

School District of the City of Saginaw
MINUTES OF THE BOARD ACTION MEETING
550 Millard Street • Saginaw, Michigan 48607 • 989-399-6500
January 15, 2025

President Coleman called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

1. ATTENDANCE

Board of Education:	President C. Coleman	Absent
	Vice President J. Nash	Present
	Secretary K.M. Rooker	Present
	Treasurer R. A. Knapp	Present
	Trustee J. Calhoun	Present
	Trustee J. Seals	Present
	Trustee M. Thompson	Present
Central Administration Staff:		
	Superintendent R. Roberts	Present
	Deputy Superintendent T. Johnson	Present

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-President Nash asked board members if there were any additions or subtractions to the agenda. The agenda was approved as presented.

3. PRESENTATION

SASA's Students Special Recognition and Presentation

Dr. Roberts called on Mrs. Rachel Reid, the principal of SASA, to introduce two outstanding students who have been recognized for their accomplishments nationally for how innovative and progressive they are for their groundbreaking skills in their perspective field. Mrs. Reid called on her two students, Diya Ramakrishnan, a SASA Sophomore who won the 2024 Congressional App Challenge for Polyp Detection App, and Miriam Haddad, a SASA Senior who has been recognized as a top 300 Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholars. She was one of only six Michigan students who received this honor for her innovative project, magnetizing oil a new paradigm for cleaning up aquatic oil spills. The students answered questions from the Board and the Board gave their teacher Ms. Clara Wagner, accolades.

Student Ambassadors

Dr. Roberts called on each high school principal to introduce the Student Ambassadors. The students reported on school activities and activities that were carried out in collaboration with other buildings. Saginaw United, SASA, and SCC all presented their monthly reports.

Student Petition for Reinstatement - Reference #01-2025-09

Dr. Roberts called on Dr. Foley to share information regarding the Student Petition for Reinstatement. Dr. Foley shared information that the committee voted unanimously to deny the petition for reinstatement of Reference #01-2025-09. This item will be on the Consent Agenda for approval.

Consolidated Application

Dr. Roberts called on Mrs. Nichols to share information pertaining to the Consolidated Application that include the State and Federal Grant Funds that are allocated to us each year and the Carryover amounts that are available. Mrs. Nichols shared details of the budgets in the grant application this year. She is requesting Board Members approve the Carryover and Amendment budget as well as the 23G Amendment Budget. Mrs. Nichols said she has shared the detail budget in Board Book. She also shared additional information and

attached a budget sheet as well. Mrs. Nichols answered questions from Board Members. This item will be on the Consent Agenda for approval tonight.

4. PUBLIC/UNION COMMENTS

Vice-President Nash called for Public and Union Comments, but none were made.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

No Report.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Seals requested the Committee Reports be moved up on the agenda before the Consent Agenda.

Finance

Ms. Knapp shared there will be a Finance committee meeting on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. The Finance and Buildings and Grounds Committees will have a combined meeting. Board Members shared concerns and questions pertaining to the General Fund Budget.

Policy & Curriculum

Mrs. Seals shared there will not be a meeting in February.

Buildings and Grounds

Mrs. Nash shared the Buildings and Grounds Committee will be meeting on Monday, February 10, 2025.

Human Resources

No report

City/School/County Liaison

Mrs. Nash shared the committee will meet here in the Board Room on tomorrow, Thursday, January 15, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Nash asked board members if there were any exceptions to the Consent Agenda.

The following motion was made.

Motion

Moved by Mrs. Seals and supported Mrs. Thompson that the Saginaw Board of Education accepts the Consent Agenda as presented.

A voice vote was taken with the following results.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 – Motion Carried

- A. Approve the Minutes for the December 4, 2024, Briefing Session and December 11, 2024, Action Meeting.
- B. Approve the December 2024 Financials.
- C. Approve the Reinstatement of Expulsion - Reference #01-2025-02 presented at the January 8, 2024 Briefing Meeting.
- D. Approve the January 2025 Human Resources/Labor Relations Report.
- E. Approve the Non-Reinstatement - Reference #01-2025-09 presented on January 15, 2025, at the Action Meeting.

- F. Approve the consolidated application carryover on amendment budget as presented in the amount of \$3,008,308.00 on the 23G amendment budget.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Board Conferences 2025

1. MASB Winter Institute 2025 - February 7 - 8, 2025 (Virtual Event)
2. NSBA Annual Conference 2025 - April 5 - 7, 2025, Atlanta, GA
3. MASB Spring Institute 2025 – May 1-4, 2025 – Mackinac Island
4. MASB Summer Institute: - Date and Location: TBD
5. NSBA CUBE Conference 2025 – September 11-13, 2025, Los Angeles, CA
6. MASB Annual Leadership Conference – October 23-26, 2025, Grand Traverse Resort and Spa, Acme, MI
7. NABSE Conference 2025 - Date and Location: TBD

Motion

Moved by Mr. Rooker and supported by Mrs. Thompson that the Saginaw Board of Education adopt the proposed scheduled board conferences for the 2025 school year and insert dates when they become available.

A voice vote was taken with the following results.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

B. Board Memberships

- Downtown Saginaw Association
- City, County, School Liaison Committee
- Michigan Association of School Boards
- National Alliance of Black School Educators
- National Association of School Boards
- Saginaw Chamber of Commerce
- Saginaw County Business Education Partnership
- Buena Vista Business Association
- Kochville Downtown Development Authority
- Council of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE)

Motion

Moved by Mr. Rooker and supported by Mrs. Thompson that the Saginaw Board of Education adopt the proposed memberships for the 2024/25 school year with the addition of NSBA CUBE, Positive Results Saginaw and Zilwaukee memberships.

