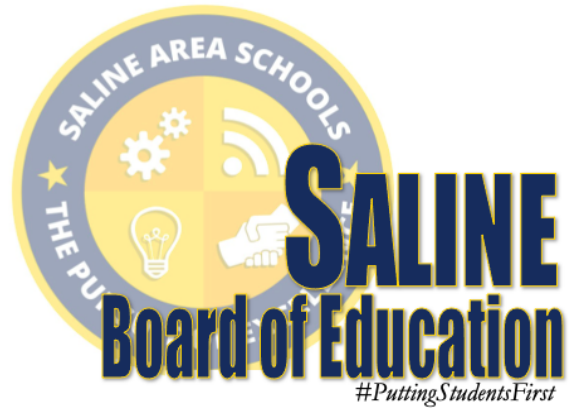


# Board of Education Meeting

Liberty School Board Room

April 25, 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 April 25, 2023 Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President Michael McVey at 6:30 pm.

**Board Members Present:** Tim Austin, Susan Estep, Brad Gerbe, Lauren Gold, Michael McVey, Jenny Miller, and Jennifer Steben

**Central Administration Present:** Superintendent Laatsch, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning Kara Davis

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 3. SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE:

Dr. Laatsch opened the meeting by asking people to vote in the May 2nd election. The district is proposing to renew its non-homestead operating millage. This would generate \$8.5 million annually for the general operating budget.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

**STUDENTS - None**

**OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS - None**

**EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sara E. Saylor  
Children's Savings Account Coordinator  
Washtenaw Intermediate School District

My Future Fund is a program designed to give students in Washtenaw County schools a jumpstart on saving and planning for college and training costs. The Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners has funded the program with \$2.9 million in federal COVID relief and \$3.8 million from the country's general fund. All eligible elementary students would automatically receive a My Future Fund Account with a starting deposit of \$25. A memorandum of understanding must be approved by May of this year for students/families to participate.

5. **RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC COMMENT**

<b>AGENDA</b>
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6. **REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Trustee Estep **to approve the agenda as printed.**

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

7. **STUDENT SHOWCASE**

**Regeneron 2023 STS Winner Neel Moudgal**

Neel received national recognition recently when he was awarded 1st place in the 2023 Regeneron Science Talent Search, the nation's most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. His 1st place award came with a \$250,000 cash prize. Neel's project was the creation of a computer model that can rapidly and reliably predict the structure of RNA molecules using easily accessible data. He hopes this will make it easier to diagnose and treat certain diseases. Neel's future plans include the University of Michigan double majoring in Biophysics and Statistics.

8. **SCHEDULED REPORTS**

**A. Teaching & Learning Update**

*Presenters: Kara Davis, Beth Russow & Caroline Stout*

Members of the Teaching & Learning team presented on the district's goal for continuous improvement. At each school, goals combine academics and social-emotional wellness to support all students. Data collected gives them the ability to see which students might benefit from interventions and support. The district is also examining data for warning signs as it tries to keep students on track. 2022 data clearly shows attendance issues ramping up in the spring

of senior year which could be due in part to early graduations. At the HS aimswebplus could help determine which students need academic intervention. They are working to pilot this program with students and how to use the data. Illuminate integrates data from multiple sources to help educators look at data trends as well. Goals for secondary MTSS include continuation of building staff capacity to support students, working with families and school-based teams to increase communication around attendance and consistency of data collection on behavior. At the elementary level, NWEA scores reflect the continued impact of the pandemic although the benchmark is rising.

