# **Board of Education Meeting**

**Liberty School Board Room** January 24, 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. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

The Board of Education Meeting 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 Admin Present:** Superintendent Laatsch, Assistant Superintendent Ellis, Assistant Superintendent Owsley, Exec. Director Rex Clary, Exec. Director Anna Britnell

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

**STUDENTS - None** 

#### OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS

**Emily Sickler, Administrator:** On behalf of the entire SAS Administration Team, thank you to the Board in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month.

**Kirsten Frait, Milan BOE Trustee**: On behalf of the WASB, thank you for your service. Updates on some upcoming WASB events.

#### **EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT**

Stacey Rumpsa, FSAS Executive Director - FSAS Update

Spring FSAS Fundraiser is "*Blue Jeans and Bling*" being held March 4, 2023 at the Kensington Hotel. In the grant process, \$100,000 was approved for funding. 17 grants were approved in the fall and applications will be accepted again in April for the remaining funds.

#### 4. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT

Thank you for continuing to reach out to the Board of Education through the Let's Talk app and also through email at <a href="mailto:sasboard@salineschools.org">sasboard@salineschools.org</a>

#### **AGENDA**

#### 5. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Ayes - All Present - MOTION CARRIED 7-0

#### 6. <u>SCHEDULED REPORTS</u>

#### A. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Advisory Committee Update

Presenters: Laura Washington, Cory Belote, Munya Elawar, and Frank Marcinkiewicz

A quarterly update on the activities of the DEI AC. They provided an overview of the role of this committee which includes assessing the current district environment related to DEI, reviewing and making recommendations to district policies and procedures related to DEI, and making recommendations regarding DEI initiatives to the Board. One of the most important recommendations was the position of Director and in July 2022 Dr. Channon Washington was named the Director of Culturally Responsive Instruction, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. In this role, she has conducted several trainings, met with teachers, conducted lessons for students and partnered with other social justice leaders in the county. Also in December, 7 new members were added. The 1st DEIAC Open House was very successful with about 100 attendees. The 3 year plan is being reviewed and will help to guide the work of the committee. The work of the subcommittees was also reviewed which include hiring & retention, engaging new families, gender neutral forms, "speak your truth" norms, building community trust and gender support plan.

#### 7. <u>ACTION ITEMS</u>

A. MOTION made by Vice President Steben, support by Treasurer Gerbe to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2023, Closed Session for the purpose of considering the purchase or lease of real property under 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act.

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

B. MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Trustee Estep to approve the Harvest Elementary Roof Replacement bid comprised of \$1,515,000.00 to Cass Sheet Metal, \$83,940.00 to Roofing Technology Associates and \$190,940.00 to Lecole Planner for a total of \$1,789,880.00 as recommended by Rex Clary, Director of Operations.

Ayes - All Present - MOTION CARRIED 7-0

C. MOTION made by Trustee Austin, support by Secretary Miller to approve the Resolution as attached for the May 2, 2023 Operating Millage Renewal proposal as prepared by Thrun and submitted by Assistant Superintendent Owsley.

Ayes - All Present - MOTION CARRIED 7-0

#### 8. <u>DISCUSSION ITEMS</u>

#### A. Policy Committee Meeting Update

Jennifer Miller, Policy Committee Chair

A brief overview was provided regarding the Policy Meeting that took place at 5 pm on January 24. Current policies being reviewed include 9150 School Visitors, 8510 Wellness, and 8490 Animals on District Property. A few new policies are being explored as well. They include 8390.1 Therapy Dogs and 3362.01 / 4362.01 Threatening Behavior Toward Staff Members. These will be discussed further by Policy and appear on an upcoming BOE meeting agenda for discussion.

#### 9. <u>ADMINISTRATION / BOARD UPDATES</u>

**Superintendent Laatsch:** Acknowledgements to the following students on their recent accomplishments:

Neel Moudgal, Junior SHS: Recognized as one of the 300 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholars (also congratulations to his teacher Bridgette Sparks), and recently was notified that he has made it to the final round and will travel to Washington DC to present to the top scientists in the nation.

The following students all performed at the recent Michigan Music Educators Conference in Grand Rapids and were selected to participate based on auditions of music students throughout the state of Michigan.

MS Honors Choir: Anna Peavler, Gabriel Dicks, Aurora Gust and Shiloh Livingston HS All State Band and Orchestra: Neva Rognes, David Franklin, Yohei Kuroda, Tirian Cooper and Natsuko Juroda.

SHS Alum Dominic Dorset, attending a recent Jr. Theatre Festival in Atlanta, gave a shout out to the Junior Theatre Program in Saline along with Theatre Manager Rebecca Groeb. Dominic is currently touring the US with Frozen.

**Student Representative Allison Doran:** Support of a snow day!

**Vice President Steben:** Please support the upcoming FSAS FundraiserBlue Jean and Bling coming up in March. Attended a recent MASB CBA at the Jackson ISD "Overseeing the Superintendency". Thank you to parents for your emails to the Board.

**Secretary Miller:** Acknowledgement for the recent recognition from MASTA (Michigan Chapter of the American String Teachers Association) naming Superintendent Laatsch as Administrator of the Year. Reminder regarding the upcoming MASB Winter Institute happening at the end of February.

**Trustee Estep:** Participated in the recent Heritage/Woodland Meadows Winter RUNderland event. Attended the MASB "Members Matter" webinar. Also a reminder regarding the upcoming MASB "Views from the Capital" virtual event on January 26th. This will include a recap of the Governor's State of the State address with regards to education.

#### 10. <u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>

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

Ayes - All Present - MOTION CARRIED 7-0

- A. <u>Approval</u> of the Board of Education Organizational and Regular Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2023
- **B.** Approval of Payment of the General Fund Accounts Payable of January 24, 2023, in the amount of \$1,133,881.19
- **C.** <u>Approval of Payment</u> of Bond Fund Series III Accounts Payable of January 24, 2023, in the amount of \$103,057.85
- **D.** Receive and File Human Resources Report

#### **CLOSING**

#### 11. <u>ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA</u>

Athletic Department Update

#### 12. PUBLIC COMMENT

**STUDENTS - None** 

#### OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS

**Chanming Fan, Community Member:** Spoke of interest in an initiative that might include connecting with alumni, retirees, and elders in our community. Appreciates the work of the Board.

#### 13. <u>NEXT MEETING</u>

The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on February 14, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

#### 14. <u>CLOSED SESSION</u>

MOTION made by Secretary Miller, support by Vice President Steben to enter Closed Session of the Board of Education at 7:50 PM, with the intent to re-enter Open Session at 8:15 PM, for the purpose to consider purchase or lease of real property under 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act. This requires a two-thirds roll call vote of elected or appointed members.

#### **Roll Call Vote**

Gold - Aye

Austin - Aye

Gerbe - Aye

McVey - Aye

Steben - Aye

Miller - Aye

Estep - Aye

#### 15. **RE-ENTER OPEN SESSION**

MOTION made by Trustee Tim Austin, support by Vice President Steben to re-enter Open Session of the Regular Board of Education Meeting at 8:23 PM.

Ayes - All Present - MOTION CARRIED 7-0

# 16. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

MOTION made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Secretary Miller to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of January 24, 2023, at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Semilar K. Miller

Jennifer K. Miller

Board Secretary

Recorded by: Betty Jahnke