

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County  
Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Education  
Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Boardroom  
Monday, March 14, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Present: Scott Boland Emily Halling Ben Myers  
Lynn Brand Betsie Drumm Kerri Millett (5:34)  
Gwen Donmyer (5:42)

Absent: --

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

Visitors Von Metzger, Eberle Myers, Lisa Schumacher, Brian Tallmadge,  
MiChelle DeVries, Allen Meyer, Nick Herblet, JB Starkey, Michelle  
Patrick-Sturgis Journal.

Sturgis Showcase

Physical Education Curriculum Resources

Mr. JB Starkey shared about the physical education curriculum and resources.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

The Consent Agenda: Consent agenda items were discussed. Any board member with questions on the February minutes should contact Mrs. Toni Andrews within the week. Mr. Sterling presented the February financial statements. Questions on financial statements and invoices should be directed to Mr. Sterling. Approval will be sought at the March 21st meeting.

Action Items for March 21st:

A. Alternative Education

Mr. Nick Herblet reviewed the plan to change and transition the alternative education program, currently known as eCademy, to Sturgis High School. The goal is to improve and provide more resources and supports for these students.

B. Course Considerations at SHS

Mr. Nick Herblet spoke to creating more pathways for students to satisfy graduation requirements, specifically Math and English at this point. He requested to remove WorkKeys from the SPS graduation requirement.

C. Business Services Agreement with Colon Community Schools

Dr. Ebert shared the request to assist Colon Community Schools as they have several transitions in staffing happening right now. The proposed agreement is that Sturgis Public Schools agrees to fulfill the Colon Business Manager Services & Payroll, A/P, and A/R services with a few alterations. This was discussed further.

D. Budget Amendment

Mr. Ray Sterling reviewed the Budget Amendment for 2022.

Reviewed Board Policy 1110 - Assessment of District Goals

Mrs. Halling reviewed Policy 1110 regarding Assessment of District Goals.

In Administrative Reports, Mr. Sterling shared updates on projects happening in the district.

Mrs. Gittinger provided information for the 2022 Summer Camp.

Dr. Ebert shared several celebrations for SPS students, athletes, and musicians

In Board Comments, Mr. Myers thanked Mr. Sterling for meeting with the Finance Committee and Mrs. Halling for her work with the Sturgis Parent Volunteers.

Dr. Millett is honored to have her son, David, officially in the Navy.

Ms. Drumm liked all the ideas that Mr. Herblet shared.

Mrs. Donmyer appreciates that we are helping others in our county.

Mrs. Halling shared that several people approached her praising how the new SHS Parent-Teacher Conferences were done this time.


Mrs. Brand appreciates our systems to review curriculum.

Mr. Boland thanked Mrs. Gittinger for the walk-thru of our GSRP programs.

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Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Myers with support from Dr. Millett. 7 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

  
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Scott Boland, President

  
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Gwen Donmyer, Secretary

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County  
Minutes of the Regular Session of the Board of Education  
Held at Wall School Gym  
Monday, March 21, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.

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

#### Pledge of Allegiance

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

<u>Present:</u>	Scott Boland	Ben Myers	Gwen Donmyer
	Lynn Brand	Betsie Drumm	Kerri Millett (5:38)
	Emily Halling (5:41)		

<u>Absent:</u>	--
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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, Harmonee McCrea, Julie Goodlock, Tracy Clark-Piekarz, Randi Boland, Tracy Sterling, Elizabeth Palasinski, Brian Tallmadge, Kelly Lamb, Tyson Dilts, Adam Miller, Sherry Hibbard, Julie Stellner, Tracie Pueschel, Julia Alwine, Amanda Feyes, Kim Hamlin, David Hamlin, Lisa Yoquelet, Heather George, Chelsey Hampton, Meaghan Anderson, Alex Milton, Allen Meyer, Ebene Myers, Chad Bennett, Jimmy Lamb, Mike Miller, Ashlin Heller, Jeri Tetzloff, Mrs. Myers, Mike Stiles-WBET, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal.
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#### Sturgis Showcase

##### Wall Staff

Mrs. Tracy Clark-Piekarz and Mrs. Julie Goodlock presented information on the Wall School Rotation Intervention program.

