

**ISOA Executive Board Meeting
October 1, 2025
Minutes**

Present

East Lansing	Abbie Tykocki
Ingham ISD	Jason Mellema
Ingham ISD	John Wolenberg
Lansing	Deyanira Nevarea Martinez
Mason	Lacy Harding
Okemos	Leeni Shrestha
Stockbridge	Carrie Graham
Williamston	Sarah Belanger

Absent

Dansville	Mike Kapp
Leslie	Eric Isham
Haslett	Amy Clark
Holt	Rob Halgren
Waverly	Alicia Guevara
Webberville	Joshua Rockey

Mental Health Update

Dr. Noelle Duvall, Director, Mental Health and Wellness, Ingham ISD – Reviewed the mental health services provided to districts.

Program goals are to expand and enhance mental health support for general education K-12 students. The services include individual/family therapy, parent support, group therapy and connection to community resources.

Review of the program referrals show 134 referrals in 2020-21 compared to last year when the referrals reached 698. The increase in referrals shows the continued need for the service to address issues such as student anxiety/depression, trauma, suicidal ideation, disruptive behavior.

Professional Development for District Staff

- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- PREPaRE – Crisis Prevention and Intervention
- QPR – Suicide Prevention – Question, Persuade, Refer
- UPLIFT – Trauma informed system
- Internship Program – training the next generation of mental health workers

Challenges

- Parent Consent – working on the consent process to get the student services in a timely way. Once there is consent, the process can move quickly.
- Finance – challenge to get legislators to understand the value of mental health services.
- Stigma of Mental Health – talking with parents and putting them at ease, answer questions.
- Waitlist – if there is a long waitlist, the student can be referred to a community source

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Superintendents' Round Table Update

Andrew Smith, Webberville Community Schools Superintendent, provided discussion highlights from the September Superintendents' Round Table Retreat including:

- Cell Phone Bans – Discussion on the positive changes seen on student interaction and engagement after banning cell phones.
- Safety Update – The law now requires common language in district Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) by the Fall of 2026. Superintendents are looking to work together to have common language for ease of understanding in an emergency situation.
- 25e Discussion – Unanimously voted to support the state aid following the student when they transfer districts within the Ingham ISD service area after count day.
- Budget letter to legislators – Agreement on a collaborative letter from Shiawassee, Ingham, Eaton and Clinton to be sent to legislators and families reiterating the need for a school budget. Districts are now into the fourth month of the school year and still operating without a budget.
- Inclement Weather Policy – review of the Ingham ISD inclement weather policy.
- 31N Grant – Mental Health supports
- Principal PD Calendar – Discussion on how Superintendents can support and be involved in professional development for principals.

Budget Update

- The House and Senate approved a 7-day general fund supplemental to keep state government operational until October 8th. Although this did not include school aid, current boilerplate will remain in effect.
- The legislature still needs to pass the policy bills related to new revenue, mainly increasing the wholesale tax on marijuana and “decoupling” a corporate investment deduction from federal law.
- Need to pass the General Fund Omnibus and the School Budget. Legislators have been saying \$10,050 per pupil, \$300m for 31aa and continuation of free school breakfast and lunch but not set in stone.

District Updates

Lansing	MSTEP scores keep improving, The new Mt. Hope School opened at the beginning of the school year. The district is in good shape financially. Free lunch extended for the school year.
Okemos	Hoax swatting incident this week but it was handled quickly by law enforcement and district staff. Encouraging the community to call legislators regarding the budget stalemate. Will be charging for school meals due to the budget. Working on the district strategic plan.
East Lansing	Construction work from the safety bond continues on the high school entrance and the administration building. The district will fund school meals at this time. Officers did a sweep of the buildings in collaboration with Okemos hoax swatting. The district passed a budget resolution encouraging the legislature to get a budget done.

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- Mason Mason also passed a budget resolution aimed at the legislature and the budget stalemate. There will be an upcoming bond on the November ballot. The Board is reviewing the district policy related to memorials. Inclusion week is coming up. Mason will pay for lunches through October.
- Stockbridge The district will continue to offer free meals, but it will end next week without a state budget. Stockbridge will have a bond initiative on the November ballot. Shout out to the community - September 19 was homecoming and due to a scheduling issue, there were no officials for the football game until 9:30pm. The community showed up and supported the team, even with the late start.
- Ingham ISD A reminder that the ISOA meeting in November will be in person at The Beekman Center in Lansing. Encourage all ISOA board members to attend in preparation for a May bond vote to improve services for students.
- Williamston The district will provide free meals until the end of the week. HS received Best High School Award for the 7th year in a row from US News and Report. New tennis courts are completed. The student led “Be Nice” week was a success. High school teacher Ann Wade was selected as a Fulbright Scholarship winner.