

**ISOA Executive Board Meeting  
February 7, 2024  
Minutes**

**Present**

Dansville	Mike Kapp
East Lansing	Gary Holbrook
Ingham ISD	Jason Mellema
Ingham ISD	John Wolenberg
Lansing	Nino Rodriguez
Okemos	Jayne Taylor
Okemos	John Hood
Stockbridge	Keven Numinen
Waverly	Alicia Guevara Warren
Williamston	Sarah Belanger

**Absent**

Haslett	Amy Clark
Holt	Rob Halgren
Leslie	Dominic Ambroggio
Mason	Michael Kelly
Webberville	Amy Coe

**Jennifer Smith– MASB Director, Government Relations**

The House is currently at 54 vs 54 but still in Democratic control as the empty seats were Democratic seats when elected. The House requires fifty-five votes to pass anything, so the house will be stalled until after the April election. The expectation is the House will be back to 56-54 in May with the Democrats having the advantage. The Senate is still moving things, but slowly, as they wait for the House.

**The Governors proposed budget will include:**

- A 2.5% increase (\$241) in per pupil funding.
- Five percent increase for weighted funding for ELL, CTE
- GSRP – \$64 million increase - free Pre-K for all by removing the income limit.
- \$18 million for student transportation
- Money for start-up classrooms and teachers for GSRP
- Cyber schools per pupil funding reduction or maintain current funding, no increase.
- More money for rural districts and special education.
- Change SE funding to make it more equitable.
- Funding for mentoring, Grow Your Own, scholarships, mental health, and safety initiatives.
- Funding for CTE paid internships at local businesses – allow internships to count as CTE credit.
- Continue free student meals.
- \$670 million out of MPSERS – The health insurance piece in MPSERS is fully funded now, so the proposal is to take the \$670 million funding and put it towards paying for the GSRP increases etc.
  - There must be a policy change on the MSPERS law side before this can happen.
- 2.5% increase in funding for community colleges and universities.
- Roads and housing funding will be discussed.
- Best practices for literacy funding.

# Ingham School Officers Association

Dyslexia Hearing Held –MASB does not agree with the direction of the hearing/bills. The education community has concerns about the bill requirements and how it will impact the classroom and costs. As it is written, MASB cannot support it, but they are meeting with Senator Irwin to give continued input.

Office of Retirement Services (ORS) and Normal Salary Increase (NSI) Lawsuit – MASB is on hold regarding pursuing a legislative fix as they wait for the MI Supreme Court decision on the ORS and NSI case. Boards need to be aware how this issue impacts the superintendent, administrators and those district employees not covered by a bargaining agreement. [MASA ORS Lawsuit](#)

MiLEAP – The new department has started moving staff under the [MiLEAP](#) banner, more details to come as funding is established.

MASB will provide a detailed analysis of the budget in the “News from the Capital” on February 9.

## **Superintendents’ Round Table Update**

John Hood, Okemos Public Schools Superintendent, provided an update from the superintendents January Round Table meeting:

- Safety and Security – The group remains focused on how districts can work together on safety and security issues. This allows for a coordinated response with districts and law enforcement.
- [Provent 2 Protect](#) – Sheriff Wriggelsworth and Lansing Chief Sosebee discussed the MSU grant focused on reaching at risk students and providing them resources before they resort to violence. The grant administrators would like to include the Ingham ISD service area in the pilot program.
- Safety Tabletop Exercise – Superintendents, district staff and law enforcement will convene at Dansville Elementary School on February 9 to conduct a safety tabletop exercise. It will be a learning experience for the group as they walk through scenarios and responses.
- Media Coverage – Continued discussion on fair and equitable local news coverage for school districts.
- PERA Law Changes – Discussion on the board policy changes from Neola and Thrun.
- ORS NSI Update – Continued discussion on the ORS/NSI lawsuit and the effect it could have on superintendents and districts.
- Special Ed Funding Committee – The committee is reviewing the SE funding formula changes and how it will impact districts.
- Ongoing cyber security discussions and collaborative bids.

## **Election and Bylaws**

The annual bylaws were emailed to all ISOA board members prior to the meeting. There were no comments or changes.

Sarah Belanger, supported by Mike Kapp, motioned to be appointed as the ISOA President for the term of February 2024 – January 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

# Ingham School Officers Association

## District Updates

- Lansing      Second semester has started. Student numbers and test scores are up. The district received a five-million-dollar grant to purchase electric buses. The Board passed ten new board policies related to PERA. The bond work will be starting at Willow and Pattengill.
- Okemos      The district was ranked fourth best in the state by [Niche](#). Quiz Bowl students did very well in competition and were recognized for how well they represented the district. The annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Okemos Music Patrons will be held in one month. Seventh graders at camp this week. Facility needs at the Montessori School are being addressed. Discussion on restructuring at Hiawatha Elementary. New elective courses at the high school include music appreciation, Astronomy, statistics, and AI. The Policy Committee continues the work of transitioning to Thrun policies. Committee work continues the initiative to change the start time at the high school.
- East Lansing      The Board is working on the policy updates from Thrun. Three ELHS students were awarded a MLK Celebration Scholarship. Working on a May security bond for the district which would include a new secure entrance at the high school and moving the Superintendent's and office staff out of the high school.
- Dansville      It has been nice to have the Board, board officers, superintendent and principals stay in place and have stability in the district. The district will welcome district staff and law enforcement to Dansville Elementary on February 9 for the safety tabletop exercises.
- Ingham ISD      Ingham ISD continues the work of transitioning the Beekman Center programming to the ISD. The goal is to have everything accomplished with staffing, programming, technology, budgeting etc. by the start of the 2024-25 school year.
- Williamston      WHS has earned the 2023 Advanced Placement Computer Science Female Diversity Award in recognition of engaged female students in computer science. The high school was also named a *US World News and World Report* "Best High School" for the fifth year in a row. A HS senior won the 2023 Congressional App Competition for his "Snack Maps" app that quickly finds low-cost snacks at area grocery stores. The district is focusing on community input for an August 39 million bond vote.

## Upcoming Meetings

- March 6, 2024 – Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom
- May 1, 2024 - Ingham ISD Budget Update