

**St. Johns Public Schools  
St. Johns, Michigan  
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Held on February 13, 2023**

The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 13, 2023, at the St. Johns High School Orchestra Room. Vice President Darragh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Members Present: Boak, Darragh, Elliott, Mansfield, Nelson, Watson, and Student Representative Schloegl

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Absent: Jackson

The agenda was amended to add Action Item VIII G: Member Mansfield to attend the MASB courses. Member Nelson moved to approve the agenda as amended, with support by Member Boak. Agenda approved as amended.

**AGENDA APPROVED**

Motion by Member Mansfield, with support by Member Elliott, to approve the Special Meeting minutes from the meeting held on January 13, 2023. Motion unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

The Board of Education received in-person public comments including a personal statement from Walter Schmidtman and questions on safety from Carolyn Smith.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no online comments.

**REPORTS AND  
INFORMATION**

Superintendent Palmer reminded the Board of Education that the 4 search firms' proposals were all in their packet for review.

**SUPERINTENDENT  
SEARCH FIRM  
PROPOSALS**

Mike Ritchie from Hazard Young Attea Associates, presented virtually to the Board of Education how the process of their superintendent search. The Board's questions were answered by Mike Ritchie.

**HAZARD YOUNG ATTEA  
ASSOCIATES PRESENTATION**

Andrew Ingall from Michigan Leadership Institute presented an in-person presentation to the Board of Education about what their process would look like for a superintendent search. Andrew answered questions from the Board of Education.

**MICHIGAN LEADERSHIP  
INSTITUTE PRESENTATION**

Superintendent Mark Palmer reminded the Board of Education that MASB presented to them at the Special Meeting on January 30, 2023, and were unavailable to present to the Board this evening.

**MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF  
SCHOOL BOARDS**

He took a moment to share the history of search firms used in St. Johns Public Schools in the past.

Superintendent Mark Palmer shared with the Board that Ray & Associates were unavailable to present tonight, but reminded them that there is a presentation packet for the Board to review.

**RAY & ASSOCIATES**

Curriculum Director, Mike Winkel, presented to the Board of Education the return to learn services plan for the district. He recommended no changes of the plan at this time.

**RETURN TO LEARN AND  
CONTINUITY-UPDATED  
FEBRUARY 2023**

Curriculum Director, Mike Winkel, provided the members of the Board of Education with an update on students progress thus far in the school year. Board members asked questions and were answered by Mike.

**BENCHMARK GOAL REPORTING**

Deputy Superintendent of Business and Finance, Kelly Corbett, provided the Board of Education with information on the revisions to the 2022-2023 General Budget Fund. Questions were asked by Board Members, and answered by Kelly.

**2022-2023 GENERAL FUND  
BUDGET REVISION**

Superintendent Mark Palmer asked the members of the Board of Education to discuss the choice to get business cards. All members agreed it was a good idea.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BUSINESS CARDS**

Motion by Member Watson, with support by Member Boak, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the consent grouping Number VII - A1, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, C1, C2 and D1. Motion approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT GROUPING  
ITEMS**

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for January 2023:

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

General Fund	\$2,248,912.00
Food Service Fund	\$7,256.70
Activity Fund	\$27,286.21
2010 (QSCB) Series A Debt Fund	\$500.00
2010 (BAB) Series B Debt Fund	\$500.00
2010 (BAB) Series B	\$3,097.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$2,287,551.91</b>

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees:  
Michael Keener - Part-Time Custodian, Brandy Mather - Part-Time Custodian,  
Timm Silvernail - Network Specialist, Ryleigh Henrys - SSP at Gateway North  
Elementary, Florenda Burns - Custodian.

**NEW HIRE APPROVAL**

Approved the resignation of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees:  
Lauren Plotzke - Middle School Teacher and Elissa Ryan - Behavior SSP at  
Oakview South Elementary.

**RESIGNATION APPROVAL**

Approved the lay-off status of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee:  
David Higgins - SSP at Gateway North Elementary.

