

**St. Johns Public Schools
St. Johns, Michigan
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held on December 12, 2022**

The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, December 12, 2022, in the St. Johns High School Media Center. President Drabek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Boak, Darragh, Drabek, Elliott, Jackson, Nelson, Watson, and Student Representative Schloegl

ATTENDANCE

Members Absent: None

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

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Member Boak, with support by Member Elliott, to approve the regular meeting minutes from the meeting held on November 14, 2022. Motion unanimously approved.

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Member Darragh, with support by Vice President Watson, to approve the policy committee meeting minutes from the meeting held on November 29, 2022. Motion unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

The Board of Education received in person public comment from parents expressing their concerns with an incident that happened at Eureka Elementary. Those that addressed the Board of Education included Jeff Simpson, Kelly Simpson, Ashley Hansen, Lisa Mancuso, James Sills, Jennifer Barks, Melinda Cornell, Connie Kruger, and Walter Schmidtman.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no online comments.

**REPORTS AND
INFORMATION**

High School Principal, Mark Dobson, shared a presentation with the Board of Education recommending weighted grades for AP courses in the 2023-2024 school year. Member Darragh gave a brief comment on the topic.

**WEIGHTED GRADES
PRESENTATION**

Superintendent Mark Palmer provided a brief overview of the policy revisions the Board Policy Committee reviewed at the special meeting held on November 29, 2022.

BOARD POLICY UPDATES

Motion by Treasurer Nelson, with support by Secretary Jackson that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the consent grouping number VI - A1, B1, and C1. Motion approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
GROUPING
ITEMS**

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for November 2021:

General Fund	\$1,311,214.01
Food Service Fund	\$1,066.99
Activity Fund	\$24,552.62
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,336,833.62

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Approved the retirement of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee:
Judy Larson - Custodian.

RETIREMENT APPROVAL

Approved the position transfer of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee on January 9, 2022: Abigail Payment – Childcare Provider at Little Wings to Floating Preschool SSP at Oakview South Elementary.

POSITION TRANSFER APPROVAL

Motion by Secretary Jackson, with support by Treasurer Nelson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education accepts the evaluation of Superintendent Mark Palmer as Highly Effective. Motion unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION APPROVAL

Motion by Vice President Watson, with support by Member Boak, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the recommendation to purchase 2 new gasoline buses from Holland Bus Company in the amount of \$233,356.00 coming from public improvement funds, as presented. Member Darragh and President Drabek thanked Rob Gleeson, Operations Director, for the additional information to compare the buses. Motion unanimously approved.

BUS REPLACEMENT PROPOSAL APPROVAL

Motion by Member Darragh, with support by Member Elliott, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the registration for Members Matthew Boak and Christi Mansfield to attend the MASB CBA 101: Fundamentals of School Board Service Webinar on December 9 and 10, 2022. Member Boak gave the Board a brief update on the conference. Motion unanimously approved.

MASB CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - CBA 101: FUNDAMENTALS OF SCHOOL BOARD SERVICE

Superintendent Palmer thanked the members of the Board of Education for his positive evaluation and appreciates the comments. He shared that the swim timing system and new scoreboard was installed and that there are holiday concerts coming up. He briefly talked about the lame duck session. He gave an update on the child care move to East Olive. He mentioned a special meeting will be held for architects to pitch to the Board for a possible bond to help develop the scope of the bond. He also mentioned that the High School water meter switched from 6 inches to 4 inches.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Mark Palmer recognized President Drabek, and presented him with a plaque and thanked him for his 15.5 years of service on the Board of Education.

Student Representative Schloegl gave the Board an update on athletics and briefed on the upcoming concerts. She shared with the Board that the student council is running a can drive. She also wanted to let the Board know that her and many peers are in support of the weighted grades. President Drabek added that he is also in support of the weighted grades.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S
REPORT**

The Board of Education received in person public comment from both students and parents who expressed their support for the weighted grades recommendation, Judy Larson's retirement, the incident at Eureka, flags in classrooms, and an incident with a substitute teacher. Those who addressed the Board were Ryan Bounds, Parker Beebee, Lisa Mancuso, Tyler Morrison, Phillip Foust, Kelly Simpson, Jeff Simpson, and Adriana Ingleright.

PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS

High School Principal, Mark Dobson expressed what an advocate President Drabek has been to our students.

Kindergarten teacher, DJ Logan gave online comments thanking President Drabek for his service and shared that students at Gateway will be seeing 'The Ugly Duckling' at the Wharton Center through a grant. Andrea Hallead, Middle School Principal also thanked Rick for his service to the district.

Several members thanked President Drabek for his service and shared stories of experiences shared together over time. They all thanked the public for their comments. Many members wished everyone a happy holiday. Vice President Watson wished Judy Larson the best in her retirement. Member Darragh commented on his support of the weighted grades. President Drabek shared how honored he has been to have served SJPS.

President Drabek adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Jackson, Secretary
St. Johns Board of Education
Minutes submitted by: Chelsea Peterson, Recording Secretary