

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF SAGINAW
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS / FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
550 MILLARD STREET**

AUGUST 18TH, 2025 – 5:00 p.m.

Vice President Janet Nash called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. **ATTENDANCE –**

DRAFT

Board Members:

President	Charles Coleman	Absent
Vice President	Janet Nash	Present
Secretary	Kevin Mark Rooker	Present
Treasurer	Ruth Ann Knapp	Present
Trustee	Jasmine Calhoun	Present
Trustee	Joyce Seals	Present
Trustee	Mattie Thompson	Absent

Administration:

Superintendent	Ramont Roberts	Present
Deputy Superintendent	Tamara Johnson	Absent
Director of Facilities	Tim Furtaw	Present

2. **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 17ST, 2025 MINUTES**

Mrs. Nash entertained a motion to approve the February 17, 2025, minutes. Mr. Rooker made the motion, Ms. Calhoun supported. The motion passed.

3. **EXECUTIVE STAFF AND ESG SALARY SCALES 2025**

Dr. Roberts introduced the proposed salary scales for ESG staff, which include a 3-5% increase. He emphasized the need to remain competitive with teacher salaries, as they set the benchmark for other employee groups. Additionally, the proposed salary scale for executive staff was introduced, with increases ranging from 5% to 12%, depending on their previous positions. Dr. Roberts stated that Ms. Johnson would provide further details at the upcoming meeting.

The proposal to implement the ESG salary scales will be presented to the full Board and placed on Wednesday's consent agenda for approval.

4. **UPDATE JANET NASH NATURE PRESERVE**

Dr. Roberts discussed the Janet Nash Preserve agreement, highlighting the maintenance responsibilities of the city, county, and school district. The agreement, which was established in 2018, is set to automatically renew unless terminated with a 60-day notice. After a recent meeting with Mr. Furtaw and other representatives, all parties agreed to terminate the agreement, and Dr. Roberts will send the official notice. Mr. Furtaw is tasked with consulting landscape design

companies to develop options for a space that balances a wildlife preserve with a professionally landscaped area. Mrs. Seals emphasized the importance of maintaining an attractive environment for students, particularly in an urban setting. The county has shown interest in participating in the design discussions, while the city has opted out.

5. **HUNTINGTON PARKING LOT PLAN**

Mr. Furtaw presented a proposal plan to purchase Vacant Land N Niagara St. Saginaw, MI 48607 APN: 14-0297A00100 property from Huntington asking for \$298,150, despite an appraisal valuing it at only \$85,000. Dr. Roberts mentioned that they are currently negotiating with attorneys to address the price discrepancy. The purchase is for 2 acres of land across from Saginaw United, for a parking lot with potential space for 85 to 100 parking spots, along with historical statues for Saginaw High and Arthur Hill.

6. **SCHOOL DISTRICT RADIOS**

Mr. Furtaw provided the Board with an update on the school district's radio communication system, highlighting the inadequacy of current antennas that prevent effective communication between distant buildings. After testing different systems, Mr. Furtaw stated that he opted to use the City's towers as the City owns the tallest antenna for improved coverage. This upgrade will enhance communication capabilities during emergencies and daily operations. The upgrade will also cause a need for 200 radios in the district, for staff and maintenance personnel.

7. **METAL DETECTORS**

Mr. Furtaw discussed the recent approval and upcoming implementation of nine new metal detectors from CEIA, aimed at improving student safety and efficiency during school entry. These metal detector units will be distributed to Saginaw United, Thompson, and Saginaw Middle, with training for staff set for September 8, 2025. The transition to using clear backpacks is also expected to help speed the flow of students through security. The detectors that are used at SASA are working well, and there's no flow issues. As of now SCC does not have any, and there no plans to install any.

8. **PUBLIC/UNION COMMENTS**

No comments.

9. **FINAL BOARD COMMENTS**

Mrs. Seals states that we have to stay competitive to make sure we can keep our people, and she would like to be informed and present for the Janet Nash Nature Preserve discussions.

Mr. Rooker stated that he's really happy to hear our teachers and staff are getting the raises they deserve, and excited to have been a part of the opening session.

Mrs. Knapp gave thanks for being able to attend the CBA classes, stated that they were very productive, and very interesting and was good networking.

10. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Buildings and Grounds/Finance Committee Meeting will be announced.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LillieAnnie Parham-Morris
Recorder