

**M I N U T E S**  
**Mason Consolidated Schools**  
**Meeting of the Board of Education**

**Approved 3/1/23**  
**February 1, 2023**

**Regular Meeting**

On February 1, 2023, the Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting in the Mason Senior High School Library. Treasurer Fowler called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Fowler, Grodi, Larrow, and Skaggs  
Absent: Otting (arrived 6:42 pm), Smith (arrived 6:18 pm), Stieben  
Also Present: Bates, Burt, Lindsey, Nieuwkoop, Russow, Tuller, and Valentine

**Pledge of Allegiance**

-Led by Central Elementary School Students

**Review/Approval of Agenda**

Treasurer Fowler asked for a review of the agenda.  
-It was moved by Grodi, supported by Larrow to approve the agenda.  
Motion carried 4-0; 3 absent (Stieben, Smith, Otting)

**Student Council Reports**

Mason Senior High School- Principal Bates shared the various activities and events the HS student council members are planning and engaging in.

Mason Middle School- MS Student Council President, Zayla Brown, shared the various activities and events the MS student council members are planning and engaging in.

**Special Presentations**

January Staff Member of the Month

-Ms. Beth Sherman, MCS Human Resources/Superintendent's Secretary, was honored by Leski Wittman Insurance Agency for being selected by her colleagues as the January Staff Member of the Month.

Board of Education Recognition

Students from Central Elementary, Mason Middle School, and Mason Senior High School recognized members for their commitment to the students of MCS by sharing thank you cards, small gifts, and treats. The Nutrition Group shared their chocolate covered strawberries as a token of gratitude.

Lockout USA

A special presentation was shared showcasing The LockOut SmartBoot System. A comprehensive school lockdown and building security system designed to ensure every room becomes a safezone. The presentation included barriers, notification equipment, placards, room protocol maps, and critical incident mapping for law enforcement.

**Public Comment**

Marleigh Butch from Bobbies Staff shared an update regarding their fundraising efforts to eliminate school lunch debt. Marleigh indicated that February 8<sup>th</sup> is the rescheduled date

for the Dine to Donate at Erie Restaurant. Marleigh then presented the first donation to the Board of Education in the amount of \$150.

David Cowdrey had questions regarding the pool.

Jake Nehrig offered alumni and community members interested in donating/fundraising to get record boards back up.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **Communication and Community Engagement:**

- The district administrators, along with an MCS Board member, are now attending our community meetings. MCS will share current projects, points of pride and general information at these meetings.
- The CTE Systems Administration students held a community event to teach participants how to safely use their cell phones.

#### **Personnel and Leadership:**

- The District has applied for the Michigan Department of Education's Grow Your Own Grant to help recruit and retain educators. The District is partnering with Eastern Michigan University, Northern Michigan University, #TEACH, and Teachers of Tomorrow for these programs. Currently, we have 4-7 people interested in the program.

#### **Operations:**

- The District submitted a concept paper as the initial step in applying for a Department of Energy Grant. The concept paper will be reviewed, and the district will be informed if we have been selected and encouraged to take the next step in the full application process. The District is anticipating asking for 15 million in energy upgrades in HVAC, lighting, windows, doors, etc.

#### **Pool update:**

- The pool is currently closed due to the district being informed on Monday of a potential hazard. Several areas of the pool are not bonded. So far we have met, spoken with and emailed various parties including the state department inspector, local inspector, electrician, representative and supervisor of the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division; to find out if we are required to complete all of this or we have other safety measure that can occur because our pool was in existence prior to the bonding requirement. Thus far, it sounds as if we need to get an architect and electrical engineer involved to meet requirements.

#### **BOE Reminders:**

- Legislative Breakfast at the Monroe Co ISD Monday, February 6. 8:00-9:30
- Monroe County Association of Boards of Education Meeting February 8 at the Monroe Co ISD 6:00 p.m.
- Mason Consolidated Schools Board Workshop Saturday, March 18 at 9:00 a.m. Potluck Breakfast

### **Administrative Reports**

-February administrative reports can be found on the District's website under the District Tab for the Board of Education.