**LAY-OFF STATUS APPROVAL**

Motion by Secretary Boak, with support by Member Elliott, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve continued participation during the 2023-2024 school year in the Schools of Choice program described in Sections 105 and 105c of the State School Aid Act. Motion approved.

**ACTION ITEMS**  
**SCHOOLS OF CHOICE**  
**INTER-DISTRICT (105/105c)**  
**POLICY APPROVAL**

Motion by Member Elliott, with support by Member Mansfield, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the revised Intra-District Schools of Choice Guidelines and Request for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented. Motion approved.

**SCHOOLS OF CHOICE**  
**INTRA-DISTRICT GUIDELINES**  
**APPROVAL**

Motion by Secretary Boak, with support by Member Watson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the revisions to the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget for the St. Johns Public School District, as presented. Motion approved.

**2022-2023 GENERAL FUND**  
**BUDGET REVISION APPROVAL**

Motion by Secretary Boak, with support by Member Mansfield, authorizing the Superintendent to enter into an agreement with Michigan Leadership Institute for the purpose of conducting a superintendent search. The Board members deliberated between the 4 search firms. Motion approved with a 6-0 roll call.

**SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH FIRM**  
**APPROVAL**

Motion by Secretary Boak, with support by Treasurer Nelson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approve the registration for Vice President Scott Darragh to attend the MASB courses CBA 215: Advanced School Finance on February 24, 2023, and CBA 257: School District Safety and Security on February 25, 2023. Motion approved.

**VICE PRESIDENT SCOTT**  
**DARRAGH TO ATTEND MASB**  
**COURSES**

Motion by Member Mansfield, with support by Secretary Boak, that the St. Johns Board of Education approve the registration for Member Kathie Elliott to attend MASB Session: The Spectrum of School Security on February 24, 2023 and CBA 103: Basic School Finance on February 25, 2023. Motion approved.

**MEMBER KATHIE ELLIOTT TO**  
**ATTEND MASB COURSES**

Motion by Vice President Darragh, with support by Treasurer Nelson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approve the registration for Member Christi Mansfield to attend MASB courses CBA 102: Governing Through Policy on February 24, 2023 and CBA 103: Basic School Finance on February 25, 2023. Motion approved.

**MEMBER CHRISTI MANSFIELD TO**  
**ATTEND MASB COURSES**

**BOARD**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**

Superintendent Palmer reviewed his written report. He also introduced the junior student representative, Ella Koenigsknecht. He mentioned that Briggs Library has 2 board members to be approved at the next meeting and their applications were sent to the Board for review. He reminded the Board of the upcoming meetings: February 23 at AgroLiquid, a CM meeting, and a budget workshop in March.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

He gave the Board an update on the building map from the safety and security grants we filed for are almost complete. He mentioned that the Sheriff's

Department will have a satellite view of the buildings with coordinates, if ever the event of a tragedy. He also gave an update on the security assessment completed by SEC, and the recommendations will be shared at the March 13 meeting.

He shared that Kindergarten registration will start in March online, and will send out boxes to each family who signs their kindergartner up.

Superintendent Palmer mentioned that on March 1 under the 31aa grant (the mental health grant), Clinton County RESA will be hosting a county wide meeting.

Student Representative, Laura Schloegl, gave the Board of Education an update on competition theatre going to States, wrestling going to regionals, she mentioned the Sudan Support Club and that there will be a bake sale to support Peter's Sunny Day Foundation.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S  
REPORT**

The Board of Education received in-person public comment about sports and coaching from James Sills.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD  
COMMENTS**

The Board of Education received online public comments from DJ Logan sharing her takeaways from the union leadership meeting she attended after the Okemos and East Lansing incidents. She wished the Board good luck with the superintendent search.

Board of Education Members thanked Kelly Corbett and Mike Winkel for their reports, congratulated the competition theatre team, and mentioned looking forward to working with MLI for the superintendent search. Many Board members also welcomed the new student representative to the Board. Vice President Darragh sent a shout out to Mr. Davis for supporting his students in the solo and ensemble in Bay City on a Saturday morning.

Vice President Darragh adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Boak, Secretary  
St. Johns Board of Education  
Minutes submitted by: Chelsea Peterson, Recording Secretary