

**St. Johns Public Schools
St. Johns, Michigan
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held on February 22, 2021**

The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education met in regular session virtually on Monday, February 22, 2021. President Darragh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ZOOM Information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87856821501?pwd=RGxJalREVEhuRjZ6ZXFpUytXOUkvZz09>

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

ATTENDANCE

Members Absent: None

Motion by Member Hallead, with support by Member Jackson, to approve the agenda. Agenda approved as presented via a 7-0 show of hands.

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Member Jackson, with support by Member Hallead, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from the meeting held on February 8, 2021. Motion unanimously approved via a 7-0 show of hands.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Superintendent Palmer reviewed the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan. He shared that he believes our current program is too taxing on students, parents and staff. The district is looking at what they can do differently next year. He shared options the district is exploring at all levels.

**REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN AND RE-
CERTIFICATION**

There were no public comments regarding the Extended COVID-19 Learn Plan and it's re-certification.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rich Lund, high school science teacher, in an effort to promote comments of good news and cheer, read a poem he had written called The Reddest Wing.

There were no comments from the members of the Board of Education about the re-certification of the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN AND RE-
CERTIFICATION**

Members of the Board of Education shared their thoughts and opinions on the support of the MASB resolution to permit school boards to meet in-person.

**MASB RESOLUTION TO
PERMIT SCHOOL BOARDS
TO MEET IN PERSON**

Motion by Member Jackson, with support by Member Nelson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the consent grouping Number VII, A1 and B1. Motion approved unanimously via a 7-0 roll call vote.

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
GROUPING
ITEMS**

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for , 2019:

PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund	\$2,081,003.28
Food Service Fund	\$4,401.02
Activity Fund	\$4,945.32
2010 QSCB Bond Series A	\$500.00
2010 BAB Bond Series B	\$500.00
Public Improvement Fund	\$26,730.91
Energy Bond Construction	\$369,885.62
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,487,966.15

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee:
Latasha Cantu – District Food Service

NEW HIRE APPROVAL

Motion by Member Hallead, with support by Member Jackson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education re-certify the district's Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan as presented. Motion unanimously approved via a 7-0 roll call vote.

**ACTION ITEMS
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN AND RE-
CERTIFICATION**

Motion by Member Nelson, with support by Member Watson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education adopt the MASB resolution to permit school boards to meet in person, as presented. After discussion, motion failed via a 3-4 roll call vote, Members Dedyne, Nelson and Watson voting Yea, and Members Drabek, Hallead, Jackson and Darragh voting Nay.

**MASB RESOLUTION TO
PERMIT SCHOOL BOARDS TO
MEET IN PERSON**

Superintendent Palmer reviewed his written report. He added information about the decline of the spread of COVID-19 in Clinton County, and provided an update on the transition to the Thrun policy service. He also recognized Jason Gnegy for spearheading the purchase and distribution of literacy kits, and Spear Electric for the donation they made to relieve student debt. He also informed the Board of Education about two students, Cass Paksi and Noah Plotnick, that are the first in our district to graduate from the CRTEC program earning a high school diploma and an associate's degree.

**BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Student Representative Kiel provided the Board of Education an update on the student events at the high school and middle school levels, including the high school competition theatre placing 5th at the state MIFA festival, and the start of auditions for the middle school and high school musicals. He also shared information about a visit from former SJHS alumni, Karrigan Smith, to Mr. Heethuis' middle school algebra class.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S
REPORT**

**PUBLIC AND BOARD
COMMENTS**

DJ Logan – Gateway North Elementary teacher thanked the district’s food service team for their help providing food for the students, and asked others to thank them too.

Josh Heethuis – Middle School teacher, believes it would be a great opportunity if the Board of Education would continue to provide a virtual option to attend meetings when we are able to return to in-person meetings. He also appreciates that the staff and our team have found a way to provide as much normalcy as possible to parents and students this year, and also that the administration listened to the needs of the staff and provided asynchronous Fridays. He appreciates the extra effort everyone has put in this year to make things work.

Rich Lund – High School science teacher, spoke about employment issues.

Members of the Board of Education expressed their appreciation for the comments made at the meeting tonight and for the work those in attendance are doing in the district. Vice-President Drabek also thanked the local company that paid off student lunch account debt, and appreciates the Boards respect for each other.

President Darragh reflected on the fact that today is the 11th anniversary of welcoming his daughter Lydia to their family. He also appreciates the congenial way the Board handles their discussions and appreciates the board members relationships with each other.

President Darragh adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Dedyne, Secretary
St. Johns Board of Education
Minutes submitted by: Michelle Gorby, Recording Secretary