

**ISOA Executive Board Meeting
October 4, 2023
Minutes**

Present

Holt David Hornak
Ingham ISD Jason Mellema
Ingham ISD Lori Zajac
Lansing Nino Rodriguez
Okemos Jayme Taylor
Waverly Alicia Guevara Warren
Williamston Sarah Belanger

Absent

Dansville Mike Kapp
East Lansing TBA
Haslett Cammy Wheeler
Holt Rob Halgren
Leslie Dominic Ambroggio
Mason Michael Kelly
Stockbridge Keven Numinen
Webberville Amy Coe

Jamie Vollmer Recap

Dr. David Hornak and Jason Mellema led discussion on the recent Jamie Vollmer presentation and insights from those that attended:

- Support of the Five Ss from Vollmer–
 - Start Now
 - Shift your attention to the positive.
 - Stop badmouthing one another in public.
 - Share positive comments about the community and schools with social networks.
 - Sustain the efforts.
- Education needs to improve, but improving is not about tearing education apart.
 - Communities need to be involved.
 - The school calendar has held constant with Labor Day to Memorial Day which was created for an industrial society that does not exist anymore.
- It was impactful for the business community to hear at the chamber lunch.
 - Good partnership with the Lansing Chamber
 - Transformation of the school culture involves everyone.
- Emails/messaging that went out to promote the event:
 - Should be directed more to the community. The people who were there were the ones who already agreed with the message (Holt educator event).
 - Majority of taxpayers do not have kids in the school district – messaging needs to include them too.
 - Media partners need to be engaged.
 - Tell the story of the “why” - this is why you need to be there statements.
 - Your schools matter to you.
 - Economic impact of succeeding schools – taxable values, high price of homes, safer environment.
 - Return on investment as every \$1 spent on public education returns \$7 to the community.

Ingham School Officers Association

- Challenge the ISOA to collect the statistics Mr. Vollmer referenced in his presentation and start publishing the positive facts about our schools:
 - Buses travel how many miles per day and safely deliver kids every day.
 - Number of meals served per day – the weekend meals, summer meals.
 - Tell the story or someone else will - Points of Pride across the service area.
 - Tell the Ingham County story.
 - Create Points of Pride that all districts can share.
 - Create a monthly theme that is pushed out supporting our schools.
 - Continue to create relationships with the locate Chambers.
- Get more involvement from the community.
 - Get involvement from the media on the front end.
 - Media anchors involvement in the community in which they live.
 - Parents connected after elementary school.
 - Parent volunteers in the elementary classroom, not as much in MS/HS
 - They need to understand the importance of the message and why they need to pay attention to it.
 - Hitting “pain points” in the message – here is the issue and how to address it.
 - Programs with the business community – how many do we have right now?
 - Commitment to helping students.
 - Hiring the students for the summer.
 - Internships for students
 - Are our businesses in the buildings?
 - Transformation of the school culture
 - Not doing what we did 20 years ago.
 - Transforming parent involvement - get them involved in new ways.
 - Show how we welcome parents – parents are not asked to engage in MS/HS
 - Teachers motivate the students; the students motivate the parents.
 - Create small communities within the districts.
 - Involve people within the community who we know will vote but do not necessarily have students in the district.
 - Involvement vs engagement – how do we get them engaged?
- Positive feedback from the sponsors and chamber following the event.
 - Suggestion to hold an annual event – speaker brought in to talk about an education topic.
 - Members of ISOA and chamber working together to move ideas forward to co-own ideas.
 - Utilize the School Business Alliance
 - The Lansing Promise – groups meet every month.

Superintendents’ Round Table Update

David Hornak, Holt Public Schools Superintendent, provided an update from the September 27 superintendent meeting:

- United Way Presentation – ALICE – Asset Limited Income Constraint Employed – review of programs offered by the United Way

Ingham School Officers Association

- Handle with Care – Sheriff Wriggelsworth – Program between law enforcement and districts to assist students who have been involved in traumatic events outside of the school day.
- 911 Center Director – Barb Davidson – Discussion on legislation requiring silent alarms in every school building and building maps made available for law enforcement.
- Special Education update.
- Information on a new hiring platform from Red Rover.
- Principal for a Day event in October. Bringing in legislators and business leaders to experience a “day in the life” of a building principal.
- October Round Table meeting will include a debrief of the shooting hoax at Okemos High School.

District Updates

- **Lansing**
Held a Hall of Fame ceremony at all three high schools and had great community engagement. Magic Johnson was involved via a link from LA. The district had sixteen applicants for the open board seat. A new board member has been selected. Recently recognized Spanish Heritage Month in cooperation with the city. Approved a 4-year contract with the teachers.
- **Okemos**
Implementing MTSS strategies to increase student growth. Looking at attendance and discipline data to identify and address student trends. The board voted to join the social media lawsuit. Continued partnership with Meridian Township as work continues on the location of the Meridian Community Center currently housed within the district. Bond work with new Chippewa School which will break ground next summer. Seven National Merit finalists. Voter registration event was held within the school. Superintendent Hood, in collaboration with Christman, participated in a presentation at the MASA conference focused on community engagement with bond work.
- **Ingham ISD**
A new board member was appointed. Becky Ames from Dansville will take her seat in October. The building project for North Star School was completed. North Star houses the ISD programs for emotional impaired students (Formerly called the Secondary Learning Center and Evergreen).
- **Williamston**
Hosted community event at the recent football game thanking the first responders who assisted after the recent tornado. Currently planning a volleyball game in support of three staff members in treatment for breast cancer. Fifth grade camp was held at Camp PaWaPi in Williamston. The week is comprised of team building activities for the students. The district is discussing a future bond initiative.

Upcoming Meetings

- **November 1, 2023** – (In person) Tour of Heartwood and North Star School on the ISD campus
- **December 6, 2023** - Brad Banasik, MASB Legal Counsel, Changes to Prohibitive Subjects
- **February 7, 2024** - Jennifer Smith, MASB Government Relations, Legislative Update
- **March 6, 2024** – TBA
- **May 1, 2024** - Ingham ISD Budget Update