

St. Johns Public Schools
St. Johns, Michigan
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held on September 13, 2021

The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, September 13, 2021, at the St. Johns High School Auditorium. President Darragh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Darragh, Drabek, Hallead, Jackson, Nelson, and Watson

ATTENDANCE

Members Absent: Dedyne

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

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Secretary Jackson, with support by Member Hallead, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from the meeting held on August 23, 2021, the Executive Session minutes from the meeting held on August 23, 2021, and the Special Meeting minutes from the meeting held on September 8, 2021. Motion unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Many parents and community members shared their concerns of students wearing masks at school, wearing masks appropriately, students in quarantine and how they will continue to be educated, Covid testing, vaccinations for the COVID virus, and how students have been impacted. Those opposed to wearing masks, issues or questions about quarantines or personal protection equipment, and/or vaccinations for the virus included Marilyn Becker, Karen Andrews, James Sills, Lori Dykstra, Chelsey Schafer, Wendy Curie, Erin Mansfield, Mishelle Pagels, Heather R., Kathy Stevens, Courtney, DJ Diffin, Karol Sanborn, Brenda DeLiso, Magen Leech, Christi Mansfield, Kacey Schafer, and Chuck Eldridge. Those that would like to see students wearing masks at school include Michael Rentz, Kendel Darragh, Tess Miller, Dionne O'Dell, and Courtney Bradley. Online participation comments were heard from Kelly Havens, and Armando Gutierrez.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Superintendent Palmer reviewed the information submitted for the high school marching band trip to Hawaii in March 2022. President Darragh asked for the cost of travel insurance for the trip.

**REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING
BAND TRIP TO HAWAII**

Superintendent Palmer provide a brief overview of the policy revisions the Board policy committee reviewed at the special meeting held earlier.

BOARD POLICY UPDATES

President Darragh reviewed information for the 2021 MASB Leadership Conference and the need for the Board to elect someone to attend the delegate assembly. This item was to be an action item at tonight's meeting, but due to the

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
2021 MASB ANNUAL
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AND
DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

fact that no one could commit to attending, it will appear as an action item at the next regular meeting.

Motion by Treasurer Watson, with support by Member Hallead, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the consent grouping Number VII, A1, A2, A3, A4, B1, and B2. Motion approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
GROUPING
ITEMS
NEW HIRE APPROVAL**

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Alexa Villaron – Elementary Music Teacher, Danielle Fuller – Middle School CI Teacher, Jacob Hampton – Network Specialist, Kathleen Freed – High School Custodian.

Approved the resignation of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Eloisa Martinez-Nadeau – Gateway North SSP, and Kaitlin Shanks- Elementary Music Teacher.

RESIGNATION APPROVAL

Motion by Member Hallead, with support by Secretary Jackson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the middle school and elementary level courses offered by My Virtual Academy. Motion unanimously approved.

**ACTION ITEMS
2021-2022 MY VIRTUAL
ACADEMY COURSE
OFFERINGS FOR ELEM
LEVELS APPROVAL**

Superintendent Palmer provided the Board of Education with information about the 2022 commencement ceremony. He also provided information on a trip to Spain for the Spanish program students, and the trip to France for students in the French program. An update on preschool and enrollment was also provided., as well as a report that the solar power is up and working.

**BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Chuck Eldridge showed his support of allowing parents to make the choice if their child wears a mask.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD
COMMENTS**

Member Nelson thanked all for their comments tonight.
Treasurer Watson welcomed the newly hired staff and thanked all for their comments.
Vice President Drabek stated that he never forgets that this is a public meeting, and all comments are important and appreciated.

President Darragh adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Jackson, Secretary
St. Johns Board of Education
Minutes submitted by: Michelle Gorby, Recording Secretary