

**St. Johns Public Schools**  
**St. Johns, Michigan**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**Held on Monday, January 15, 2024**

The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, January 15, 2024, in the St. Johns Oakview South Elementary Library. Superintendent Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Absent: None

Member Watson nominated Member Elliott for the office of Board President, Member Mansfield nominated Member Watson for the office of Board President, and Member Nelson nominated Member Jackson for the office of Board President. Nominations were closed after no other nominations were made. A roll call vote was cast. Members Boak, Nelson, Darragh, and Jackson voted for Member Jackson; Members Mansfield and Elliott voted for Member Watson; and Member Watson voted for Member Elliott.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Control of the meeting was given to President Jackson.

Member Watson nominated Member Darragh for the office of Board Vice President. Nominations were closed after no other nominations were made, and a unanimous 7-0 vote for Member Darragh was cast.

Vice President Darragh nominated Member Boak for the office of Board Secretary. Nominations were closed after no other nominations were made. A unanimous 7-0 vote for Member Boak was cast.

Secretary Boak nominated Member Nelson for the office of Board Treasurer. Nominations were closed after no other nominations were made. A unanimous 7-0 vote for Member Nelson was cast.

Motion by Member Elliott, with support by Member Mansfield, to approve the agenda. Agenda approved as presented.

**AGENDA APPROVED**

Member Watson requested to amend the minutes, as he was listed as Vice President. Motion by Vice President Darragh, with support by Member Elliott, to approve the amended minutes from the regular meeting held on December 11, 2023. Motion unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

Motion by Member Mansfield, with support by Member Watson, to approve the Executive Session minutes from December 11, 2023. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion by Vice President Darragh, with support by Secretary Boak, to approve the Policy Committee Meeting minutes from the meeting held on December 18, 2023. Motion unanimously approved.

The Board of Education received in-person public comments from Sheila McCastle and Mistie McKane thanking Kelly Corbett for her years in the District, and the time she has supported the various staff at St. Johns Public Schools.

There was no online public comment.

Building Principal, Jim Alspaugh, presented the Board of Education with the opportunity to participate in a number talks lesson to show how students learn to solve math problems in their head. Questions were asked and answered.

High School Baseball Coach, Jake Parker, presented information to the Board of Education to request a baseball team trip to Pensacola, Florida. Questions were asked and answered.

Deputy Superintendent of Business and Finance, Kelly Corbett, provided the Board of Education with information on the revisions to the 2023-2024 general fund budget. Questions were asked and answered.

Superintendent Berthiaume proposed to the Board of Education application date changes for the inter-district school of choice application window to be July 15 through August 2 for the 2024-2025 Schools of Choice Program for St. Johns Public Schools. Intra-district application dates will remain the same as previous years.

Superintendent Berthiaume provided the Board of Education a brief overview of the policy revisions the Board policy committee reviewed at the policy meeting held December 18, 2023.

Member Watson requested to step down from the Board Policy Committee and nominated Member Mansfield to take his spot.

Secretary Boak, Member Mansfield, and Treasurer Nelson all nominated themselves to be a part of the finance committee.

Superintendent Berthiaume reminded the Board that the bond kickoff is January 29 and shared the website will be updated with factual information.

Motion by Treasurer Nelson, with support by Member Elliott, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the consent grouping number IX A1, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, C1 and C2. Motion approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

**BUILDING UPDATE - OAKVIEW SOUTH ELEMENTARY**

**HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM TRIP TO PENSACOLA, FLORIDA**

**2023-2024 GENERAL FUND BUDGET REVISION**

**SCHOOL OF CHOICE PROGRAM UPDATES**

**POLICY UPDATES**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**BOARD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**BOND UPDATE**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT GROUPING ITEMS**

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for December 2023:

General Fund	\$2,201,476.70
Food Service Fund	\$16,272.78
Activity Fund	\$26,093.85
Public Improvement Fund	<u>\$64,000.00</u>
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<i>\$2,307,843.33</i>

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Karen Densmore – First Grade Teacher at Eureka, Mariah Metters – Childcare Provider at Little Wings and Adventure Club, Mia Ridenour – Childcare Provider at Little Wings, Nolan Hanks – Part-Time Custodian, Donna Wier – Media Center SSP at Riley Elementary, and Colleen Sykes – Student Success Coach at the Middle School.

**NEW HIRE APPROVALS**

Approved the termination of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees: Jakob Degeer – Custodian and Brian Fry – Custodian.

**TERMINATION APPROVALS**

Motion by Vice President Darragh, with support by Treasurer Nelson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the May 2024 Election Resolution, as presented. Motion passed with a 6-1 roll call vote, with Member Mansfield voting no.

**ACTION ITEMS**  
**MAY 2024 ELECTION RESOLUTION APPROVAL**

Motion by Member Watson, with support by Vice President Darragh, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approves up to \$20,000 from general fund towards the high school weight room upgrades, as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**HIGH SCHOOL WEIGHT ROOM UPGRADE APPROVAL**

Motion by Secretary Boak, with support by Member Mansfield, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the revisions to the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget for the St. Johns Public School District, as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**2023-2024 GENERAL FUND BUDGET REVISION APPROVAL**

Motion by Vice President Darragh, with support by Member Watson, that the policy committee members are Secretary Boak, Vice President Darragh, and Member Mansfield. Motion unanimously approved.

**POLICY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS APPROVAL**

Motion by Secretary Boak, with support by Vice President Darragh, that the finance committee members are Secretary Boak, Member Mansfield, and Treasurer Nelson.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS APPROVAL**

Motion by Member Mansfield, with support by Vice President Darragh, that the St. Johns Board of Education approve the registration for Secretary Matthew Boak’s attendance at the MASB Data Foundations on Saturday, February 3.

**MASB CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - DATA FOUNDATIONS APPROVAL**

Superintendent Berthiaume and the Executive Directors’ shared updates with the Board regarding their departments. Superintendent Berthiaume shared

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS SUPERINTENDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

additional updates on the Safe Routes to School grant, school calendar, and school closings.

Student Representative Koenigsnecht shared updates with the Board on sports, YAC, SSHCO candy cane gram, and PALS. She also gave updates to Student Council fundraisers for Peter's Sunny Day Foundation. She shared that Mr. Matulis built ice rinks at Eureka and Riley Elementaries, and gave an update to the Solo and Ensemble, and shared that Agro is hosting an open mic night on February 1.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S  
REPORT**

Superintendent Berthiaume thanked the Board for their service. President Jackson and Vice President Darragh shared their thanks to Kelly for her service to the district.

**BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH**

The Board of Education received public comments about population decline and traditional lifestyles from Todd Krajniak.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD  
COMMENTS**

There was no online public comment.

Member Mansfield motioned that the St. Johns Board of Education move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the tentative agreements with the St. Johns Food Service and SJESA Secretary Association, and was supported by Vice President Darragh.

**MOVE TO EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

The motion passed unanimously by a 7-0 roll call vote, and the Board of Education moved into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

The Board of Education returned from Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

**RETURN FROM  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Member Mansfield, with support by Member Watson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the St. Johns Public Schools Food Service Contract, as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**ACTION ITEMS  
ST. JOHNS FOOD SERVICE  
CONTRACT APPROVAL**

Motion by Treasurer Nelson, with support by Member Elliott, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the St. Johns Education Secretary Association contract, as presented. Motion unanimously approved.

**ST. JOHNS SECRETARIES  
CONTRACT APPROVAL**

Board members shared comments.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

President Jackson adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

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