

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

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Approved 9/08/21  
**August 19, 2021**

**Regular Meeting**

On August 19, 2021, the Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting. President Stieben called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Larrow, Otting (arrived at 6:47 p.m.), Skaggs, Smith and Stieben

Board Members Absent: Fowler, Grodi

Also Present: Bates, Blair, and Tuller

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Review/Approval of Agenda**

Addition of Agenda Item: Closed Session Section 8(c) Strategy and Negotiation

Addition of Action Item F: Approve the appointment of Dean of Students/Athletic Director

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

Motion carried 4-0; 3 absent (Fowler, Grodi, Otting)

**Public Comment**

-President Stieben acknowledged that both requested public participation topics were related to masking and thus he read a statement from the district's legal counsel regarding the requiring of wearing masks on school buses per the CDC requirement and liability on the District.

-Laurie Ball, parent, shared comments regarding the district requiring the students to wear masks on the bus. Additional information regarding notifying parents of the change was shared. Ms. Ball commented on the Board of Education's responsibility to the community to listen and respond to their needs, citing last year's daily hybrid schedule.

-Kim Cousino, parent, shared comments regarding the district requiring students to wear masks on the bus. She indicated that this is not a requirement and she cited various folks she has contacted.

-President Stieben thanked both individuals for coming and sharing comments and shared that the board takes many things into consideration and did so with each decision that was made. Mr. Stieben encouraged individuals to get meeting minutes to review to see what other decisions were taken into consideration.

**Old Business**

Presentation of minutes from the July 19, 2021, Board of Education Meeting

-President Stieben presented; one correction noted regarding the next meeting being posted as Wednesday, August 19 instead of Thursday, August.

Presentation of Closed Session minutes from the July 19, 2021, Board of Education Meeting

-President Stieben presented; one correction noted to change location of meeting from library to high school cafeteria.

**Monthly Items**

Natorium Update-Lance Mushung, SSOE

-The Natorium project plans were submitted to the state for permitting. Timeline for bidding work will be established on August 20, 2021. Project thus far is under budget.

Mr. Mushung also updated the board on the condition of the stadium home side bleachers. The bleachers need repair or replacement and should not be available for games or meets at this time. Mr. Mushung informed the board that the footers and other areas of the bleachers are crumbling, therefore creating a risk for occupants. Using the press box remain permissible, based on the limited number of staff required to do so.

#### Check Register

-President Stieben presented; no comments or question

#### Board Financial Report

-President Stieben presented; comment regarding end of year targets was raised. Dana Blair indicated that once the audit is complete, the board will receive updated information.

#### **New Business**

The next regular scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Library at Mason High School.

Recommendation to approve Madilyn Hafner for the GSRP lead teacher position pending favorable criminal history and background checks.

-Mrs. McCain provided a recommendation for hire based on the candidate's experience in and vision for the academic and social growth of preschool children.

Recommendation to hire Abigail Kruse for the GSRP aide position at \$15 per hour.

-Mrs. McCain's provided a recommendation hire based on the candidate's previous experience and work performance.

Recommendation to hire Emma Conway for IF Aide at Central Elementary at \$14 per hour.

-Mrs. McCain's provided a recommendation hire based on the candidate's previous experience and work performance.

Recommendation of 2021-2024 Erie Mason Education Association Contract

-President Stieben presented. No questions

Superintendent Tuller thanked the EMEA for the transparent, professional, and honest dialogue during the negotiation sessions.

Recommendation to approve overnight conference for Beth Sherman and Lynn Ferguson, MPAA Fall Conference, September 13-15, 2021, Bay City, MI.

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Recommendation to approve high school freezer replacement

-Superintendent Tuller presented the total cost to repair one of the original freezers in the high school kitchen. The freezer has been leaking for some time and in need of attention.

Recommendation to approve Board Policy 4225 Temporary Remote Work

-Previously approved Policy 4225 was revise by Thrun Law Firm.

Recommendation to approve the 2021-2022 Central Elementary Student Handbook

-President Stieben presented; no comments

Recommendation to approve the 2021-2022 Mason Middle School Student Handbook

-President Stieben presented; no comments

Recommendation to approve the 2021-2022 Mason Senior High/MAVA Student Handbook

-President Stieben presented; no comments

Recommendation of 2021-2022 Tax Rate

-President Stieben presented; no comments

### **Superintendent's Report**

Resignations Accepted the resignation of Athletic Director Kelly Trainor, Aide Heather Spagnol, and Aide/Library Clerk Lisa Folkema.

Acknowledgement of Gifts/Donations: Donations to the district were received from the following individuals/organizations:

Chad Hughes, West Side Beer Distributing- Various technology related devices and equipment with fair market value of \$8,000

Mike Denko Class of 77' and friends. \$545 for supporting at-risk programming at Mason Middle School.

