

SAULT STE. MARIE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN 49783  
REGULAR MEETING, BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Phone 906/635-6609

**Minutes – Monday, July 11, 2022**

1. ***I. CALL TO ORDER***

President DeWitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Sault Area Middle School, 684 Marquette Avenue and via Zoom.

2. ***A. ROLL CALL OF BOARD***

Board Members Present: Jay D. Wilson, Lisa A. Young, Daniel L. Smith, Raymond J. DeWitt, Christine M. Curtis, Caitlin L. Galer

Absent: Melissa S. Pingatore

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. ***B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA***

It was moved by Member Galer, supported by Member Wilson, that the Board of Education adopt the agenda as revised.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, Smith, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Pingatore

Motion Carried.

4. ***C. ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD MEETING DATES***

It was moved by Member Galer, supported by Member Young, to adopt the schedule of meetings for 2022-23.

President DeWitt raised for discussion the start time for regular meetings. With unanimous consent, the Board agreed to continue to start regular meetings at 7:00 p.m.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, Smith, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Pingatore

Motion Carried.

5. ***D. DESIGNATION OF PERSON FOR POSTING NOTICES OF BOARD MEETINGS***

It was moved by Member Wilson, supported by Member Galer, that the Board of Education designate Judy Sirk for posting notices of board meetings.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, Smith, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer  
Nays: None  
Absent: Pingatore  
Motion Carried.

6. ***E. APPROVAL OF FORMAT FOR REGULAR MEETING AGENDAS 2022-2023***

***I. CALL TO ORDER***

- A.*** Roll Call
- B.*** Adoption of Agenda removal of any item from consent agenda

***II. COMMUNICATIONS***

- A.*** Reports to the Board
  - Business Report
  - School Reports
- B.*** Superintendent Report
- C.*** Audience Participation

***III. ACTION ITEMS***

- A.*** Consent Resolution
  - (Includes minutes, payment of bills, routine items, personnel and gifts and donations)
- B.*** Action Items

***IV. BOARD GOVERNANCE AND BOARD POLICY ISSUES***

***V. FUTURE PLANNING***

***VI. ADJOURNMENT***

It was moved by Member Wilson, supported by Member Young, that the Board of Education approve the new agenda format for regular meetings for 2022-2023.

President DeWitt sought discussion on the proposed agenda format.

Member Galer indicated she was in agreement with a consent agenda due to the length of some meetings.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer  
Nays: Smith  
Absent: Pingatore  
Motion Carried.

7. ***F. APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION CLERK***

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer was appointed to serve as Election Clerk. Board Secretary Christine Curtis administered the Oath of Office to Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer.

8. ***II. CONTINUE IN SESSION – REGULAR MEETING***

9. ***III. COMMUNICATIONS***

***A. REPORTS TO THE BOARD***

1. Business Report – Mrs. Michelle Bennin

Mrs. Bennin presented the June financial statements and sought approval of \$3,238,936.29 for the general fund bill list and \$79,492.28 for the food service bill list. She reported year-end adjustments were being recorded on the accrual basis as required, and the revenues and expenditures, balance sheet and graphs were omitted due to the significant change in those areas through August.

Mrs. Bennin reported the decrease in cash over the month was due to the payoff of service contracts and outstanding year-end expenditures.

Upon inquiry from President DeWitt, Mrs. Bennin reported the high school siding, windows, flooring, and electrical door locks were progressing as planned.

2. Maintenance and Transportation Update – Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the high school flooring was being installed, the gym floor was being stripped, repainted, and finished, the new doors and wiring would be installed later in the month, and the upstairs carpet was being removed for the installation of new flooring.

Upon Board inquiry, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the upstairs high school carpet was not being replaced with carpet, and the installation of the new siding took a week to perfect, but it was moving along nicely now.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the Middle School vestibule carpet was being replaced.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the Malcolm School gym had been painted and new lunch tables installed.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported asbestos abatement would begin next week and access would be restricted until completed.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported work had begun at Washington School to replace some tile and install electrical door locks.