9. **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support by Treasurer Gerbe **to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2023, Closed Session for the purpose of Superintendent Evaluation Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act.**  
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**
  
- B. **MOTION** made by Vice President Steben, support by Treasurer Gerbe **to approve the proposal for the payment to Barton Mallow in the amount of \$1,036,190 for their assistance with technology aspects of bond projects per the recommendation of Jay Grossman, Director of Technology.**  
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**
  
- C. **MOTION** made by Secretary Miller, support by Trustee Gold **to approve the updates to policy 8510 Wellness as recommended by the Policy Committee.**  
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**
  
- D. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Trustee Estep **to approve the updates to policy 8390 Animals on District Property as recommended by the Policy Committee.**  
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**
  
- E. **MOTION** made by Secretary Miller, support by Trustee Gold **to adopt new policy 8390.1 Therapy Dogs as recommended by the Policy Committee.**  
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**
  
- F. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Vice President Steben **to adopt new policies 3362.01 & 4362.01 Threatening Behavior Toward Staff Members as recommended by the Policy Committee.**  
Ayes - All Present - **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

10. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **WISD Biennial Election** - President McVey

Consideration of a voting representative from Saline Area Schools to elect a member of the WISD Board of Education on June 5, 2023.

**MOTION ...** made by Vice President Steben, support by Trustee Estep **to approve the Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative as submitted by WISD Superintendent Naomi Norman.**

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

B. **Policy Committee Meeting Update**

*Jenny Miller, Committee Chair*

Review of the Meeting on April 19th. This meeting was a discussion on Policy 2240, Controversial Issues. Each policy member shared their ideas and potential revisions to the policy. All this including public comments are taken into consideration as work by the Policy Committee continues. Next meeting is Monday, May 1st at 6:30 pm.

11. **ADMINISTRATION / BOARD UPDATES**

**Superintendent Laatsch:** Shoutout to the SWWC and the successful job fair recently held at the high school. Over 40 businesses were represented. Also will be attending the Saline Salutes event hosted by the Saline Chamber of Commerce to recognize several community members receiving awards, including Music Booster President Kim Bryant as Citizen of the Year.

**Student Representative Allison Doran:** Reminders regarding the upcoming art show. The NHS is hosting a blood drive on May 8th as well as doing a backpack drive later in May. The drama club presents "Speakin Easy" April 29-30.

**Trustee Austin:** Thank you to our first response teams for their care of students and staff.

**Treasurer Gerbe:** Encourage the community to go out and vote on May 2nd. Also acknowledged that May 2 is Teacher Appreciation Day.

**Secretary Miller:** Encourages the community to attend the upcoming art show and to go out and vote yes on May 2nd. Well wishes to all students during testing week.

**Vice President Steben:** Thank you to all who organized the recent Washington DC trip for the 8th grade class. It was a very fun and successful trip. Encouraged the community to vote yes on May 2nd,

**Trustee Estep:** Asking community to please vote yes on May 2nd. Acknowledges that May is sexual assault awareness month. The Sex Ed Advisory Board is moving forward with a program that teaches

children to recognize sexual abuse which they recently saw presented from the Washtenaw Area Council for Children.

**Trustee Gold:** Acknowledges that it is National Library Week.

**President McVey:** Applications are available on the district website for the Sex Education Advisory Board.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

- A. **Approval** of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2023
- B. **Approval** of the Board Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2023
- C. **Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of April 25, 2023, in the amount of \$12,589,479.35
- D. **Approval of Payment** of Bond Fund Series III Accounts Payable of April 25, 2023, in the amount of \$242,165.00
- E. **Approval of Payment** of 2023 Bond Fund Series I Accounts Payable of April 25, 2023, in the amount of \$268.50
- F. **Receive and File** Finance and Human Resources Reports

<b>CLOSING</b>
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**13. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA**

- A. CARES
- B. DEI AC Quarterly Report

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**STUDENTS - None**

**OTHER PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS**

**Changming Fan, Community Member** - Congratulations to Neel Moudgal

**15. NEXT MEETING**

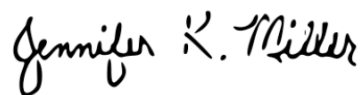
The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on May 9, 2023, at 6:30 PM.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** made by Treasurer Gerbe, support by Secretary Miller **to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of April 25, 2023, at 9:09 PM.**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer K. Miller  
Board Secretary

*Recorded by: Betty Jabnke*