

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County  
Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Education  
Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Board Room  
Monday, January 14, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

The Study Session of the Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Paul Gorsuch at 5:32 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mr. Swihart to approve the agenda as presented. 5 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

<u>Present:</u>	Paul Gorsuch	Kerri Millett	Scott Swihart
	Scott Boland	Gwen Donmyer	

<u>Absent:</u>	Ann Bird	Emily Halling
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Administration	Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent
<u>Present:</u>	Ms. Nicole Airgood, Assistant Superintendent
	Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

<u>Visitors</u>	Sue Cropsey, James Shoesmith, Nick Herblet, Doug Camburn, Kam Peterson, Brian Tallmadge, Jennifer Morales, Von Metzger, Mike Stiles-WBET, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Jeannine Koenek, Anthony Wolbert, Heather George, Nathan Smith, Sang Park, Chris Gerbers, Ashlynn Gerbers, Brennen Gerbers, Jackie Gerbers, Jodie Scheid, Ron Ehlers, Allen Meyer, Sarah Meyer, Mindy Cardiel, Jennifer M. Burg, Kimmy Denys, Carol Cronkhite, Heather Brew, Chelsey McConn, Christine Earl, Jennifer Robare, Ellen Eisele, Karen Wegner, Mike Miller, Kim Hamlin, Connie Metzger, Allison Carter, Theresa Camburn, Amanda Camburn, and two illegible signatures.
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<u>Sturgis Showcase:</u>	Superintendent Art Ebert and Assistant Superintendent Nicole Airgood introduced new employees, including Jennifer Morales at SMS office, Amanda Camburn, Hans Miller at SMS, and new SMS Principal Chris Gerbers and family. Each person was presented with a SPS shirt and welcomed by all in attendance.
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<u>Public Comments:</u>	There were no public comments.
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<u>The Consent Agenda:</u>	Mr. Sterling reviewed the financial statements. Anyone with questions on the minutes should contact Mrs. Karen Stimson prior to the next meeting, and those with questions on the financials should contact Mr. Sterling.
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<u>Action Items (Immediate):</u>	<u>A. SMS Principal Recommendation</u> There was a motion by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mr. Boland to approve the hiring of Mr. Chris Gerbers. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.
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B. New Teacher Hire

There was a motion by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mr. Swihart to approve the hiring of Mr. Hans Miller as SMS Math Teacher. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items for Jan 28:

A. Board Officers for 2019

The proposal is that the current officers continue until the July Organizational Meeting.

B. Proposed Sinking Fund Resolution

Dr. Ebert reviewed the resolution.

C. NEOLA Policy Update – Second Reading

The Policy Committee will meet and review the update on Monday, January 21 and report to the Board on January 28.

D. Eastwood/Jerolene e-rate Wireless Project

Director of Technology Von Metzger reviewed bids received and recommendation.

In administrative reports Mr. Sterling had nothing further.

Ms. Airgood noted that the School Improvement Team will be meeting this week to review data. There will be an onsite review of Title I Programs on March 4-5, 2019.

Dr. Ebert shared his Capital Improvement Plan presentation with the board.

In Board Comments Dr. Millett thanked Dr. Ebert for transparency and said that she hopes all had a nice holiday. Mr. Swihart welcomed Mr. Gerbers and thanked the hiring committee. He also thanked Dr. Ebert for the sinking fund work. Mr. Boland welcomed all the new hires and thanked the committee formed for hiring of Mr. Gerbers. Mrs. Donmyer welcomed the new hires and thanked the committee. She attended an SHS basketball game and cheer competition. The atmosphere at both was great. Mr. Gorsuch echoed welcome to new hires and thanks to all the teachers in attendance. He shared a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus."

Mr. Gorsuch adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Donmyer. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.



Paul Gorsuch, Vice President



Scott Boland, Secretary



Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Board Room  
Monday, January 28, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Paul Gorsuch at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Swihart with support from Mr. Boland to approve the agenda as presented. 5 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

Present: Paul Gorsuch Kerri Millett (arrived 5:32 p.m.)  
Scott Swihart Scott Boland Gwen Donmyer  
Emily Halling Ann Bird (participating remotely, not voting)

Absent:

Administration Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent  
Present: Ms. Nicole Airgood, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

Visitors Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Jimmy Lamb, Von Metzger, Brian Tallmadge, Heather George, Mike Stiles-WBET, Mike Miller

Sturgis Showcase: The GSRP presentation has been postponed until March 11, due to not having school today. Dr. Ebert announced Board Appreciation Month. The board had gifts and banners made by students to celebrate.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

The Consent Agenda: There was a motion by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling to approve the consent agenda as presented. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items: A. Board Officers for 2019  
The proposal is that the current officers continue until the July Organizational Meeting. There was a motion of support by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Donmyer. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

B. Proposed Sinking Fund Resolution  
Dr. Ebert reviewed the process and noted that the resolution comes from feedback received from 400-500 individuals over the past months. There was a motion to adopt the resolution by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Dr. Millett. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

C. NEOLA Policy Update – Second Reading  
The Policy Committee reviewed the update on Monday, January 21 and recommend passage. There was a motion to approve by Mr.

Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

D. Eastwood/Jerolene e-rate Wireless Project

Director of Technology Von Metzger reviewed bids received and recommendation. There was a motion to award the bid to Moss Technology by Mr. Swihart with support from Dr. Millett. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

E. Authorization for Feasibility Study

Dr. Ebert asked for consideration of a plan to have Honeywell conduct a feasibility study for a change to LED lighting. The cost would be funded from the initial profits. There was a motion to approve by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

In administrative reports Mr. Sterling will be bringing a budget amendment to the board in February. Board members will receive a binder of information in advance and will have an opportunity to meet with Mr. Sterling to ask any questions before the meeting.

Ms. Airgood and Mr. Brian Tallmadge, Data Coordinator presented the M-STEP report.

Dr. Ebert said that the SJC School Board Authority meeting scheduled for January 29 has been canceled due to the weather. Saturday, February 2 there will be an open house at Arden Park building, which was recently put on the market.

In Board Comments Dr. Millett thanked everyone for the board appreciation gifts. Mr. Swihart thanked Dr. Ebert and staff for their work on the Capital Improvement presentation. He would like to see M-STEP dashboard presented to parents. Mrs. Halling commented that the M-STEP data is available to parents. She is hoping for school later this week. Mr. Boland thanked staff and students for gifts and thanked those in attendance on a bad weather night. Mrs. Donmyer echoed thanks for gifts and data. Mrs. Bird thanked all for their great work, and for understanding her health issues. She is available anytime by phone or email. Mr. Gorsuch commented that we will see Mrs. Bird at the February meeting. He attended the fundraiser at the Sturges-Young Auditorium Saturday night and had a great time.

Mr. Gorsuch adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

  
Paul Gorsuch, Vice President

  
Scott Boland, Secretary



# Sturgis Public Schools

107 West West Street, Sturgis, MI 49091  
Phone 269.659.1500  
www.sturgisps.org

Art Ebert, Superintendent  
Nicole Airgood, Asst. Superintendent

## CERTIFICATION OF BALLOT PROPOSITION

TO: St. Joseph County Clerk

In compliance with Public Act 116, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended (the "Act"), attached is a certified copy of the ballot proposition language approved by the Board of Education of The Sturgis Public School District to be placed before the voters at the election to be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

Pursuant to the Act, a summary of the ballot proposition and an address where the full text of the proposal may be obtained must be included in the registration and election notices.

**Please provide us with a proof copy of the ballot proposition language prior to printing the ballots.**

Dated: January 28, 2019

By 

Secretary, Board of Education



The Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County, Michigan (the "District")

A regular meeting of the board of education of the District (the "Board") was held in the Sturgis Central Commons Boardroom, within the boundaries of the District, on the 28th day of January, 2019, at 5:30 o'clock in the p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Paul Gorsuch, Vice, President.

Present: Members Gorsuch, Swihart, Halling, Boland, Donmyer, Millett,  
and Bird-by conference call.

Absent: Members None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Donmyer  
and supported by Member Millett:

**WHEREAS:**

1. This Board intends to submit a proposition at a special election to be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

2. On or before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, the Board shall certify any ballot proposition to be submitted to the voters at such election to the election coordinator or coordinators designated to conduct elections within the District (the "Election Coordinator").

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. A special election of the school electors of the District be called and held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

2. The proposition to be voted on at the special election shall be stated on the ballots in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit A.

3. The Election Coordinator is requested to:

- a. Utilize the Sturgis Journal, a newspaper published or of general circulation within the District, for publication of notices in accordance with the election law requirements.
- b. Utilize ballot proposition summary information, as prepared by legal counsel, in the forms of the notices of last day of registration and election in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto.
- c. Provide a proof copy of the ballot to the District and its legal counsel in sufficient time to allow the ballot to be proofread prior to printing.

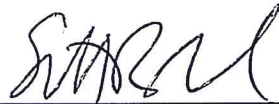
4. The Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this resolution with the Election Coordinator and with any Election Clerk or clerks designated to conduct elections within the District by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 12, 2019.

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members Gorsuch, Swihart, Halling, Boland, Donmyer, Millett  
(Bird did not vote as not physically present).

Nays: Members None

Resolution declared adopted.



Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of The Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting held on January 28, 2019, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).



Secretary, Board of Education

JJS/jmw

## EXHIBIT A

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in The Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 1.75 mills (\$1.75 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2019 to 2028, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings, for school security improvements, for the acquisition or upgrading of technology and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2019 is approximately \$722,511?



**EXHIBIT B**

**SUMMARY OF BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE INSERTED IN THE  
NOTICES OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION:**

**THE STURGIS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL  
1.75 MILLS FOR 10 YEARS**

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of The Sturgis Public School District, 107 W. West Street, Sturgis, Michigan 49091-1447, telephone: (269) 659-1500.

# **NOTICE OF CHANGE SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE MEETING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 21 HAS BEEN POSTPONED. THE MEETING WILL NOW BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 28 AT THE STURGIS CENTRAL COMMONS.**

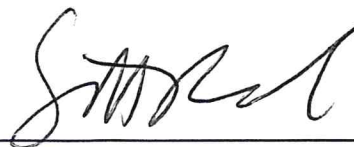
**DATE OF MEETING: JANUARY 28, 2019**

**PLACE OF MEETING: STURGIS CENTRAL COMMONS  
107 W. WEST ST.  
STURGIS, MI 49091**

**HOUR OF MEETING: 5:30 P.M.**

**TELEPHONE NUMBER OF  
PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF  
BOARD OF EDUCATION: (269) 659-1502**

**THERE WILL BE NO MEETING HELD JANUARY 21, 2018**



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**Scott Boland, Secretary  
Board of Education**