

Saranac Community School

**Board of Education Agenda
Regular Meeting
August 14, 2014
5:30 PM
Jr/Sr High School Library**

1. Call to Order_____
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Student Request for Re-Admittance 2
4. Student Hearing 3
5. Approval of Minutes 4
6. Additions & Deletions
7. Comments from Guests
8. Presentation Items
 - a. International Travel Club Presentation 6
 - b. MME Results 7
 - c. Hire Social Studies Teacher 8
 - d. Hire Special Education Teacher 12
 - e. 2nd Reading of New Policy's 15
 - f. 1st Reading of Board Policy's Changes 16
9. Comments from Guests
10. Superintendent Report
11. Board Requests/Reports
12. Communications
13. Approve Executive Session Minutes
14. Closed Session for Negotiations Planning
15. Other
16. Adjournment_____

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Student Request

I have had a request from a student to reenroll back into Saranac Community Schools from an expulsion. I have requested that the student come to the meeting to ask permission to be reinstated.

This is the action taken by the Board of Education, at their meeting on May 22, 2014 regarding the student. Board members unanimously passed the following resolution:

“that the Saranac Board of Education expel the student for up to a period of 180 school days, and that the student not be allowed on school property for any reason without the permission of the superintendent or his or her designee.”

The student again is requesting for reinstatement for the 2014-2015 school year.

Suggested Resolution

"I move that the Saranac Board of Education approve/deny the student request."

Motion by _____ Supported by _____

Discussion: Yes _____ No _____

Approved/Denied: Yes _____ No _____

TO: Saranac Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger

SUBJECT: Student Hearing

POLICY: 8350 Student Suspension and Expulsion

The Board will conduct a student hearing.

Suggested Resolution

"I move that the Saranac Board of Education

_____."

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, July 24, 2014 in the Library, Saranac Jr/Sr High School, 150 Pleasant Street, Saranac, MI.

Board President, Steve LaWarre called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Coulson, Doll, Hawkins, Lauer, LaWarre and Tutak-Hill.

Absent: Denny

Sarah Doll led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from regular meeting #1, dated July 23, 2014 were approved as written.

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS: Superintendent, Maury Geiger would like to delete Closed Session for Negotiations Planning from the agenda.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS: Ted VanKuiken, who is running for a school board position, introduced his self.

APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Coulson, supported by Tutak-Hill and unanimously approved that the Saranac Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.

- ✓ Bills Paid: \$859,432.57 from General Fund for June/July
- ✓ Accept Gifts Totaling: \$11,820.00
- ✓ Approve Amendments to the Jr/Sr High Student Handbook
- ✓ Approve Seat Time Waiver
- ✓ Hire Varsity Volleyball Coach – Amy Renwick
- ✓ Approve Headlee Rollback Proposal
- ✓ Approve School Loan Revolving Fund Annual Loan Application

TRACK PROJECT UPDATE: Mr. Geiger reported that he has received a Request for Bids on the track project from Thrun Law Firm. It is a very aggressive timeline. There was much discussion from everyone present, and it was decided to approve the proposal.

Motion by Hawkins, supported by Lauer and unanimously approved that the Saranac Board of Education waive past practice and approve the request for bids for the synthetic surface replacement of the track & field facilities as outlined.

BOARD POLICY REVIEW: The board reviewed the following policies. These will be brought back for further review at the next meeting.

Policy 1950: Board Member Conflicts of Interest, Ethics and Responsibilities

Policy 4511: Personal Internet Account Privacy – Students

Policy 4512: Personal Internet Account Privacy – Staff

Policy 5176: Criminal Justice Information Security
Policy 5202: Social Networking Conduct
Policy 5251: Personal Internet Account Privacy – Staff
Policy 7051: On-Line/Blended Learning Program
Policy 8285: Personal Internet Account Privacy – Students
Policy 8351: Suspensions or Expulsions Required by Statute
Policy 8595: Concussions and Athletic Activities
Policy 8675: Epinephrine Auto Injectors

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS: None

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Superintendent Geiger reported there were a couple of volunteers who cleaned up the courtyard at the elementary school, and would also like to have an inspection walk through of the facilities sometime in August if there is a board member who would be willing to help with this.

BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS: Board member, Dan Lauer, asked if there could be an update on Technology.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

APPROVE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES: The Executive Session minutes dated July 17, 2014 were approved as written.

OTHER: None

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, and no objection, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Hawkins
Secretary

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: International Travel Club

Brien Simpson, our International Travel Club Coordinator, has recently returned from another international trip with students and community members, and will be presenting information and activities from the trip.

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: MME Results

Many thanks to our staff and administration for all of their hard work and dedication this last year in continuing the focus on meeting the needs of all students. We are now able to release the MME results from our Spring assessments, and our building administrators and curriculum director will be sharing our successes at the board meeting.

