

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Combined Study Session/Regular Session of the Board of Education
Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Boardroom
Monday, December 13, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

The Regular Session of the Board of Education was called to order by President Scott Boland at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Brand with support from Ms. Drumm to approve the agenda as presented. 5 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

<u>Present:</u>	Scott Boland	Emily Halling	Gwen Donmyer
	Lynn Brand	Betsie Drumm	

<u>Absent:</u>	Kerri Millett
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Administration	Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent
<u>Present:</u>	Mrs. Nicole Gittinger, Assistant Superintendent
	Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

<u>Visitors</u>	Von Metzger, Vince LaPorte, Aaron Claybaugh, Laurel Claybaugh, David Northrop, Shane Flowers, Kim Flowers, Melissa Gales, Christa Ellingson, Holly Ellingson, Tom Scott, Renee Souva, Heather George, Karen Wegner, Allen Meyer, Nathan Schwartz, Drew Rutenbar, Mike Miller, Amy Roose, Mike Stiles-WBET.
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<u>Sturgis Showcase</u>	<u>Trojan Heroes</u> - Art Ebert/Nicole Airgood This month's heroes were Christa Ellingson-GSRP Teacher, Kim Flowers-Congress Secretary, and Aaron Claybaugh-SMS Teacher. Dr. Ebert shared comments from nominations and presented each with a framed certificate.
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	<u>Principal of the Year</u> - Art Ebert Mike Miller, Eastwood Principal, was recognized by MEMPSA as Principal of the Year for Region #4. He was honored at the MEMPSA conference in Traverse City this past week. Dr. Ebert shared many kind words about Mike's leadership and accomplishments.
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	<u>Traits of a Trojan</u> - Art Ebert Dr. Ebert shared the progress on Traits of a Trojan. He provided data from many stakeholders. The goal is to determine the top three to five traits SPS students should have when they graduate.
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<u>Public Comments:</u>	There were no public comments.
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At 5:58 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Halling with support from Mrs. Donmyer to move to closed session to review the schools security plan. Roll call: Aye-Donmyer, Brand, Halling, Boland, Drumm. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

At 6:30 p.m. a motion was made to resume open session by Mrs. Halling with support from Ms. Drumm. Roll call: Aye-Donmyer, Brand, Halling, Boland, Drumm. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

A motion to amend the agenda to include voting on the schools security plan was made by Mrs. Halling with support from Mrs. Donmyer. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed.

The Consent Agenda: There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mrs. Brand. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items:

A. New Hire -

Mrs. Gittinger shared that Tracy Harker has been hired as the new CTE Business, Marketing, Finance and Online Learning Teacher at SHS. Ms. Harker was not able to attend. A motion was made by Ms. Drumm with support by Mrs. Donmyer to approve the new hire. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

B. The SPS Safety Plan

The SPS Safety Plan was reviewed. The updated Emergency Operation Plan was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made to approve the School Security Plan by Mrs. Donmyer with support by Ms. Drumm. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Information Item and Review:

Dr. Ebert thanked Mr. Scott Swihart for his service on the SPS Board of Education as he resigned as of December 10, 2021. Mr. Swihart was elected to the board in 2014 then re-elected in 2016. His term ends December 31, 2022. The board will appoint a new member to serve the remainder of Mr. Swihart's term at which time they may run in the next election which will be in November of 2022. Anyone interested will need to provide a letter of interest to Dr. Ebert no later than the end of the day on Tuesday, December 28th. The Nomination Committee will reach out and schedule interviews with interested parties later that week. They will then make a recommendation at a Special Board meeting on Monday, January 3rd at 5:30 p.m. in the SCC boardroom.

Reviewed Board Policy 0142.5 - Vacancies:

Policy 0142.5 regarding vacancies on the board was discussed and reviewed.

In Administrative Reports Mr. Sterling shared updates on multiple projects including the EW roof, SHS roof, signage and SHS band tower to mention a few.

Mrs. Gittinger is thinking about the mental health of our students. She and Dave Northrop along with some staff from SHS are working on a crisis support team. This team would be involved when there is a suicide or death of a student or family member. They will help develop and coordinate a plan within our county.

Dr. Ebert thought the Stacked video on the 1999 SHS baseball team was very cool. They had a good turn out.

In Board Comments Ms. Drumm praised Kim Flowers as a Trojan Hero having personal experience with her as a parent. She also really appreciates Mike Miller at EW. Ms. Drumm has enjoyed working with Mr. Swihart and shared that he will be missed.

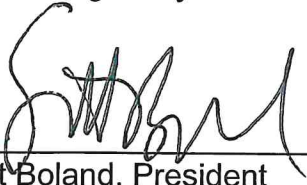
Mrs. Halling loves the new signage at EW. She feels that it makes people feel more comfortable. Mrs. Halling echoed the sentiment that Mr. Swihart will be missed. Trojan Heros are true heroes. Mrs. Halling is working on forming a district parent group to help get parents involved in SPS..

Mrs. Donmyer wished everyone Merry Christmas and will miss Scott Swihart.

Mrs. Brand shared her experience in a lockdown drill. She commented on how nice the roof at EW looks along with signage. She also congratulated the Trojan Heroes & Mike Miller and wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Mr. Boland congratulated the Trojan Heroes and Mike Miller along with sharing his appreciation for Scott Swihart and all the time he put into the SPS Board of Ed.. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m., after a motion by Mrs. Brand with support from Mrs. Halling. 5 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.



Scott Boland, President



Gwen Donmyer, Secretary

NOTICE OF BOARD RETREAT

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THERE WILL BE A RETREAT OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF STURGIS, MICHIGAN:**

DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, December 16, 2021

PLACE OF MEETING: 107 W. West St.
Sturgis, MI 49091

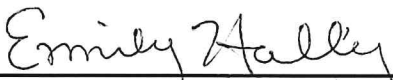
HOUR OF MEETING: 5:30 p.m.

PURPOSE: Professional Development

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

**BOARD MINUTES ARE
LOCATED AT THE PRINCIPAL
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION:**

107 W. West St.
Sturgis, MI 49091



**Emily Halling, Secretary
Board of Education**