

DRAFT

School District of the City of Saginaw  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD BRIEFING SESSION**  
550 Millard Street • Saginaw, Michigan 48607 • 989-399-6500  
October 9, 2024

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

**1. ATTENDANCE**

<b>Board of Education:</b>	President C. Coleman	Present
	Vice President J. Nash	Present
	Secretary V. Harrison	Present
	Treasurer R. A. Knapp	Present
	Trustee K. Rooker	Absent
	Trustee J. Seals	Present
	Trustee M. Thompson	Present

**Central Administration Staff:**

Superintendent, Dr. R. Roberts	Present
Chief Financial Officer T. Johnson	Present

**2. APPROVAL OF BRIEFING SESSION AGENDA**

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

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

Exit Interviews

Dr. Roberts shared information on Exit Interview Data that was requested from Board Members. Ms. Tiffany Pruitt will give an overview of the Exit Interview Data report from previous staff members, particularly teachers and other staff who decided to leave us as employees. She reiterated that the presentation did not have a lot of data due to the lack of survey returns after exiting the district. Ms. Pruitt shared a few facts about the Exit interview to provide insight into reasons why employees leave and to improve retention and workplace culture. She stated that this helps identify trends and any organizational problems, and it helps create better hiring practices. Ms. Pruitt continued to share data and answered questions that the Board Members presented.

Contracts Negotiations Update

Dr. Roberts shared that Ms. Pruitt will preview our successor agreements coming up this year with the three major employee groups. She stated the upcoming successor's agreements are due such as Principals, Assistant Principals, Directors, and Supervisors. Ms. Pruitt also shared that other groups like SEA include teachers, social workers, counselors, and psychologists. She said lastly SEIU 517M group includes Teachers' Aides, care professionals, academic interventionists, and campus security. Ms. Pruitt shared details of the contracts expiring on June 30, 2025. Ms. Pruitt shared there will be a wage reopening on October 31, 2024, which includes Food Services and Building Services. She shared that their contracts will not expire until August 31, 2026. Ms. Pruitt answered questions that the Board Members presented.

Reinstatement Committee Decision – Reference#09-2024-24

Dr. Roberts shared that this was a reinstatement petition for a student outside enrolled previously the Saginaw Public School District. Dr. Roberts called on Dr. Foley to share information regarding the

committee's decision regarding an expulsion reinstatement meeting. Dr. Foley shared that we are asking the Board to deny the petition for reinstatement. This item will be on the Consent Agenda for approval.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

##### Finance

Ms. Knapp stated that the financial summary report was shared in Board Book. She called on Ms. Johnson, who gave an overview of the financial summary of the unaudited June 2024 Financial Report and the September 2024 Financial Report. Ms. Johnson answered Board member's questions. These items will be on the Consent Agenda for approval.

Ms. Knapp announced that the Audit Presentation will take place on November 7, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Board members will vote on the audit meeting as part of the Consent Agenda.

##### Policy and Curriculum

Mrs. Seals shared that there is no meeting this month, but perhaps next month.

##### Buildings and Grounds

Mrs. Nash said there was no report. She would like to share that the next Open Houses will be on October 21, 2024, at 6 p.m. at Saginaw Middle School and November 11, 2024, at 6 p.m. at Saginaw Arts and Science Academy.

##### Human Resources

Mrs. Thompson said there was no report. She said she would contact Dr. Roberts as soon as possible, and we would bring you a date regarding his evaluation.

##### Liaison Committee

Dr. Coleman shared that the Liaison Committee will meet on Thursday, October 17, 2024, and will be hosted by the county. If you have anything to put on the agenda, please share. The meeting will be held here in the Board Room.

#### **5. PUBLIC/UNION COMMENTS**

President Coleman called for Public and Union comments and none were made.

#### **6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

##### Human Resources/Labor Relations Report

Dr. Roberts gave an overview of the Human Resources/Labor Relations report, which will be an item on the Consent Agenda.

#### **7. FINAL BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. Knapp – said there is no report.

Ms. Harrison – said she appreciate Ms. Pruitt efforts putting into retaining our teachers and staff.

Mrs. Thompson – thanked Dr. Roberts and the staff and said a good job.

Mrs. Nash – sad she believes our staff is highly desirable because of the amount of training and preparation we provide our staff. Mrs. Nash shared that she is looking forward to the strategic plan and helping to decide where our future resources will be spent to get the best bang for the buck for our student achievement in the future. She would like to share how much the Board Members and everyone enjoyed the Open House at Saginaw United High School. Mrs. Nash stated that it was a very proud moment, and she is thrilled that the students in our district have this building as their new home.

Mrs. Seals – said she would like to see everyone on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at the Saginaw Promise Zones Annual Affair “The Power of a Promise”. She said they will have Dr. Phil Bowman, who is a former graduate of SHS who is a Professor Emeritus from the University of Michigan. Mrs. Seals stated he would come with his wife and three children, all doctors. SUHS will give tours if early, and Horizons will cater. She requests to have update on Restorative Justice at a future meeting

Dr. Roberts – said the Ribbon-Cutting ceremony at SUHS was a success. He said he believed the community was really impressed with the facility and excited about affirming their belief in us by voting for the bond and what it will do for our students and our community for years to come. Dr. Roberts stated he had only heard positive things about the event. He said we have two more ribbon-cutting events coming. Please be aware that not all buildings have been completed. Dr. Roberts shared that Deb Macon will be our facilitator for the next strategic plan from MASB, and he will communicate more information for the Initial Meeting to be scheduled with her to start the process. Dr. Roberts mentioned that he, Mrs. Nash, and Ms. Knapp were able to attend Handley’s celebration of being named a Blue Ribbon School again. He said they were one of twelve schools in the State of Michigan to receive that honor. Dr. Roberts stated that it is a National honor for this high-achieving school to be recognized among elementary schools in the country for its consistent achievement. He said he wanted to acknowledge the staff and congratulate the principal, all the teachers, all the students, and all the parents, and Dr. Tran, for the amazing work they continue to do at Handley.

President Coleman – says thank you to Dr. Roberts and his staff and to the Board for making this the most exciting school district in the state of Michigan. We are already doing what other people are trying to get, and they want to know how we get it done. A lot of conversations have been about how we were able to merge two high schools. The difference between what we did and what other districts have not done is that we involved the students from the beginning. We must remember that the students are our customers. Their parents also are our customers, and they will only buy what they want to buy, you cannot sell them anything they do not want. The Open House was amazing. The community appreciated it. Thanks to Dr. Roberts, the staff put it together well. Dr. Coleman thanked our community for supporting us. He also thanked this Board for the work that they have done.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING(S)**

There will be an Action Meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. and a Liaison Committee meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. The meetings will be held in the Board Room at the Administration Building, 550 Millard Street, Saginaw, MI, 48607.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business, the Briefing Session was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Recorded by: K. Henderson