

**St. Johns Public Schools
St. Johns, Michigan
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held on February 10, 2020**

The St. Johns Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 10, 2020, at the Riley Elementary School Media Center. President Darragh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Darragh, Dedyne, Drabek, Jackson, Nelson, Watson, Student Representative Schafer, and Student Representative Kiel

ATTENDANCE

Members Absent: Kirk

Motion by Member Jackson, with support by Member Nelson, to approve the agenda. Agenda approved as presented.

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Treasurer Watson, with support by Vice President Drabek, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from the meeting held on January 27, 2020, and to approve the Committee Meeting minutes from January 27, 2020. Motion unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Riley parent Heather Hager addressed the Board of Education and shared her concerns about the length of the elementary student lunch period. She believes it is too short and would like to see it extended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Riley Elementary School Teacher, Dawn Kelly, provided the Board of Education with information on the training some district staff received on the NGSX System, provided by Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, STEM Consultant from Ingham Intermediate School District. Dr. Stephenson is also the host and writer of the PBS show, Curious Crew. The teachers brought what they learned back to their classrooms. Fourth grade students at Riley that have participated in the program provided the Board of Education with some of the experiences they had with the concepts they have been investigating and testing. They also shared what they like about the system, and demonstrated some of the concepts they have been working on. Some of the members of the Board of Education asked the students questions, and the students provided their answers.

**PRESENTATION
NGSX (NEXT
GENERATION SCIENCE
EXEMPLAR SYSTEM)**

Curriculum Director Jason Gnegy introduced high school English teachers, Mike Ballor and Christina Snyder. They provided the Board of Education with an overview of their plan to introduce Literature Circles into the 9th grade ELA curriculum. This program will align with literacy strategies being implemented at the district's middle school and elementary levels. Students will be responsible for teaching each other, and the teacher will serve as facilitator. They outlined the goals and purposes for implementing this type of program as part of the curriculum. They also provided an overview of the titles they will be using, and

**REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
HIGH SCHOOL ELA
PURCHASE**

explained the different roles students will take in the Literature Circles. The Board of Education student representatives both shared their positive thoughts on providing this in the curriculum.

Director of Business and Finance Kelly Corbett provided the Board of Education with an update of the district's budget for this fiscal year. She included a summary of the changes from the original 2019-20 budget. She also shared the foundation allowance increase in the Governor's budget proposal.

**2019-2020 BUDGET
REVISION**

Superintendent Mark Palmer and Policy Committee Chair Rick Drabek provided information on the additions and revisions to the latest policy updates. Committee Chair Drabek commended the committee for the work they did on the policies, and reiterated that he would like the staff notified of policy changes.

**NEOLA Vol. 34 No. 1
POLICY REVISIONS**

Superintendent Palmer provided the Board of Education with information on the annual trip the high school baseball team takes over spring break.

**HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TRIP
TO ORANGE BEACH, AL**

Superintendent Palmer provided the Board of Education with information on the high school's annual marching band camp trip to the Kettunen Center in Tustin, Michigan. This year we would like to include the anticipated costs of this year's camp as an action item before the final invoice is received in the fall, so that the Business Office can pay the invoice in a more timely manner. Superintendent Palmer reminded the Board of Education that the camp is not funded by the district, but is self-funded by the students.

**HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING
BAND CAMP TO TUSTIN, MI**

President Darragh opened discussion on the Superintendent's Contract. The members commented and offered suggestions regarding the contract's that were presented as options.. He reminded the members of the Board Education that one of the presented options must be included if a motion is made.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT**

There was very little discussion on this item. The Board of Education appreciated the work that was done by the Administration, the detail that was presented, and for answering their questions.

**ENERGY SAVINGS
PERFORMANCE CONTRACT
AND FINANCING
AUTHORIZATION**

Director of Business and Finance, Kelly Corbett, provided the Board of Education with an update on the status of HRS's plan to renovate portions of the Wilson Center. The funding was not approved. Ms. Corbett also shared recommended actions the district's lawyer suggested. Several board members asked questions, and shared their thoughts for the future of the Wilson Center. President Darragh suggested we make a decision in a 3 meeting rule.

WILSON CENTER

Motion by Treasurer Watson, with support by Member Nelson, to approve the consent grouping Number VIII, A1, A2, B1, and B2. Motion approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
GROUPING
ITEMS**

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Kelly Hutchinson- High School SSP, and Mindy Pawlanta – Riley Elementary SSP.

NEW HIRE APPROVAL

Approved the resignation of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Rayanne Peru – Little Wings Childcare Provider, and Roberta Motz – Eureka Elementary SSP.

RESIGNATION APPROVAL

Motion by Member Jackson, with support by Vice President Drabek, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves continued participation during the 2020 – 2021 school year in the Schools of Choice program described in Sections 105 and 105c of the State School Aid Act. Motion unanimously approved.

**ACTION ITEMS
Schools of Choice
Inter-District 105 and
105c Program
Participation Approval**

Motion by Member Nelson, with support by Member Jackson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves the revised Intra-District Schools of Choice Guidelines and Request Form for the 2020 – 2021 school year, as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

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

Motion by Vice President Drabek, with support by Treasurer Watson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves Option B, as Superintendent Mark Palmer’s contract. Motion unanimously approved.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
CONTRACT APPROVAL**

Motion by Vice President Drabek, with support by Member Jackson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves the Energy Savings Performance Contract with Unesco and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the contract, as recommended. Motion unanimously approved.

**ENERGY SAVINGS
PERFORMANCE CONTRACT
APPROVAL**

Motion by Vice President Drabek, with support by Member Nelson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves the Energy Savings Performance Contract Financing Bonds Resolution authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of Energy Conservation Bonds as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**ESPC FINANCING
AUTHORIZATION
APPROVAL**

Motion by Treasurer Watson, with support by Vice President Drabek , that the St. Johns Board of Education approves terminating the Memo of Understanding (MOU) with Home Renewal Systems, LLC., effective immediately due to Home Renewal Systems lack of success in securing an allocation of Low Income Housing Tax Credits. Motion unanimously approved.

**TERMINATION OF MEMO
OF UNDERSTANDING WITH
HOME RENEWAL SYSTEMS
APPROVAL**

Motion by Member Nelson, with support by Treasurer Watson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves the solicitation of bids for the sale of the Wilson Center as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**OPTIONS FOR FUTURE OF
THE WILSON CENTER
APPROVAL**

Superintendent Palmer thanked the Board of Education for approving his contract. He reviewed his written report. Vice President Drabek remarked, and made suggestions, concerning the possible AG program the CCRESA districts are exploring.

**BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS
SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

The Student Representatives provided the Board of Education with an update on high school events, including past, present and future events. Student Representative Schafer's report included an update on the fundraiser for Peter's Sunny Day foundation; it had a great turnout. Student Representative Kiel shared that the dinner theatre went well, and that the competition play has advanced to States, and will compete this weekend.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

Parent Albert Manas, addressed the Board of Education, and asked if a market assessment had been completed on the Wilson Center, and encouraged the Board of Education to reach out to local realty companies. Members of the Board of Education thanked the student representatives for their reports, and congratulated them on their successes. They also thanked those that presented this evening. Member Jackson stated that he hopes the curriculum at all levels continues. President Darragh reminded everyone that next month's first meeting would be at Gateway North Elementary.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD
COMMENTS**

President Darragh adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Dedyne, Secretary
St. Johns Board of Education