

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

Approved 2/1/23  
**January 4, 2023**

**Regular Meeting**

On January 4, 2023, the Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting in the Mason Senior High School Library. President Stieben called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Fowler, Larrow, Otting, Skaggs, Smith, and Stieben  
Absent: Grodi  
Also Present: Nieuwkoop, Tuller, and Valentine

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Review/Approval of Agenda**

President Stieben asked to remove the agenda item Student Council Reports, due to the excusal of the council presidents.

-It was moved by Larrow, supported by Smith to approve the revised agenda.

Motion carried 6-0

**Special Presentations**

December Staff Member of the Month

-Mr. Jerry Yanak, MCS substitute bus driver, was honored by Leski Wittman Insurance Agency for being selected by his colleagues as the December Staff Member of the Month.

**Public Comment**

-Jackie Cousino shared comments and concerns regarding the district closing for fog and a donation to the track program.

-Jake Nehrig shared comments regarding President Stieben coordinating a meeting with Erie Township.

**Superintendent's Report**

Communication and Community Engagement:

The next edition of the Eagle Eye will be sent out by the end of the month.

Academics and Programs:

The Madrigal Music Dinner show was outstanding. Everyone in attendance enjoyed this comedic musical performance by so many of our talented Eagles. We applaud Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Swaile, Ms. Durocher, and all other volunteers who helped coordinate this fine performance in such a short amount of time.

Operations:

As recommended by the Michigan Department of Education, a comprehensive safety assessment is being completed at MCS by an outside vendor. The District is working with School Safety & Compliance LLC. SSC will provide a facility-specific safety and security risk assessment for all interior and exterior locations on the MCS district campus.

The District canceled school on Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, to ensure the safety of students, staff, and families. Within 20-30 minutes of the decision being made, the fog

lifted and didn't return. These calls are challenging, but necessary. We have now used 2 cancellations (power and fog) and one fog delay.

### **Administrative Reports**

-January 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 December 7, 2022 Board of Education Meeting

-President Stieben presented, no comments or questions

Presentation of the Closed Session minutes from the December 7, 2022 Board of Education Meeting

-President Stieben presented, no comments/questions

Review of Policy 3102 Smoking, Tobacco, and Alcohol

-MCS Board members discussed the current policy and a possible revision to the policy to allow non-district events the ability to possess and/or consume alcohol.

It was motioned by Smith to keep Policy 3102 as reads, supported by Larrow.

Roll call vote:

Stieben: Yes

Fowler: No

Otting: No

Skaggs: Yes

Grodi: Absent

Smith: Yes

Larrow: Yes

Motion carried 4-2; 1 absent

### **Monthly Items**

Check Register

-President Stieben presented; no comments/questions

Board Financial Report

-President Stieben presented; no comments/questions

### **New Business**

Recommendation to hire Kimberly Massengill for MCS Bus Driver at \$18.50 per hour pending receipt of completion of required training and favorable criminal history, background, and previous employer checks.

-Mr. Valentine provided a recommendation to hire Kimberly Massingill based on her driving experience in a school district.

-Motion by Smith, supported by Larrow

Motion Carried 6-0

### **Consent Agenda**

Approve the minutes from the December 7, 2022 Board of Education Meeting

Approve the Closed Session minutes from the December 7, 2022 Board of Education Meeting

Approve the December 2022 check register

-It was moved by Larrow, supported by Skaggs to approve all items on the consent agenda.

Motion carried 6-0

### **Board Reports/Comments**

Grodi- Absent

Otting- No comment

Fowler- No comment

Larrow- Bonnie thanks for your help with the orientation and helping out and thanks for what everybody does. Hope you had a nice holiday.

Stieben- Wanted to wish everyone a Happy New year and a Merry Christmas and thrilled that we have a sixty-degree day in the beginning of January. Everyone keep up the good work.

Skaggs-Shout out to Coach Al. Dear, thank you to Kelli for a keepsake that was the right thing at the right time. It is nice to have community members here and caring and discussing and want good things for the district and I think we are a Board that wants that too. We work well together and discuss things so I think as long as people are patient and open to discussion and step-by-step, I would love to see the race here and events like that would be awesome to have here, so thank you for the interest.

Smith- Congratulations to Coach Al, also to Jerry. Always a good man and glad to see he gets the recognition that he deserves. And to my fellow Board members, Happy New Year. I know that tonight's discussion is not exactly a fun one to deal with and there are polarized opinions on both sides, and it is hard to come to consensus. I don't believe that this discussion should be tabled away completely. We need to discuss all of the concerns, especially for school safety and for the student's examples of what is to be expected. Thank you all for the discussion. Great to be back.

### **Adjournment**

At 7:42 p.m., it was moved by Smith supported by Otting to adjourn the January 4, 2023, meeting of the Board of Education. Motion carried 6-0

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Jamie Otting, Board Secretary