A voice vote was taken with the following results.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

C. Board Committee Assignments

Mrs. Nash shared board committee assignments for 2025 are as follows:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- RUTH ANN KNAPP – CHAIR
- JASMINE CALHOUN
- JOYCE SEALS

POLICY & CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

JOYCE SEALS – CHAIR
MATTIE THOMPSON
KEVIN ROOKER

HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE

MATTIE THOMPSON – CHAIR
JANET NASH
JASMINE CALHOUN

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

JANET NASH – CHAIR
CHARLES COLEMAN
KEVIN ROOKER

LIAISON COMMITTEE

CHARLES COLEMAN – CHAIR
RUTH ANN KNAPP
JOYCE SEALS

9. FINAL BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Seals – commented on the great jobs our students did presenting and the good support from our educators. She is very proud of the outstanding staff and students. She is excited to hear about SCC and how many students placed in the competitions. She said that was phenomenal as well. Mrs. Seals shared Saginaw United is doing great things and likes how they are engaging parents. She shared we have a brand new Narcan machine and we are trying to find a place for it. She spoke with Ms. Bauer and is looking for a place to accept the equipment. Mrs. Seals shared Dr. Roberts has spoken with Ms. Bauer and we need to make sure our policy aligns with accepting that equipment. She said we need policy to back up placing the equipment. Either way we will be able to place it in our community. She stated Monday we had the homegoing of Ms. Cindy Townsend and she appreciated the turnout being it was a snow day. She complimented on how Amanda Kitterman treated Ms. Townsend while she was the principal at Jessie Rouse. She thanked the staff and stated we are a Saginaw Public School family.

Mr. Rooker – reiterated the top-notch work our staff is doing and said students are doing PhD level work. He acknowledged the work of Ms. Wagner and said there are a lot of other staff members who do the same thing and we just haven't heard about it yet. He said our staff is fantastic.

Mrs. Thompson – would like to thank the Superintendent and the staff. Mrs. Thompson said the students who presented were just phenomenal. She received calls from parents and students asking for middle schools to start attending meetings to get them prepared to present as they enter high school. Thank you to the County bond for all the great things the SCC students are doing.

Ms. Calhoun – dittoed her fellow board member's comments. She said this is her second Board meeting and she enjoyed seeing the students present and how the teachers are supporting the students.

Ms. Knapp – reiterated what had already been said. She is looking forward to receiving the email for the reports of what is coming up for her calendar. Ms. Knapp said she would be at the Liaison meeting tomorrow at 5:30 pm. She said we have talented teachers and support staff, the buildings are clean and tidy, and we have an excellent school family. This is showing we are a family in more ways than one with students graduating and coming back here to teach. She was also at the service on Monday for Ms. Townsend and believes many could attend due to the snow day and honored one of their own. Ms. Knapp

said she loved the fact of student ambassadors and we have had them for a while. She thanked Vice President Nash for bringing the article for student representatives to be on the Board. One or two students would sit at the board table and are able to give information before decisions are made about their education.

Dr. Roberts – said it is always challenging to lose a staff member and we loss a lunch aide at Chester Miller and he wanted to recognize that staff member as well. Dr. Roberts said we are in our current Strategic Plan. Our mission statement indicates we are going to be a globally competitive school district that prepares and inspires students to achieve their full potential. Today, we have seen the work of that plan with our two students from SASA and the work they are doing. We have a 10th grader doing groundbreaking work to find polyps early. He said it depicts what we are about in terms of our mission and vision to ensure they are globally competitive. Dr. Roberts said that our student ambassadors always make us proud, and we will work on having students sitting at the Board table. He said, we still have some work to do at the building level and we will look at the February/March Curriculum meeting to have further discussions. He said he has reached out to Deb Macon for prospective dates for the community; staff, students and one administrative session that still needs to take place and will look at the Saturday Retreat date. Ms. Henderson will be reaching out to finalize a date. Dr. Roberts recommends that we continue to have both ambassadors still present while having the students who are assigned to sit on the Board.

Vice President Nash – announced there will be a MLK prayer breakfast sponsored by the Ezekiel Project on February 22, 2025 at 9:00 am. Let Ms. Henderson know if you are interested in attending for tickets. Monday is also the recognition day for MLK in Saginaw, and we will be meeting at the Saginaw Dow Event Center for the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 am, and the march starts at 10:00 a.m. She said she is honored to be here at this table and proud of what our students and staff have accomplished. Our leadership from Dr. Roberts is exceptional, and our board agrees, for the most part, that we are all on the right track moving forward to the next steps. She said Dr. Coleman was disappointed he could not be here tonight and stated he wants us to approve for the conferences and memberships so we can be ready once they are announced.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING(S)

There will be a Liaison Committee Meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., the City will be hosting, a Briefing Session on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and an Action Meeting on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. The meetings will be held in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 550 Millard Street.

Mr. Verduco announced there will be a bowling tournament on Monday. The girl's team is coming along and still need a few more girls and boy's team is coming along well. This year has been more difficult than the past years with more beginning levels and teaching the competition guidelines. Practice is at Crooked Creek for upcoming matches. Students only have to pay \$10 for insurance. We have sponsors for the bowling balls and bags.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, the Action Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Recorded by: K. Henderson