

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, August 8, 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

Introductions

A motion was made by Ms. Drumm with support from Mrs. Halling to approve the agenda as presented. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

<u>Present:</u>	Emily Halling	Ben Myers	Scott Boland
	Lynn Brand	Betsie Drumm	Kerri Millett

Absent: Gwen Donmyer (listened virtually)

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

<u>Visitors</u>	Courtney O'Brien, Carol O'Brien, Audrey Green, Emerson Green, Anna Northam, Amanda Herrera, Jeni Taylor-Davis, Sue Sleeper, Pat Hagadorn, Julie Goodlock, Ana Cotton, Harmonee McCrea, Lisa Yoquelet, Seth Story, Mike Miller, Allen Meyer, Leyton Meyer, Sarah Meyer, George Earl, George Ian Earl, Daniel Collins, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Mike Stiles-WBET
-----------------	---

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Informational Items:

- A. Review of Board Policy - 0175.1 School Board Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops.
Mrs. Halling reviewed policy 0175.1

Discussion Items:

- A. Creating Calendar Appointments for Board Meetings
Ms. Drumm shared the suggestion to use Google Calendar to request confirmation of who will be attending each board meeting. Discussion took place. No change will take place at this time.

Action Items for Immediate Consideration:

- A. New Hires - Mrs. Gittinger
A motion to approve the new hires was made by Mrs. Halling with support from Dr. Millett 6 ayes - 0 nays

The Consent Agenda: Mr. Sterling reviewed the July financial statements. Any board member with questions on the July minutes should contact Mrs. Toni Andrews within the week. Questions on financial statements and invoices should be directed to Mr. Sterling. Approval will be sought at the August 15th meeting.

Action Item for August 15th:

- A. Student/Parent Handbooks First Reading
Dr. Ebert reviewed the updates made to the 2022-2023 Student/Parent Handbooks.

In administrative reports, Mr. Sterling shared updates on the Eastwood playground. The SHS and Congress boilers are being installed. Mrs. Gittinger thanked the board for supporting SPS teachers and staff. The 7 Habits Training will be happening next week for new staff. She invited board members to attend the New Teacher Orientation on August 15th. Dr. Ebert stated that the Marching Band camp went well and fall athletics started today. He also shared pointed out that there was an article on MLive about the SHS Football team and the Great Eight Tennis Tournament happening on Thursday, August 18, in Sturgis.

Board Comments

Ms. Drumm inquired about the new furniture at Eastwood. Mr. Sterling shared that all classrooms except for six have had furniture set up. The final classrooms should be put together in the next day or so. Two of Ms. Drumm's boys attended and really enjoyed Camp Fort Hill Summer Camp this year. Dr. Millett really appreciated the updates on the handbooks and was very excited to see the new hires. Mrs. Halling reviewed some of the school aide budget details also suggesting there may be funding we want to explore. Mrs. Brand shared that Orchestra Camp started today at Camp Fort Hill and was also excited to see all the new hires. Mr. Myers attended a cheerleading competition last week in Grand Rapids that some of our students participated in. He really enjoyed it and congratulated the team for their effort. Mr. Boland congratulated the new hires.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Myers with support from Dr. Millett. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.



Scott Boland, President



Gwen Donmyer, Secretary

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Boardroom
Monday, August 15, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

A motion was made by Mr. Myers with support from Mrs. Brand to approve the agenda as presented. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

<u>Present:</u>	Emily Halling	Ben Myers	Scott Boland
	Lynn Brand	Betsie Drumm (5:35)	Kerri Millett
	Gwen Donmyer		

Absent: --

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

<u>Visitors</u>	Toni Andrews, Chad Bennett, Charles Long, Robin Kubasiak, Monday Cardiel, Ian Earl, Lauren Alwine, Amber Peters, Justin Pazdera, Heather George, Joe Gonzalez, Mike Miller, Megan Watkins, Jackeline Garcia, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal,
-----------------	--

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Action Items for Immediate Consideration:

- A. New Hires
Mrs. Gittinger introduced the new staff and shared information about each of them. A motion was made by Mrs. Donmyer to approve the New Hires with support from Mrs. Brand. 7 ayes - 0 nays, motion approved.
- B. Youth In Government Field Trips
Mrs. Mindy Cardiel and several of her students provided details on the Youth In Government field trips which involve attending their Fall and Spring Conferences. They requested approval to travel to these events. A motion was made by Dr. Millett with support from Mrs. Halling to approve the Youth In Government student field trips. 7 ayes - 0 nays, motion approved.

The Consent Agenda Items: There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Dr. Millett with support from Mr. Myers. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items:

- A. Student/Parent Handbooks
A motion was made by Mr. Myers with support from Ms. Drumm to approve the 2022-2023 Student/Parent Handbooks. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved

Action Items for September 12th:

- A. MASB Fall Conference Voting Delegates
The Fall MASB Conference will be held on Oct. 20th-23rd at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City. Discussion took place as to who would be the voting delegates for the conference.

In administrative reports, Mr. Sterling had nothing to report. Mrs. Gittinger thanked those who were able to attend the New Teacher meeting. Dr. Ebert shared that the leadership team met and started work on the vision and mission statements. The Strategic Team also met and Dr. Ebert shared they are focusing on how to increase reading proficiency.

Board Comments

Ms. Drumm spoke about the struggles that some students may display as a result of not being able to read. Dr. Millett would like an endpoint evaluation of things that the board reviews. Mrs. Halling really appreciated the consistency and easy access to the handbooks. Mrs. Donmyer appreciated all the SPS graduates who have returned to teach at Sturgis. Mrs. Brand shared the challenges at the secondary level to incorporate teaching reading as a part of all subjects. Mr. Myers thanked everyone for the work on the handbooks and appreciated Youth In Government presentation. Mr. Boland enjoyed the new staff introductions.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m., after a motion by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mrs. Brand. 7 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.



Scott Boland, President



Gwen Donmyer, Secretary