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Hire Secondary Social Studies Teacher

Josh Leader set up an interview committee comprised of Glenn Fountain, Steve Miles, Connie Hamilton and Josh Leader. We received 25 applicants for the position and the team narrowed the selection down to interview 6 candidates. The team is recommending Katelyn Newcombe for the position and she is a Saranac alumni from the class of 2007. I had the opportunity to meet with Katelyn this week to talk more about the position and support the committee's recommendation upon a clear criminal history check.

Katelyn Newcombe

6220 W. Willow Hwy, Lansing, MI 48917 • 616.902.3305 • katelyn.newcombe@gmail.com

July 11, 2014

Ms. Beth Simpson, Principal
Saranac Jr/Sr High School
150 Pleasant Street
Saranac, MI 48881

Dear Ms. Simpson:

I am writing to express my keen interest in securing a position with Saranac Jr/Sr High School teaching Social Studies. I grew up in Saranac, though my name was then Katelyn Fedewa, and I know what a special school it is. It may be small, but expectations are high. I have recently completed Michigan State University's rigorous and rewarding Secondary Teacher Certification Program, and I just finished substituting long-term for the 2013-2014 school year at Grand Ledge High School. However, I am presently looking for a more permanent position. These endeavors have been truly transformative experiences that have fulfilled me with the confidence and wisdom that I will need to be successful as a teacher, and team member, for Saranac Community Schools. My background and certification in teaching English, Social Studies, and History make me a unique candidate.

During my teaching experiences at Grand Ledge High School, I have had the opportunity to teach a variety of subjects. I was able to teach English through a historical lens and U.S. History as a teacher of a class called American Studies, which was a class that combined English 11 and U.S. History. I was also able to teach an ACT English preparatory course called American English Usage. I was responsible for preparing students for the English ACT test. This school year has been especially instructive, as I have had the opportunity to work with Anita Archer. I am currently implementing many of her instructional strategies into my classroom. During my time at Grand Ledge, I have been responsible for creating engaging and effective lessons, implementing Common Core Standards in to the curriculum, and establishing a successful classroom management system. I have created a classroom where students feel secure and safe throughout the year, and I have been constantly adapting and accommodating my instruction to assist students with their individual needs. I am a reflective teacher, who is constantly learning and growing from my educational experiences.

Through my teaching at Grand Ledge, I have had the opportunity to work with a variety of learners. As an advocate for differentiated instruction, I attempt to engage all students. I have worked with students with special needs and have helped develop and enact numerous IEPs and 504s. I am a firm believer in having a fair classroom, which does not always mean equal instruction. Accommodations are key in achieving this balanced classroom.

It is with great personal excitement that I extend to you my interest for working with Saranac Community Schools. I am confident that my experiences demonstrate my commitment and passion for teaching. It would truly feel like coming home for me. I have been in many schools since leaving Saranac, so I am sincere in my belief in the education students receive at Saranac Jr/Sr High School. I am very interested in an interview, and I look forward to meeting with you. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Katelyn Newcombe
Enclosures

Katelyn Newcombe

katelyn.newcombe@gmail.com

6220 W. Willow Hwy, Lansing, MI 48917 • 616.902.3305 • newcombek.weebly.com

Education and Certification:

- Aug 2012 – April 2013 Michigan State University
Secondary Teaching Certification Program
Graduate Coursework: 12 Masters Credits
GPA: 4.0
Highly Qualified in History (CC), English (BA), and Social Studies (RX)
- Aug 2007 – May 2012 Michigan State University
Bachelor of Arts Degree: Major in History, Minor in English, Studies Endorsement
Dean's List: 7 Semesters
GPA: 3.65
- Aug 2003 – June 2007 Saranac High School
Valedictorian
President of National Honor Society
GPA: 3.89

Teaching Experience:

- April 2013 – June 2014 PESG Long-Term Substitute Teacher in the Grand Ledge Public School District
- Long-term substitute position teaching English 9 and American English Usage
 - Collaborated with colleagues to implement a new 9th grade curriculum that follows the Common Core Standards
 - Professional development with Anita Archer learning explicit instruction
 - Assisted case coordinators to accommodate a spectrum of students, specifically in developing and adhering to IEPs and 504s
- Aug 2012 – April 2013 Teaching Internship at Grand Ledge High School
- Created and taught American Studies instructional units, which is a block class that includes English 11 and U.S. History for 10th and 11th graders
 - Developed interdisciplinary curriculum by teaching U.S. History accompanied with literature of the time period being studied
 - Implemented a classroom management system based on the principles of Love and Logic
 - Differentiated instruction to assist with different students' needs
 - Utilized primary source documents to teach from multiple perspectives and a multicultural lens
 - Collaborated with colleagues to create common assessments and to implement the Common Core Standards into the 11th grade curriculum
 - Proctored the ACT and MME testing
- Oct 2011 – April 2012 Senior Year Placement at Haslett High School
- Implemented lessons for the students in a 9th grade U.S. history classroom
 - Worked with the mentor teacher and my fellow students of teaching to enhance lessons and to bring a multicultural lens to the classroom
 - Accommodated lessons for students with special needs