##### Mr. Von Metzger's Retirement

Dr. Art Ebert took a moment to recognize Mr. Von Metzger as he will be retiring this month and thanked him for all that he has done for SPS.

##### Trojan Heroes

This month's heroes were Jimmy Lamb - SMS Principal, Jeri Tetzloff - Congress Kindergarten Teacher, Kim Hamlin - Wenzel 2nd Grade Teacher. Dr. Ebert introduced them and shared praise and comments from those who nominated them. They each were presented with a framed certificate.



Barnyard Animals at Sturgis Middle School

Dr. Art Ebert presented the idea of having various farm animals located on the grounds of SMS which would benefit students in many different ways. The first step would be to change the City of Sturgis ordinance for SMS.

Public Comments:            There were no public comments.

The Consent Agenda

There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Dr. Millett with support from Mrs. Donmyer. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items:

A. New Hire

Mrs. Nicole Gittinger introduced Ms. Meaghan Anderson and Mr. Chad Bennett then shared a little information about each of them. A motion was made to approve the new hires by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mr. Myers. 7 ayes - 0 nays, motion approved

B. Alternative Education

Dr. Ebert reviewed the motion including the updated painting and flooring proposal. Mrs. Halling made a motion to include asking current students and their families what is helping them to be successful and what roadblocks need to be removed from the Alternative Education program in addition to moving the program to SHS. Dr. Millett supported the motion. Discussion continued.

Mrs. Halling withdrew the motion with no objections.

Mr. Myers made a motion to approve moving the district's alternative education program from Sturgis Central Commons to Sturgis High School; approve operating the program as a Sturgis High School program; request that feedback from current alternative education students is gathered related to program changes such as renaming the program, classroom furnishings, and daycare options; survey current students asking what elements are helping them to succeed and what roadblocks in the program need to be removed; the administration will make the effort to grandfather existing students, if deemed successful, to graduate in their current track; and approve Continental Flooring Company to paint and install new flooring in the new alternative education office and classroom at Sturgis High School. Mrs. Halling supported the motion. 6 ayes - 1 nay, motion approved.

C. Course Considerations at SHS

A motion to approve the removal of WorkKeys from the SPS graduation requirement was made by Ms. Drumm with support from Mr. Myers. 7 ayes - 0 nays, motion approved.

D. Business Services Agreement with Colon Community Schools

A motion was made to approve SPS fulfilling the Business Manager, Payroll, A/P, and A/R services for Colon Community Schools from March 28, 2022 through June 30, 2022, per the agreement details by Dr. Millett with support from Mrs. Brand. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

E. Budget Amendment

A motion was made by Mrs. Donmyer to approve the 2021-2022 budget amendment with support from Dr. Millett. 7 ayes - 0 nays, motion approved.

In Administrative Reports, Mr. Sterling had nothing to report.

Mrs. Gittinger had nothing to report.

Dr. Ebert appreciated the conversations the board had.

In Board Comments, Mrs. Brand enjoyed the presentation done by the Wall School staff and congratulated the Trojan Heroes.

Dr. Millett and Mrs. Donmyer echoed the previous comments.

Mrs. Halling thanked Wall School for hosting the meeting and shared that she really appreciates the Prodigy software.

Ms. Drumm congratulated the Trojan heroes.

Mr. Myers thanked Mr. Sterling for partnering with Colon and congratulated the Trojan Heroes.

Mr. Boland congratulated Von Metzger on his retirement along with Trojan Heroes.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Donmyer with support from Mrs. Halling. 7 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

  
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Scott Boland, President  
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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, March 17, 2022

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

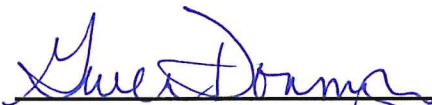
**HOUR OF MEETING:** 5:30 p.m.

**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

  
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Gwen Donmyer, Secretary  
Board of Education