### **Interim AD Coverage**

Kevin Skaggs will be the interim athletic director until the position is filled. He will begin his duties on Monday, August 23.

### **COVID Update**

Monroe County COVID transmission, positivity and vaccination data was shared.

### **Administrative Reports**

-President Stieben shared the reports of the following administrators. Reports can be found on the District website.

- Elementary Principal
- Middle School Principal
- High School Principal
- Athletic Director
- Operations Director

### **Consent Agenda**

Approve the minutes from the July 19, 2021, Board of Education Meeting

Approve the Closed Session minutes from the July 19, 2021, Board of Education Meeting

Approve the July 2021 Check Register

Approve overnight conference for Beth Sherman and Lynn Ferguson, MPAA Fall Conference, September 13-15, 2021, Bay City, MI.

Approve the 2021-2022 Central Elementary Student Handbook

Approve the 2021-2022 Mason Middle School Student Handbook

Approve the 2021-2022 Mason Senior High/MAVA Student Handbook

Approve Board Policy 4225 Temporary Remote Work

Approve Recommendation of 2021-2022 Tax Rate

-It was moved by Smith, supported by Otting  
Motion carried 5-0; 2 absent (Fowler, Grodi)

### **Closed Session**

Strategy and Negotiation

Section 8 (c): For strategy and negotiation sessions connect with negotiations of a collective bargaining agreement if either party request a closed hearing.

Motion to enter Closed Session by Otting, supported by Larrow

Roll Call Vote:

Smith: Aye

Larrow: Aye

Otting: Aye

Skaggs: Aye

Stieben: Aye

-Motion carried 5-0; 2 absent (Fowler, Grodi)

Time entered Closed Session - 7:12 p.m.

Time out of Closed Session – 8:04 p.m.

### **Action**

Approve the recommendation to hire Madilyn Hafner for the GSRP teacher position pending favorable criminal history and background checks.

-It was moved by Larrow, supported by Smith

Motion carried 5-0; 2absent (Fowler, Grodi)

Approve the recommendation to hire Abigail Kruse for the GSRP aide position at \$15 per hour.

-It was moved by Otting, supported by Skaggs

Motion carried 5-0; 2absent (Fowler, Grodi)

Approve the recommendation to hire Emma Conway as IF Aide at Central Elementary at \$14 per hour.

-It was moved by Smith, supported by Larrow

Motion carried 5-0; 2absent (Fowler, Grodi)

Approve the recommendation of 2021-2024 Erie Mason Education Association Contract

-It was moved by Stieben, supported by Larrow

Motion carried 5-0; 2absent (Fowler, Grodi)

Approve the replacement of the high school freezer.

-It was moved by Smith, supported by Skaggs

Motion carried 5-0; 2absent (Fowler, Grodi)

Approve the appointment Dustin Pollard as Dean of Students/Athletic Director

-It was moved by Otting, supported by Larrow

Motion carried 5-0; 2absent (Fowler, Grodi)

### **Board Reports/Comments**

Smith: Excited for the new year. It's nice and peace of mind to hear how things are going in the school. Hopefully expediting and more reasonable for the roof than we thought. The downside is looking at the stands but hopeful to hear what we can find out and what monies we can use to maintain safety and get the fans back out there.

Stieben: Thanks to Kelly for her sixteen years of service and to the other employees that have put their resignations in. Heather and Lisa for their time as well and want to thank them for their service. I am excited to get to school full time. A little bit of normalcy. I'm excited for the appointment of Dustin and for Kevin helping during this time as well. Thanks to Kelli and Dana on the contracts. It has been an immense amount of work and there is still some ahead but there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Fowler: Absent

Grodi: Absent

Larrow: I want to thank Bruce for referring Mrs. Ball to our prior meeting. The safety of our students is always first in our minds. I sometimes wonder if the community knows that we work without pay but we work and study the data and make decisions based on that to do the best thing for our children and everyone's children based on that. I appreciate them coming forward with their comments, but we are here because we want to be here to help our kids.

Otting: Sorry to see Kelly, Heather and Lisa go. Laurie, Mrs. Ball, sent me many messages about her stand and asking many questions. I told her the same thing, I can't get this for you right now and I can't quote you anything, I told her to go back to our meeting minutes, you can find that.

I appreciate people are turning out and emailing and showing up and saying whatever they have to say no matter what side of the coin they land on. Personally, I am excited we have an option this year and I hope that it stays that way and we can't necessarily control that.

Skaggs: I am giving an exuberant yet boring ditto because you all covered it very well. Thank you to Kelly and all of her work.

**Adjournment**

At 8:11 p.m., it was moved by Otting, supported by Smith to adjourn the August 19, 2021, meeting of the Board of Education. Motion carried 5-0; 2 absent (Fowler, Grodi)

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Janice Skaggs, Board Secretary