

# Saranac Community School

**Board of Education Agenda  
Regular Meeting  
February 2, 2017  
7:00 PM**

**Library, Saranac Jr/Sr High School**

6:00 p.m. Student Hearing

1. Call to Order \_\_\_\_\_
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Student Hearing 2
4. Approval of Minutes 3
5. Additions & Deletions to the Agenda
6. Comments from Guests - Agenda Items
7. Student Report
8. Administrator's Update
9. Instructional Highlight - Saranac Express
10. Reports/Presentation Items
- a. School Safety Radio Presentation 6
- b. Projected 1st budget amendment for 2016-2017 7
11. Comments from Guests - Non Agenda Items
12. Superintendent's Report
13. Board Requests/Reports
14. Communications
15. Approve Executive Session Minutes
16. Closed Session for Negotiations Purposes
17. Other
18. Adjournment \_\_\_\_\_

"This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda."

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Student Expulsion Hearing

The Board will conduct a student expulsion hearing.

Suggested Resolution

I move that the Saranac Board of Education

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Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ Supported by \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Approved/Denied: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Saranac Community Schools  
Board of Education  
Meeting #2

The regular meeting of the Saranac Community Schools Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 19, 2017 in the Library, Saranac Jr/Sr High School, 150 Pleasant Street, Saranac, MI.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Courtney, Denny, Doll, Hawkins, Jackson, Price, & VanKuiken.

Kirk Jackson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from regular meeting dated January 5, and special meeting dated January 12, 2017 were approved as presented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's Report for December was accepted as presented.

**ADDITIONS & DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**COMMENTS FROM GUESTS – AGENDA ITEMS:** The Board heard public comment.

**STUDENT REPORT:** Dakota Ostrander from Student Council reported they held their annual Mock Rock with 28 acts performing; 1st Place - Spencer McPherson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Flavia Marcello, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place was a small orchestra ensemble of students. Wednesday they held their 2<sup>nd</sup> blood drive of the year with 52 signed up. On February 4 they will be holding their “Snow Coming Dance”. Student Council will be helping with Special Olympics in Traverse City on February 2.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Jr/Sr High Principal, Josh Leader reported the JSH finally finished exams after many delays. On Monday the teachers had a Ed Camp Style professional development led by Amy Frias. Teacher, Keith Houston and his high school Drama class performed their musical, "The Fearsome Pirate Frank," for the JSH last Friday. The students also held an evening performance and raised over \$300.00 for set supplies and script costs. Thank you to all who attended, Barb Pachulski of Signature Photography for photographing the event, and Mr. Houston for volunteering his time.. Former MSU basketball player and current public speaker Anthony Ianni will speak to students on January 25th about positive self-image and the impacts of bullying. Thank you to teacher, Phyllis Plumley for arranging this opportunity. The PAC group raised enough funds to purchase 18 TI-calculators for the JSH.

Elementary Principal, Jason Smith reported the elementary is planning the kindergarten parent meeting for Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. The elementary has formed a committee to work on school environment and behavior. This committee is part of the state MiBLSi program that the district has joined. The committees are being led by Amy Frias, MTSS Coordinator/Behavior specialist. The elementary appreciates Mary Bouck for coming in to lead our math Professional Development day on January 16th. March is Reading month and planning is underway, we

welcome all volunteers and folks who would like to visit as a guest reader. Thanks to Karen Rohrer for working to secure grants to assist the PE department in updating equipment.

**CONSENT ITEMS:** Motion by Hawkins, supported by VanKuiken and unanimously approved that the Saranac Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda items as listed:

- ✓ Accept Gifts totaling \$82,176.42
- ✓ Approve Updated NEOLA policies

**BILLS PAID:** Motion by Doll, supported by Price and unanimously approved with Courtney abstaining from voting, that the Saranac Board of Education approve the bills in the amount of \$1,011,748.20 from General Fund for December/January.

**SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH:** Superintendent, Maury Geiger reported that January is School Board Recognition Month and Saranac Community Schools is honored to thank these community volunteers for their dedication to public education. We proudly salute these advocates for education as they provide the vision and leadership for our school district. Our board is committed to our District Strategic Plan to focus on student achievement, technology, community relations, facilities and learning environment. They have reviewed and updated all our school board policies through NEOLA. The honorable people serving Saranac Community Schools are as follows:

Brent Denny – President  
Roy Hawkins – Vice-President  
David Price – Secretary  
Sarah Doll – Treasurer

Ted VanKuiken, Trustee  
Kevin Courtney - Trustee  
Kirk Jackson - Trustee

Mr. Geiger presented the board with certificates of appreciation, and the gift of a book called “The Butterfly Effect.”

**COMMENTS FROM GUESTS – NON AGENDA ITEMS:** The Board heard public comment.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:** Mr. Geiger reported we have used 5 of 6 snow days so far that the State allows. The district MiBLSi teams are receiving extensive training. February 28 there will be a County-wide Board Workshop held at the ISD. April 25 there will be a Legislative Retreat in Lansing. On Monday, January 23 there is a District Strategic Planning community meeting on Facilities and Technology. Mr. Geiger thanked Chuck Prins for all his hard work on the buses as we recently passed our bus inspections. Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, all the special education teachers met with Renee Thelen, Special Education Planner/Monitor from the ISD, and received a half-day of professional development on special education practices & procedures. Mr. Geiger thanked the board members who have signed up for the mid-winter MASB workshops held at Kent ISD.

**BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS:** A board member would like to have MASB provide a course on the Superintendent Selection. The board member would also like to have Mr. Geiger explore the idea of some type of cooperative agreement with Ionia or Lowell through GRCC, MCC or LCC for classes and partnering for some AP classes. The board member would also like Mr. Geiger to look into the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class sizes.

A board member thought it was an excellent idea to hear about having the elementary and middle school student councils along with the high school to attend board meetings to give updates on what kind of things students are doing in their buildings.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** A card was passed around received from staff for School Board Appreciation Month.

**APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:** The board approved the Executive Session Minutes dated January 5, and 12, 2017 as written.

**CLOSED SESSION FOR NEGOTIATIONS PURPOSES:** Motion by Hawkins, supported by Doll that the Saranac Board of Education go into closed session at 7:52 p.m. returning to open session at 8:32 p.m. Yes Votes: Courtnay, Denny, Doll, Hawkins, Jackson, Price & VanKuiken. Motion Carried.

**OTHER:** Superintendent, Maury Geiger reported they received an early warning letter from the Michigan Department of Treasury authority to determine whether or not potential fiscal stress exists within our school district.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, and no objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Price  
Secretary

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: School Safety Radio Information

Many thanks to our newest board member, Kevin Courtney, and his business, Crouch Communications, for working with Motorola, and having Saranac Community Schools be the recipient of “state of the art” new technology that will be a model for the State of Michigan in school safety. Mr. Courtney, Jim Valentine, the Director of the Ionia County Dispatch, Stan Hoskins, Ionia County Sheriff’s Office Emergency Manager, John Milewski, Saranac Community Schools Technology Director, and I met a week ago to review the information and to discuss how this new communication device will work with the safety response alert systems in Ionia County. A representative from Motorola will be at the Board meeting on Thursday to explain how this system will work.

Thank you to Motorola for donating the radios and to Crouch Communications for donating the materials and time for installation. We look forward to having this system up and running in the near future as it will enhance the emergency plan we already have in place for the safety and security of our students and staff.

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment budget projections update

I will be presenting the most recent projections to our 1<sup>st</sup> budget amendment. The information will be reviewed with the board finance committee on Tuesday evening, and shared with the board at the meeting on Thursday.