Upon inquiry from Member Smith, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported she would ask Tom Nelson if the district still had employees who were certified in asbestos abatement.

Member Wilson indicated certified asbestos abatement requires annual certification.

Upon inquiry from President DeWitt, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer indicated work on the door locks would continue throughout the school year, work on the gym floor had begun, window replacement would begin in August, and the district was waiting for the company to schedule the track repair.

Upon inquiry from Member Wilson, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer confirmed the company that installed the track did not honor the previous warranty but agreed to give a discount on its repair.

### 3. Intervention Services Reports - Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the intervention service providers work under programs and report data throughout the year. She stated the data is collected and reviewed for strengths, aspirations, and recommended improvements.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer provided an overview of the programs and asked the Board to honor the work that had been done.

### **Reading Recovery – First Grade Students**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported reading recovery was typically directed toward the lowest achieving 20% of students who score at the bottom on their assessments.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the reading recover teachers were all certified and many had additional training. She reported they met one on one with the students in half hour intervals throughout the 12-20 week intervention before being re-assessed for further services.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the demographics of the 25% of total students served in 1<sup>st</sup> grade students were serviced this year.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the need for general education and reading recovery teachers to meet on a regular basis to ensure proper intervention supports are in place and for parents to be aware of the importance of reading at home.

### **Literacy Groups – Grades 1 – 4**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the literacy groups incorporate the WIN Program in Math, Reading and Social/Emotional support for students in grades 1-4. She noted students were selected based on their previous year's end-of-year data, current year teacher input, and for being the most in need for intervention. She stated small group intervention was offered 15-30 minutes a day and support continued based on teacher input.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the demographics of the 27% of students served. She noted only one student did not meet the minimum cut score and the need for more students to meet benchmark. She suggested intervention teachers participate in grade level PLCs and/or scheduled PD Days for improved classroom cohesiveness.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the online literacy program called Achieve 3000 was used for students in grades 6 through 8 and it was available for teachers from all subject areas to assign relevant level articles for instruction for every student.

### **Numeracy Groups – Grade K-1 and 2-4**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on math intervention for students at Washington and Lincoln Schools. She noted math intervention was part of the WIN program for grades 2-4.

Upon inquiry from Member Curtis, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported there was one math interventionist to support students in grade 1 because students scored higher in math than literacy, there was less staff available, and the caseload for Virtual Blue determined the unavailability for second semester.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported she had just finished her 9<sup>th</sup> year with the district and there was no math intervention until 4 years ago. She anticipated less K-8 Virtual Blue enrollment going forward.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the demographics of the 8% of total grade 1 students served. She reported on the selection of students, based on their number words, numerals, and early addition and subtraction assessments, and the number of days, lengths of time, and duration of sessions.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the demographics of the students in grades 2-4 who were served, the selection of students, and the daily WIN intervention time and duration of support.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the insights and improvements for numeracy groups and indicated additional math interventionists are needed for grades 2-4.

### **Math Lab – Grades 6-8**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the Middle School Math lab for students in grades 6-8 and noted it was an additional math class. She provided a brief overview of the course, purpose, assessment process, and methods and strategies. She referenced Mrs. Lehmkuhle's May report and the need to increase the student's mindset and confidence in this area as researched by Dr. Carol Dweck and Dr. Jo Boaler.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the demographics of the students served, the insights and improvements of the program, and the desire for a classroom set of Dr. Jo Boaler's Limitless Mind book.

### **Math Career and College Readiness – Grades 11-12**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the SAT Prep class that provides high school students with an opportunity to work through math efficiencies on the SAT and ACT. She stated the program is through the ALEKS K-12 online program that students navigate learning paths based on their level of readiness.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the curriculum topics, the learning paths, the Career and College Readiness insights and suggested improvements. She stated the program could be enhanced with blended instruction.

Upon inquiry from Member Curtis, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported students in grades 9 and 10 do not have the flexibility in their

schedule to take the SAT Prep class and some students take the SAT prior to grade 9.

