

**ISOA Executive Board Meeting  
March 3, 2021  
Minutes**

**Present**

East Lansing	Monica Fink	Lansing	Nino Rodriguez
Leslie	Mary Crowl	Stockbridge	Keven Numinen
Mason	Michael Kelly	Williamston	Jeff West
Okemos	Dean Bolton	Williamston	Sarah Belanger
Webberville	Amy Coe	Waverly	Mary Ann Martin
Haslett	Cammy Wheeler		
Holt	Rob Halgren	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	
Ingham ISD	John Wolenberg	Dansville	Mike Kapp
Ingham ISD	Jason Mellema		

**Haptix Studio Tour** James Curran, *Great Lakes Reality Labs*

James Curran discussed the new Haptix Studio that was built at the Lansing School District with funds from the Marshall Plan. The studio is the largest motion capture studio between New York and LA and the only one in the country focused on student training. The programs being developed will use virtual reality (VR) content for educating students in career exploration, workforce development and special education classroom content in the Ingham, Clinton, Eaton, and Shiawassee area.

Studio Tour: <https://michigancreative.wistia.com/medias/d21ts6zyra>

Examples of using the VR technology with students include teaching a special education student activities of daily living (cooking, putting away groceries), training CTE students in welding/construction/law enforcement in addition to introducing students to various career fields. This allows students to go through different scenarios without real world consequences. They are also looking to not only train via sight and sound but are working to include smell into the VR as the multi-sensory aspect improves retention over time.

The Marshall Plan for Talent Innovation Grant was introduced in 2018 and saw more than \$80 million in grants requested to revolutionize the state’s talent pipeline and fill 811,000-plus career openings through 2024. The studio is located on the Lansing School District campus but is available to all districts within the four-county region.

Promoting the program – The studio is working with the four regional ISD’s to develop programming for students.

Ingham ISD received VR sets/computers in February for student use but Covid put a hold on the availability of the equipment for general use.

# Ingham School Officers Association

## Superintendents' Round Table - February Update – Jason Mellema, Ingham ISD

- Linda Vail gave an update on the Covid vaccination process.
- All district staff within the Ingham ISD service area have had the opportunity to be vaccinated with at least one dose and most have completed both. Fourteen days after the second vaccination staff do not have to quarantine if exposed to a positive Covid case.
- Two superintendent sub-committees - Intervention Committee and the Calendar Committee met to address student needs post-pandemic:
  - All districts are creating plans for summer school - waiting for the ESSER funding from the state to assist with program costs.
  - Discussion on the calendar and barriers to the traditional way calendars have been set up.
  - Offering a “jump start” in August by bringing students back a few weeks earlier than the traditional end of August start.
  - MiStrategyBank – Depository of top strategies for educators. A team at the ISD is vetting K-12 strategies for district ease of use.
- Michele Strasz from CapCAN discussed district college data and the virtual college fair on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Antigen testing kits are available to all districts. The tests can be used as a screening process for students and staff. The ISD is the clearinghouse for the tests – superintendents were sent information.
- The February meeting ended with a combined meeting of the superintendents and business leaders from the Lansing Chamber. The goal of the meeting was to begin the discussions of how education and business can work together to create opportunities for students/families post-pandemic.

### District Discussion

Okemos	Starting hybrid on Monday, March 8 with 40% of students. Thanks to the ISD for all the help with the vaccination process.
ISD	The ISD is in the planning stages for construction at Heartwood School and the Wilson Talent Center. Construction is set to begin the summer of 2022.
Lansing	Interviews have started for the new superintendent. Students will start back on Monday, March 22 with afternoon sessions on M/T/Th/F. Students will attend virtually in the AM. Wednesdays will be PD day and cleaning buildings.
Holt	The district will start with a hybrid plan on Monday, March 15. The board approved the ballot language for a May vote. The \$148 million bond would build two new elementary schools and make improvements to others. It would be a decrease in the current millage rate.
Webberville	The elementary students moved to five days a week on Monday, March 1. Only fifteen elementary students are staying virtual. MS/HS students are back four days a week with Wednesdays as virtual. MS students have returned in large numbers while a smaller number of HS students have returned. The elementary has one dedicated virtual teacher and the MS/HS teachers are doing virtual and in-person instruction.

# Ingham School Officers Association

- Leslie 70-75% of students are face-to-face. Using the rapid antigen tests. The district is doing well and thankful that staff is vaccinated. They will go for a bond this fall with a goal to upgrade classrooms and redo entrances.
- East Lansing Students with additional needs have been in the building for in-person instruction. This week is orientation for students who will return to face-to-face. The district is piloting the rapid antigen testing and a hired 12-person team who will test around the district - staff and secondary students. The Board has signed a resolution to ask the state to allow in-person board meetings.
- Mason Students who were identified as needing extra assistance have been in the buildings. The district continues to offer more opportunities for in-person instruction, with some families choosing to stay virtual. Conducting a parent survey to understand how many families who have been chosen to return would be comfortable with relaxing the social distancing requirements so they could increase students. 60% of students are back part-time with 40% staying remote. Working on addressing the needs of all students.
- Williamston The start of the second semester in January brought the MS/HS students back to the classroom. MS/HS is using a block schedule with a half-day from 11-3:00pm. The remote students have two-way cameras in the classroom to participate with peers and teachers. The elementary students are five days a week all day with lunch in the classroom. 65% of students are attending in person with overall attendance for all students at 95-97% daily. Thanks to all administrators, staff, and athletic directors for all they do.
- Haslett Things are going well with the hybrid plan in Haslett. The community is continuing to push for more in-person instruction. Most of the staff have received their second vaccination.
- Waverly Beginning of this week the elementary students returned to in-person instruction with 50% of students back and 50% staying remote. Grades 5-12 will start mid-April, after spring break. The district will have a ballot issue this spring with an eye on upgrades to each building and the bus garage.

## **Next Meeting**

- May 5, 2021 Budget discussion and goals/topics for 2021-2022 meetings.