

Saranac Community Schools  
Board of Education  
Meeting #10

The workshop meeting of the Saranac Community Schools Board of Education was held on Thursday, December 5, 2013 in the Library, Saranac Jr/Sr High School, 150 Pleasant Street, Saranac, MI.

Board President, Steve LaWarre called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

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

Steve LaWarre led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**STUDENT HEARING:** The parents and student requested a closed hearing. Motion by Denny, supported by Lauer that the Saranac Board of Education go into Closed Session for the purpose of a student hearing at 6:31 p.m. returning to open session at 6:56 p.m. Yes Votes: Adgate, Coulson, Denny, Hawkins, Lauer, LaWarre & Tutak-Hill. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lauer, supported by Coulson that the Saranac Board of Education not expel the student. Yes Votes: Adgate, Coulson, Denny, Hawkins, Lauer, LaWarre & Tutak-Hill. Motion Carried.

**ADDITIONS & DELETIONS:** None

**COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:** None.

**STUDENT REPORT:** Ben Littlejohn, from Student Council, reported they are having a blood drive tomorrow, with 60 people signed up to give. Mock Rock is scheduled for December 20. Their food drive before Thanksgiving brought in 2,000 items.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE:** Elementary Co-Principal, Connie Hamilton, reported all students will be receiving a free bag of popcorn tomorrow from the "Popcorn Fairy". They held a "Turkey Trot" around their building before Thanksgiving. They gave away a couple of turkeys to students who did the most laps and who brought in the most canned goods. They will be having "Shop with a Cop". They select a few students for this good cause. On December 17 at 7 pm the 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be presenting a musical in the auditorium led by music teacher, Pam Masterson. They are in the process of planning their next Professional Development Day on February 17.

Jr/Sr High Co-Principal, Beth Simpson, reported the Jr/Sr high staff spent time Monday (during the late start) developing a plan to better prepare students for ACT/MME testing. A plan for practice testing and scoring incentives was discussed for students. These plans will be finalized in the next couple of weeks. They are trying out a new alert system for Snow Days to send out to their parent group.

Jr/Sr High Co-Principal, Josh Leader, wanted to thank the parents of the Jr/Sr high school for dropping off weekly goodies to show appreciation and support to our staff. 8th

Graders visited Heartlands Institute of Technology in Ionia on December 4th. This tour provided them with an overview of available programs as they begin planning for high school. Thank you to Spencer Terpstra for arranging this tour. Senior, Sydnie Cooper, will sign her letter of intent next Friday, December 13th, to play golf for Spring Arbor University. We will be interviewing for the head varsity football coaching position next Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. We have four applicants that we will be interviewing.

**S.E.A. GRIEVANCE APPEAL:** The Board responded to a grievance from S.E.A. member Mike McGee along with Ervin Pratt from the M.E.A. Mr. Pratt presented information regarding the grievance. The board read through the packet of information and Superintendent Geiger presented reasons why it had been disapproved and reached the board level, which is attached.

Upon review of this information the Saranac Board of Education made a motion by Coulson, supported by Adgate and unanimously approved that the Saranac Board of Education deny the grievance as presented by the Saranac Education Association for the reasons presented by the Superintendent.

**S.E.S.A. LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING AGREEMENT #4:** Superintendent Geiger met with the S.E.S.A. negotiation team of Chris Coulson, Brent Denny and Judy Tutak-Hill and developed a letter of understanding regarding the district pre-funding the Health Savings Account (H.S.A.) for the S.E.S.A. employees who receive medical health insurance coverage. This will be brought back at the December 19 for action.

**SCHOOL BOARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:** The Board has been reviewing the board operating procedures manual and will continue to review this document until it is completed and board approved.

**STUDENT ENROLLMENT:** Superintendent Geiger reported the audited numbers from October 2, 2013 student count was 1,056.60. The amount that was budgeted was 1,058. Mr. Geiger will keep the board up to date on enrollment numbers as the board begins to look at their first budget amendment in January, and start to look at the budget for the 2014-15 school year.

**COMMENTS FROM GUESTS:** None

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Superintendent Geiger reported that there will be a Promise Committee Meeting next week. There is a Technology Enhancement Millage meeting next Wednesday at 6 pm located at the ISD.

Mr. Geiger requested to move the January 23 meeting to January 16. Mr. Geiger will be attending a conference on January 23.

**BOARD REQUESTS/REPORTS:** Board member Steve LaWarre reviewed some information he received at the Board President's Workshop regarding the Organizational Meeting and nomination and election of officers to the board.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The board Christmas Party will be following the December 19 meeting at Judy Tutak-Hill's. The board meeting will start at 6 pm.

**OTHER:** Mr. Geiger reported that we will need to have a student hearing on Monday, December 9.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, and no objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Adgate  
Secretary