Aug 2010 – Dec. 2010

Junior Year Placement at Waverly Middle School

- Observed and aided teacher in a 7th grade English classroom

Aug 2009 – Dec 2009

Sophomore Year Placement at Pattengill Middle School

- Worked on an individual basis with English Language Learner students in 6th grade math classroom

Teaching-Related Volunteer Experience:

Sept 2011 – Jan 2012

GED Tutor, Gateway Community Services; Lansing, MI

- Through the Youth Workforce Development Program, I tutored students, ages 16-21, who did not graduate from high school and/or the homeless
- Assisted students in the subjects that appear on the GED (particularly writing, math, and science)

Awards and Memberships:

- Valedictorian Scholarship recipient, 2007
- President of National Honor Society at Saranac High School, 2006-2007
- Michigan Competitive Scholarship recipient, 2007-2012
- Member of Michigan State University's Avid Readers' Association, 2010-2011
- Member of Kappa Delta Pi, a professional education honor society, 2011-2012

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Hire Secondary Special Education Teacher

Beth Simpson set up an interview committee comprised Dana Beach, School Social Worker, Sara Serne, general education teacher, Carmen Brown, Jr/Sr high special education teacher and Beth Simpson. We received 13 applicants for the position and interviewed 4 candidates. The team is recommending Sarah Milbratz for the position and she will be a part of the GVSU internship program for a Masters in Learning Disabilities (LD). I will be meeting with Sarah this week to talk more about the position and support the committee's recommendation upon a clear criminal history check.

Sarah Milbratz

3100 Woodbridge Dr Se Apt 301, Kentwood MI 49512

lajoyes@mail.gvsu.edu

<http://sarahmilbratz.weebly.com/>

Objective: To obtain a teaching position in a special education setting where I can share my skills as a special education teacher.

Professional Experience:

Bushnell Elementary, Lowell School District, August 2013-December 2014

Student Teacher/Long-term substitute

- Prepared lesson plans for kindergarten learners in a general education setting
- Provided instruction for kindergarten students
- Worked as substitute teacher for this class, providing all lesson plans and instruction

Mulick Park Elementary, Grand Rapids Public School District, January 2013-June 2013

Student Teacher/Long-term paraprofessional

- Prepared lesson plans for 2nd and 3rd grade students in a self-contained classroom
- Worked as long-term substitute for 3rd and 4th grade students as a paraprofessional
- Provided lesson and unit plans for students in both classrooms

Cummings Elementary, Grandville School District, September 2012-December 2012

Teaching Assistant

- Prepared lesson plans for students in a resource room setting
- Observed mentor teacher and assisted her with daily execution of lessons

State of Michigan FFA Organization, 2011 to 2013

Assistant State Choral Conductor

- Prepared lesson plans for three day convention
- Taught dance and singing to high school students
- Conducted choir in several convention performances

Hastings High School Musicals, 2008 to present

Teaching Assistant/Choreographer

- Prepared dances and lesson plans for teaching dance to students
- Worked with general and special populations of students
- Assisted directors with teaching music and drama

Crestwood Middle School Musicals, 2010 to present

Teaching Assistant/Choreographer

- Prepared dances and lesson plans for teaching dance to students
- Worked with general and special populations of students
- Assisted directors with teaching music and drama

Education:

B.A.-Special Education, CI & LD
Grand Valley State University, Allendale,
MI

Degree completion: 2013

GPA 3.6

B.A.-Theatre Performance
Michigan State University, East Lansing MI
Degree completion: 2002 GPA: 3.4

References:

Marilyn McGraw, Kindergarten Teacher at Bushnell Elementary School
Telephone: (616)364-8845 Email: mmcgraw@lowel.k12.mi.us

Raechelle Huston, Special Education Teacher at Mulick Park Elementary
Telephone: (616)813-8734 Email: hustonr@grps.org

Patricia LaJoye, Music Teacher at Hastings High School
Telephone: (269)719-6145 Email: jpajoye@sbcglobal.net

Tricia Rickertt, English Teacher at Thornapple Kellogg High School
Telephone: (616)437-0269 Email: trickert@tkschools.org

Melissa Risk, Choral Conductor for Michigan State FFA Choir
Telephone: (269)377-4901 Email: Melissa_m_risk@yahoo.com

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Second Reading of new board policies

We will proceed with the second reading of the new board policies as required due to new legislative guidelines.

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Maury Geiger, Superintendent

SUBJECT: First Reading of changes to current board policies

We will proceed with reviewing the suggested changes to current board policies.