

**St. Johns Public Schools  
St. Johns, Michigan  
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Held on Monday, September 9, 2019**

The St. Johns Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, September 9, 2019, at the Wilson Center Board Room. President Darragh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Absent: Dedyne

President Darragh appointed Member Nelson as Acting Secretary for the meeting.

**ACTING SECRETARY  
APPOINTED**

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

**AGENDA APPROVED**

Motion by Member Kirk, with support by Member Nelson, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from the meeting held on August 26, 2019. Motion unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

There were none.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Curriculum Director Jason Gnegy introduced the elementary literacy coaches, Hali Mehney, Ellen Marr, Elissa Rowland and Tammy Van Norman, and the reading interventionist, Rebecca Spangler. Ms. Marr provided the Board of Education with an update on the summer book study in which the district teachers participated. The book was called Striving to Thriving by Stephanie Harvey. Forty teachers signed up for the book study and about 20-25 participated each week.

**REPORTS AND  
INFORMATION  
LITERACY CAMP AND  
SUMMER BOOK STUDY  
UPDATE**

This summer's Literacy Camp served 30 struggling readers in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, moving into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for the 19-20 school year. Campfire studies were one of the many activities of the camp the students really enjoyed and was beneficial. Each student attending the camp received \$100 in free books as well as a camp t-shirt and book bag.

Director of Business and Finance Kelly Corbett presented to the Board of Education the proposed amendment to the HRS Memorandum of Understanding for the Wilson Center project.

**HRS MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING  
AMENDMENT**

Middle School Principal Adel DiOrio provided the Board of Education with an update on this past summer's EPIC Summer Camp held at the Middle School. Mrs. DiOrio shared that all of the available seats were filled, and it appears that the program was once again well received and successful.

**EPIC SUMMER CAMP  
UPDATE**

Superintendent Palmer provided the Board of Education with information on the high school Spanish class trip to Spain, tentatively scheduled for March 22 – April 2, 2020.

**HIGH SCHOOL SPANISH  
CLASS TRIP TO SPAIN**

Motion by Treasurer Watson, with support by Member Jackson, to approve the consent grouping Number VII, A1, A2, B1, B2, and C1. Motion approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT  
GROUPING  
ITEMS**

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Kaitlin Shanks – Elementary Music Teacher, and Rachel Kennedy – Childcare Program Lead Teacher

**NEW HIRE APPROVAL**

Approved the resignation of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: McKenna Grieve – Gateway North Elementary SSP and Childcare Provider, and Emily Wenzlick – Childcare Provider.

**RESIGNATION APPROVAL**

Approved the position transfer of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee: Brenda Zelenka – High School SSP to Floater Cafeteria Customer Service.

**POSITION TRANSFER  
APPROVAL**

Motion by Member Jackson, with support by Member Kirk, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves the authorization of the district administration to issue a Request for Proposal for an energy performance contract. Motion unanimously approved.

**ACTION ITEMS  
ENERGY PERFORMANCE  
PROJECT CONTRACT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
APPROVAL**

Motion by Member Nelson, with support by Member Jackson, that the St. Johns Board of Education approves invoice number 24476 for the summer 2019 Marching Band camp at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI for an amount of \$43,348.06, as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**Summer 2019  
Marching Band Camp  
Invoice Approval**

Superintendent Palmer reviewed his written report and reminded the Board of Education of the staff tailgate on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. The tailgate is being supported by MEEMIC Insurance and Dr. Ed Grubaugh, DDS. He also shared that if there is no objection from any Board member, he will pursue MASB providing us Grassroots Advocacy Training. Superintendent Palmer would like to meet with Members Watson, and Jackson to discuss a time to meet regarding the Superintendent's evaluation.

**BOARD  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Many members of the Board of Education thanked all for their presentations this evening and welcomed the newly hired staff. President Darragh also thanked the middle school staff for a great curriculum night.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD  
COMMENTS**

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Nelson, Acting Secretary  
St. Johns Board of Education