### **MCAN Program**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the MCAN grant program that has operated out of and partnered with Sault High over the past two years. She noted the program provides incentives for students to apply for college, the military, or receive special certification to work in industry.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the 2021-22 list of college bound Michigan events and activities the students participated in with planning their future. She stated she the grant program may not be renewable past the 2022-23 school year.

### **Freshman Seminar – Study Skills**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the Freshmen Seminar/Study Skills class for students who have been identified as being at-risk or whose parents have requested their child take it. She reviewed the topics covered in the class to support student success and build positive relationships.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer presented the grade distribution by semester and highlighted class insights and improvements.

Upon inquiry from Member Curtis, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer indicated there had been discussion about incoming freshmen seeking to enroll in Malcolm for a small class size and a less failure rate.

### **Student Well-Being**

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the 10 areas of the whisk model used for student well-being at the elementary level. She presented data on the number of students identified and supports provided for those in tier 2 and 3

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on 11 areas of maintenance and 16 areas of implementation provided to students in the middle grades for well-being. She noted the programs and dedicated staff who work in the intervention system to help students succeed in and out of the school community.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported on the strengths, intervention, and areas for improvement based on the sheer volume of students in need.

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer presented data on the number of middle school and high school students who were identified as being in Tier 3 and received 31N services and supports from Megan Billings, LMSW. She stated the district was lucky to have Ms. Billings working in the district.

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported it was critical for the district to continue working on the continuum of services from elementary upward and noted how it relates to the overall arching structure of the community.

Upon inquiry from President DeWitt, Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported teachers brainstorm in their PLCs to see how they can continue to help students and those who find themselves falling back. She noted part of the improvement process is for students to learn how to self-identify and to have a purposeful master schedule and supports in place.

### **S.A.I.L. Program – Grades 6-8**

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported on the assessment process in selecting students for the S.A.I.L. program. She presented the demographics for those served and compared the data for first and second semester.

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported the S.A.I.L. program has done a good job since its implementation over the last 4 years, and the intervention staff work are experts in their field.

## **10. B. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported the consent agenda would be used for minutes, payment of bills, personnel, and routine general items like annual memberships.

Upon inquiry from President DeWitt, Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer confirmed consent agenda items would be read.

President DeWitt sought Board approval to include gifts and donations in the consent agenda.

President DeWitt indicated any action item could be pulled out for discussion by any member should it be requested

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported on the donation of angle iron pipe and T Angle by the Soo Theatre to the Sault Area Career Center Welding Program.

## **11. C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**



There was none.

12. **IV. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. CONSENT RESOLUTION – Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer**

**A. Minutes from June 13, 2022**

Member Young stated she would be abstaining from the June 13 minutes because she wasn't present in person, just online.

**B. June General Fund Bill List in the amount of \$3,238,936.29 and Food Service Bill List in the amount of \$79,492.28.**

**C. Authorizes the District School Improvement Team to approve Professional Development as the advisory committee for the 2022-2023 school year.**

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported the State Aid Act allows 3 of the 5 Professional Development (PD) days to be counted toward student contact time and the Board needed to authorize the District School Improvement Team (DSIT) to be the advisory committee for the 2022-2023 school year in order to meet the criteria.

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported the district would not qualify for additional waiver days should it be closed for 6 or more snow days.

**D. New Hires**

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer presented the following new hires.

1. Patrick Bennin – Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
2. Shanya Aldridge – Business Education Teacher – Sault Area Career Center
3. Edward Chevillot – Physical Education Teacher – Lincoln School
4. Kristen Hartman – HR Administrative Assistant – Sault Area Public Schools
5. Caree Hough – Special Education Paraprofessional – Sault Area Public Schools
6. Amy Frazier – Special Education Paraprofessional – Sault Area Public Schools
7. Jenny Gerrie – Special Education/Transportation Administrative Assistant – Sault Area Public Schools
8. Ashley Kroeger – Resource Room Teacher – Malcolm and Lincoln Schools

9. Kim Demarest – STEM Teacher – Washington and Lincoln Schools

Member Smith requested the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director position be separated out from the consent agenda for discussion.