### **Old Business**

Presentation of minutes from the January 4, 2023 Board of Education Organizational Meeting

-Vice-president Smith presented, no comments or questions

Presentation of the minutes from January 4, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting

-Vice-president Smith presented, no comments/questions

### **Monthly Items**

Check Register

-Vice-president Smith presented, no comments or questions

Board Financial Report

-Vice-president Smith presented, no comments or questions

### **New Business**

The next regularly scheduled Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education Meeting will be held, Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Mason Senior High School Library.

Recommendation to approve Haley Gerlica, CES teaching position, at prorated Step 2-BA pending receipt of completion of required training and of favorable criminal history, background, and previous employer checks.

#### Non-Homestead Renewal Resolution

- The Non-Homestead Millage expired in December 2022. It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the resolution to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law. At the expiration of the previous millage, we were collecting 17.9532 mills of the allowable 18 mills. This proposal is for six(6) years, 2023 -2028 and will be on the May 2, 2023 ballot.

Trustee Grodi offered the preamble and resolution, Trustee Larrow offered Support.

Vice-president Smith read the resolution and asked Secretary Otting to take a roll call for a vote.

Roll Call:

Pat Larrow - Aye

Mike Grodi - Aye

Janice Skaggs - Aye

Chandra Fowler - Aye

Dr. Smith - Aye

Jamie Otting - Aye

Bruce Stieben-Absent

-Resolution Adopted 6-0

#### Recommendation to approve Lockout USA for critical incident mapping

-Motion by Otting, support by Larrow

Motion carried 6-0; 1 absent (Stieben)

#### Recommendation to approve Lockout USA for door barriers, ballistic shields, placards, and mapping

-Motion by Larrow, support by Grodi

Motion carried 6-0; 1 absent (Stieben)

### **Consent Agenda**

Approve the minutes from the January 4, 2023, Board of Education Organizational Meeting

Approve the minutes from the January 4, 2023, Board of Education Meeting.

Approve the January 2023 Check Register

Approve Brandon Bates to attend the Response to Intervention at Work Conference in Grand Rapids, MI March 21-22, 2023.

Approve Dustin Pollard to attend the MIAAA Conference in Traverse City, MI March 17-20, 2023.

-It was motioned by Fowler, supported by Otting to approve all items on the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0; 1 absent (Stieben)

### **Board Reports/Comments**

**Stieben**-Absent

**Skaggs**-It sounds like a lot of leg work on the safety stuff and much appreciative. Kind of overwhelming picturing all of it but know it is necessary. Trying to picture it all. I'm sure the training will go beautifully. All of the sweet things and goodies that happened tonight, it's very sweet, it's very darling, and very much appreciated.

**Smith**-I would like to extend my thanks to you, Kelli, as far as looking for all the funds, for the hard work and labor that goes into it as well. People always say there is money and grants out there they don't realize the work it takes to get that money there is money and I am very grateful. It is a scary state of education where we have to be so concerned about lockdown, but it doesn't make sense for us to go on a copesetic. You would like to think it will never happen. The prices are shocking but how much would it cost to replace 160 doors and glasswork? I thank you for taking the time to come here tonight and look forward to continued discussions.

**Grodi**-Kelli thank you for (pool)updates and quick action on that. Mr. Adams, thank you for the presentation, and thank you to the Board for putting our kids' safety above economics. That goes for this issue and some of the grounds issues we have done in the past couple of years.

**Otting**-7 and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade girls both won their basketball games tonight, nice job. Thanks for all the treats. Thank you, guys, for all of the safety info.

Fowler-Nothing tonight

**Larrow**-Very excited about the presentation tonight. There is no price you can put on the safety of our children. Very excited to move forward with that.

### **Adjournment**

At 7:54 p.m., it was moved by Otting, supported by Grodi to adjourn the February 1, 2023, meeting of the Board of Education. Motion carried 6-0; 1 absent (Stieben)

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Jamie Otting, Board Secretary