else, maybe Thrun Legal Services or Miller Johnson. President McVey encouraged BOE members to look at some other district policy pages that use other policy services and look at some of our current policies through other policy providers. If we have unique policies that aren't yet covered by a policy provider, we can certainly bring them over to another provider. Also pricing among the 3 platforms is pretty comparable.

9. **ADMINISTRATION / BOARD UPDATES**

Superintendent Laatsch: We have some start of school challenges. We may be facing a bus driver crisis and having to cancel routes and also not having enough custodians as we start the school year. The transportation dept will be in communication with a company "Drivergent" to possibly contract drivers to fill unfilled routes. They provide innovative school transportation and driver staffing solutions. Also of concern is how the traffic patterns will be affected by the road construction mainly on Maple Rd. This is not expected to be done until December. Plans will be communicated to families prior to the start of school. I am excited for the start of the school year despite some of our challenges, but enjoying watching athletics and music programs starting up, community events busy at work. Thank you to staff getting buildings & grounds ready, technology department, safety & security measures including community engagement sessions. Bond projects are busy as well.

Trustee Austin: Concern about traffic patterns especially at the Middle School. Met recently with Dr. Rowe to explore deeper into the SWWC budget. Support bond \$ being used for CAD computers.

Secretary Miller: Welcome back to athletics and extracurricular activities. Exciting to see fields and buildings come to life again. Reminder about “Stuff the Bus” and Summerfest. Welcome to new teachers and staff. Thank you for the quick response by the district to the recent Linden Square event.

President McVey: Will be serving on the MASB Governmental Relations Committee.

Vice President Steben: Acknowledge what is occurring at the Ann Arbor School District. Thank you to Superintendent Laatsch for your service to our District and wishing you a great year.

Trustee Estep: Thank you to the first responders, SAS district, and City of Saline for their response to the events that occurred last week at Linden Square. Spoke at the recent Ann Arbor Pride Kick Off event.

Trustee Gold: Surgeon General of US recently released a statement warning about loneliness and the effects on children. Encourages constituents to find this article to read. Give thought to this as it affects our students. How do we remain connected as smaller communities and a country as a whole. The importance of connection was highlighted this evening by Mr. Osterling and the service organizations that support our community and schools.

10. 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 Board of Education Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023
- B. **Approval** of the Board Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2023
- C. **Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of August 8, 2023, in the amount of \$6,064,396.62
- D. **Approval of Payment** of 2021 Bond Fund Series III Accounts Payable of August 8, 2023, in the amount of \$102,509.06
- E. **Approval of Payment** of 2023 Bond Fund Series I Accounts Payable of August 8, 2023, in the amount of \$622,915.65
- F. **Receive and File** Human Resources Report

CLOSING

11. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA

Superintendent's Listening Session Recap

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Libby Williams, Parent - Spoke regarding Opt-Out Policy

Meghan Gunnerson, Parent - Spoke regarding Handbook Presentation

Changming Fan, Community Member - Spoke regarding AI

Lisa Slawson, Community Member - Spoke regarding Policy Change Discussion

13. NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on August 22, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

14. CLOSED SESSION

MOTION made by Vice President Steben, support Secretary Miller **to enter Closed Session of the Board of Education at 9:15 pm, with the intent to re-enter Open Session at approximately 9:45 pm, for the purpose of the school board to review attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Under Section 8(h) a 2/3 roll call vote of members elected or appointed and serving is required.**

Roll Call Vote

Tim Austin - Aye

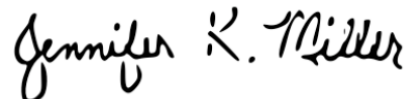
Susan Estep - Aye

Jennifer Steben - Aye

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by Vice President Steben, support Treasurer Gerbe **to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of August 8, 2023, at 9:37 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Miller
Board Secretary

Recorded by: Betty Jabnke