The Board discussed the position and possible action.

It was moved by Member Curtis, to go into closed session. Discussion continued and Member Curtis removed her motion from the table.

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported there was a diverse hiring committee for the position and the recommendation was a clear choice.

- E.** Soo Theatre donated 2-3 inch angle iron pipe and T Angle to the Sault Area Career Center Welding Program.

It was moved by Member Curtis, supported by Member Young, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda with Member Young abstaining from the June 13 minutes and Member Smith voting against the hiring of Assistant Principal/Athletic Director.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer, Smith

Nays: None

Absent: Pingatore

Motion Carried.

13. **B. *DISTRICT POLICIES – Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer***

It was moved by Member Wilson, supported by Member Galer, that the Board of Education approve the following policies as presented.

Policy 167.3	Public Participation at Board Meetings
Policy 1616	Staff Dress and Grooming (Administration)
Policy 3216	Staff Dress and Grooming (Professional Staff)
Policy 4216	Staff Dress and Grooming (Support Staff)
Policy 5511	Staff Dress and Grooming (Student)
Policy 5722	School Sponsored Publications and Productions
Policy 6110	Grant Funds
Policy 6114	Cost Principles – Spending Federal Funds
Policy 6325	Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds
Policy 7540.02	Web Accessibility, Content, Apps and Services
Policy 7544	Use of Social Media

President DeWitt inquired on what would be considered disruptive dress and grooming. Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer stated the proposed policies were the least restrictive based on what was recommended by the policy company. She stated the district needed to establish something for safety purposes.

Upon request from President DeWitt, Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer confirmed she had not received any questions about the policies from the Board.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, Smith, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Pingatore

Motion Carried.

14.     **V.     *BOARD GOVERNANCE AND BOARD POLICY ISSUES***

President DeWitt reported in reference to Member Smith's inquiry on board member attendance at meetings and mandatory resignation for 3 or more absences, it was found to be illegal.

President DeWitt noted the school board had good attendance and asked members to let the Superintendent or he know if they had to be absent for some reason.

Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported Member Pingatore had notified her of her absence tonight but she was listening online via Zoom.

Member Young stated she had missed being in person for the past two meetings, one due to illness and the other for a family trip, but she was online for both and had offered to come in from a family trip if a quorum was needed.

Upon inquiry from Member Wilson, Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported she was not aware of anyone who had submitted a petition but was aware of someone who was interested in serving on the board.

Upon inquiry from Member Curtis, Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported the new Director of Student Achievement would begin August 1.

Upon inquiry from Member Curtis, Superintendent Scott-Kronmeyer reported the new Athletic Director position included Assistant Principal because many times in the past that person was needed to act in that capacity but did not have the official authority. She stated the Career Center Director had also acted in that capacity, and with potential administrators leaving in the future, it was good to have administrators with that experience.

Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported Mr. Bennin did not have a desire to be principal, but had 24 credits towards a master's degree, years of supervising, and could receive a leadership certification within a few years.

President DeWitt confirmed Member Pingatore and one other individual were in the audience online.

Discussion ensued on the quality of online access to the meetings and possibly having microphones and a fixed location to improve performance. Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer reported the individual's home network also comes into play with having good access to the meetings.

Upon inquiry from President DeWitt, Superintendent Scott-Kronemeyer indicated she would provide him with an enrollment update in the near future.

President DeWitt reported he was happy to learn the state was budgeting to increase school funding for this year.

15.    **VI.    *FUTURE PLANNING***

President DeWitt announced the next regular meeting was scheduled for August 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School.

16.    **VII.   *ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business to come before the Board at 8:17 p.m., it was moved by Member Curtis, supported by Member Galer, that the meeting be adjourned.

Yeas: Wilson, Young, Smith, DeWitt, Curtis, Galer

Nays: None

Absent: Pingatore

Motion Carried.

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Raymond J. DeWitt, Board President

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Christine M. Curtis, Board Secretary

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Judy L. Sirk, Recording Secretary