

MINUTES - REGULAR BOARD MEETING

St. Joseph County Intermediate School District Board of Education

PLACE: St. Joseph County ISD Administration Building, Centreville, Michigan.

DATE: March 17, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michele Bush, Elizabeth O'Dell, Terry Cropper, Benjamin Fries

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patricia Keller

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Teresa Belote - Superintendent, Kelli Dechnik, Benjamin Daugherty, Ginelle Boyle, Sandra Spicher, Byron Osborn, Kim Pavcek, Tonya Smith, Anthony England, and Theresa Sussdorf.

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Board President Elizabeth O'Dell.

Mrs. O'Dell opened the meeting by leading the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Mrs. O'Dell offered time for Public Participation, none was taken.

Dr. Belote introduced Anthony England, recently hired School Social Worker for the ISD.

Byron Osborn, Pathfinder teacher, along with Kim Pavcek and Tonya Smith, assistant teachers, presented on the engaging activities they provide Pathfinder students. Photos of students engaging in activities such as the county fair, cooking, swimming, bowling, and downhill tubing, were highlighted in the presentation.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: Bush, Cropper, Fries, O'Dell. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0. Consent agenda included Minutes of the January 20, 2025 Regular Meeting and the February 17, 2025 Regular meeting; Financial Report as of February 28, 2025; and Approval of Monthly Invoices: General Fund (\$827,775.73); CTE (\$618,513.40); Information Services (\$122,250.44); Special Education (\$1,794,961.16); Approved the hire and contract with the following staff: Anthony England - School Social Worker, Emie Choquette - School Psychologist, Kelly Noteboom - Special Education Data Technician, and Melinda Wolf - School Social Worker; and approved the resignation, termination and/or retirement of the following staff: Stephanie Johnson - Hybrid School Psychologist effective 2/21/25, Mikenzie Chambers - Marketing/Communications Specialist effective 3/14/25, and Kim Geibe - School Social Worker effective 5/30/25.

It was moved by Mr. Fries and supported by Rev. Cropper to amend the agenda, adding action item #14 - Recommend rejecting all St. Joseph County 2025 WAN (Wide Area Network) Project bid proposals at this time. Ayes: Bush, Cropper, Fries, O'Dell. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Fries and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve the following Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) information as presented:

- a. Program Report
- b. Average Daily Attendance
- c. Purchase Card Statements
- d. PC Personnel Report
- e. EHS Appeal Process for the Non-Compliance Area of 1302.91 (staff qualifications and competency requirements), including signing the approval letter

Informational Only:

- f. February 10, 2025 Policy Council Minutes
- g. OHS Monitoring Review Report

The St. Joseph County ISD Board approved the appeal process for the noncompliance area of 1302.91 (staff and competency requirements).

Ayes: Cropper, O'Dell, Fries, Bush. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.
(Quorum established with at least 51% of current members.)

It was moved by Mrs. Bush and supported by Rev. Cropper to approve awarding the St. Joseph County ISD Network Infrastructure E-Rate FY 2025 bid of \$37,837.13 to Moss as the winning bid. Ayes: Fries, Bush, O'Dell, Cropper. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve awarding the St. Joseph County ISD District Core Switch E-Rate bid of \$8,380.92 to Moss as the winning bid. Ayes: O'Dell, Fries, Bush, Cropper. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Fries and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve awarding the St. Joseph County ISD Core Switch E-Rate bid of \$31,944.24 to Sehi as the winning bid. Ayes: Bush, Cropper, Fries, O'Dell. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve awarding the St. Joseph County ISD Firewall Maintenance for FY 2025 bid of \$53,090.80 to Questivity as the winning bid. Ayes: Fries, Cropper, O'Dell, Bush. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Fries and supported by Rev. Cropper to approve the new position of CTE Special Populations Consultant. Ayes: Bush, O'Dell, Cropper, Fries. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mrs. Bush and supported by Rev. Cropper to approve the new position of Floating Assistant Teacher. Ayes: O'Dell, Fries, Cropper, Bush. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mrs. Bush and supported by Rev. Cropper to approve awarding the St. Joseph County ISD CTE truck bid of \$57,334.15 to Stykemain Chevrolet as the winning bid. Ayes: O'Dell, Bush, Cropper, Fries. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mr. Fries to approve awarding the St. Joseph County CTE trailer for the Mobile Lab bid of \$25,212.00 to Neo Mfg, LLC as the winning bid. Ayes: Fries, O'Dell, Cropper, Bush. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve the 2025-2026 calendar for St. Joseph County ISD. Ayes: O'Dell, Bush, Cropper, Fries. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mr. Fries and supported by Mrs. Bush to approve the 2025-2026 calendar for Pathfinder Educational Center. Ayes: Fries, Cropper, Bush, O'Dell. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mr. Fries to approve the following Board Policy Revisions as recommended by Thrun Law Firm and the Board Policy Committee:

- 3115 - Nondiscrimination, Anti-Harassment, and Non-Retaliation
- 3115A - Definitions for 3115 Series
- 3115B - Designation of Coordinators
- 3115C - Supportive Measures
- 3115D - Informal Resolution
- 3115E - Grievance Procedure and Remedies
- 3115F - Complaint Dismissal and Appeals
- 3115G - Intentionally Left Blank
- 3115H - Training Requirements and Policy Notice
- 4101 - Non-Discrimination
- 4102 - Anti-Harassment
- 4104 - Employment Complaint Procedure for Allegations Implicating Civil Rights
- 4105A - Pregnancy Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants
- 4113 - Michigan Earned Sick Time (ESTA)
- 4305 - Intentionally Left Blank
- 5202 - Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Students
- 5206 - Student Discipline

Ayes: Bush, Fries, Cropper, O'Dell. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mrs. Bush and Supported by Mr. Fries to approve the Revised 2024-2025 Non-Union Conditions of Employment, effective March 17, 2025. Ayes: Bush, Cropper, Fries, O'Dell. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Rev. Cropper and supported by Mr. Fries to approve rejecting all St. Joseph County 2025 WAN (Wide Area Network) Project bid proposals at this time. Ayes: Fries, O'Dell, Cropper, Bush. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

President O'Dell reviewed the following informational and communication items:

- Congratulations Kim Geibe, School Social Worker, on her upcoming retirement, effective 5/30/25.
- Other Personnel Updates

Dr. Belote's Superintendent's Report included a congratulations to President Elizabeth O'Dell on being elected to the MASB Board Committee representing Region 6. She also spoke on budget bills passed for general funding and school aid, noting the per pupil funding increase and funding for MPSERS. She gave an update on Early Head Start's extended federal funding. The update on goals was how the Special Education Department will be providing Special Education New Teacher Academy professional development for those specific teachers.

President O'Dell declared the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

The next ISD Board Meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2025.

Minutes were recorded by Theresa Sussdorf, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.

Approved 4-21-25