

**ISOA Executive Board Meeting
September 6, 2023
Minutes**

Present

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|--------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Dansville | Mike Kapp | Stockbridge | Keven Numinen |
| East Lansing | Monica Fink | Waverly | Alicia Guevara Warren |
| Haslett | Cammy Wheeler | Williamston | Sarah Belanger |
| Holt | Rob Halgren | | |
| Ingham ISD | Jason Mellema | <u>Absent</u> | |
| Ingham ISD | John Wolenberg | Leslie | Dominic Ambroggio |
| Lansing | Nino Rodriguez | Mason | Michael Kelly |
| Okemos | Jayne Taylor | Webberville | Amy Coe |

MASB Legislative Update

Jennifer Smith, MASB Director of Government Relations, gave an update on legislative and budget issues including:

- Passed the budget with increased funding for mental health and school safety.
- Funding for Grow your Own programs and student teacher stipends.
- Scholarships for college students in teaching preparation programs.
- Funding for At Risk and Special Ed at 100%
- Funding for ELL increased.
- Money towards MPSERS to pay down the debt.
- GSRP eligibility increased from 250% to 300% – increases slots and classrooms.
- Cyber charter funding kept at the same level as last year.
- Free meals for all students and money to forgive lunch debt.

No progress on:

- Transparency of education management for charter schools
- Designation of the School Aid Fund for Pre-K to grade twelve only – not allow SAF money to go toward private schools and colleges.

Public Employment Relations Act (PERA)

- Prohibited items repealed – teacher placement, layoffs/recall, evaluation, discipline among things that now can be part of the bargaining process.
- Changes won't go into effect until 90 days after [Sine Die](#) – denied immediate effect by Republicans
- PERA changes will be in effect during the next bargaining session.

There is talk of an early Sine Die so bills go into effect earlier. Two Democratic representatives are in mayoral elections and if they win, the chamber will be 50/50 and will need Republican support to move anything forward. Due to moving the presidential primary to February, rumor is they will adjourn on November 9 (Sine Die) so bills will go into effect in early February.

Ingham School Officers Association

Happening Now:

- Removing the ban on a Pre-Labor Day start and no school on the Friday of Labor Day weekend (80+ % of MI districts get a waiver and start before Labor Day). Start dates would be locally determined going forward.
- SB 280 – Health policy that will require a dental screening before kindergarten enrollment. MASB has opposed the requirement due to access/affordability concerns. In addition, it could go into effect in February and Round-up is in March – families will not know it is a requirement. Argument to expand the mobile dentist program rather than mandate it. Will be on the floor this month – effect in February.
- SB 395 – Modifying teacher and administrator evaluations. Superintendent *shall* be evaluated in even number years – but wording also says annual evaluation, so conflicting language. Removed all required student growth - may see some level of growth but not mandated. Changed from four levels to three. If ineffective for two years (instead of three) in a row, can go through grievance process. Ineffective for three years in a row could mean dismissal. If marked effective three years in a row, would not have to be evaluated every year. The timing of evaluations is back to being negotiated.
- Changes to the requirement that retired school district staff sit out nine months before working back in a district. Looking at allowing a retiree to return and earn \$10,100 each calendar year. (Jan-Dec) without penalty to retirement benefits. At the end of nine months, the cap is gone, and they can return and still retain retirement benefits. The cap may go as high as 20K – in committee next week.
- Special Education – SE funding at 100% means that districts get the full per-pupil funding like GE students. There is still 6-8 million dollars of unfunded costs for SE, so districts are using GE dollars for students with special needs. The federal government says they fund SE 40% and in reality, it is at 13% - fighting to fully fund IDEA and the actual cost of educating SE students.
- Evaluations – This will change with PERA. Discipline is now a negotiated subject. Placement is another area – placing teachers for the best fit students, now teachers will be able to pick their placements. Will negotiate how often districts can evaluate a teacher. Still must follow the law – cannot negotiate less than what the law says. There may be pieces that stay in the law that give parameters.
- Current contracts – PERA will not change current contracts. Items now open to negotiation will go into effect when current contracts are up for renewal.

Superintendents' Round Table Update

Dori Leyko, East Lansing Public Schools Superintendent, provided an update from the August 4 superintendent meeting:

- Book Study Ideas – Superintendents shared leadership books that have inspired them and have been used for book studies in their district.
- Jamie Vollmer – Author of “Schools Cannot Do it Alone” - Presentation will be on October 2 in Holt. 5:30 reception and 6:30 presentation.

Ingham School Officers Association

- Principal for a Day – Business leaders and Legislators will be invited to shadow principals for a day to experience the reality of being a school leader.
- Safety Roundtable – Superintendents met with law enforcement to discuss opportunities to work together on security issues.
- Talent Together – Michigan apprenticeship program to bring current school staff into the teaching profession. First cohort has started.
- School Finance Research Foundation – The first study ever done in Michigan to assess the condition of all school facilities.
- Legislative Discussion – Representative Brixie, Dievendorf and Hope were in attendance to discuss legislative issues.

The East Lansing BOE passed a resolution regarding gun safety and gun storage. The resolution can be shared if other districts are interested.

District Updates

Keven (Stockbridge) and Mike (Dansville) had to leave early due to prior work commitments.

Williamston Great Opening day with teachers and staff – keynote speaker was Chase Mielke, an educator focusing on preventing teacher burnout and increasing student engagement. NWA testing has started. Community night was held to thank first responders for their work following the tornado. Homecoming is September 22.

Lansing The new Mt Hope school is underway. It will be built in the same neighborhood, but not the same location. The district approved a five-year contract with the teachers. The first day of school went well. Sexton High School football team has been on a winning streak.

Waverly The bond work continues across the district. The new East Intermediate School is open. The Board, including several new board members, participated in PD with MASB. Safety training with Jason Russell from SEC was conducted – fantastic training with active training drill. The district has six new GSRP classrooms. Great first day of school.

Okemos The bond work is ongoing – the athletic complex is complete. The soccer field is complete, in addition to secure vestibules at the elementary schools and other urgent needs. Next year will start the work on two new middle schools. The district is in the process of transitioning to Thrun board policies. The Board has given the ok on changing school start times. The board approved the addition of a security manager. Protect the Pack – safety related district wide events.

Holt The district held a summer graduation ceremony for those students who completed credits over the summer and earned their diploma. They have been doing this event for several years and it is well received. Bond work continues, schools are open while some projects still need to be finished. Phase two bond work will include replacing Dimondale Elementary School. It is Homecoming week in Holt.

Ingham School Officers Association

- Haslett Positive start to the school year. The Board will appoint a school board member as a current member moved out of state. The Board held a mid-August meeting with administrators to discuss work done on the administrative retreat and book studies.
- Ingham ISD The district opened North Star School. The school is for the former Secondary Learning Center and Evergreen students. Due to a board resignation, member moved out of state, the BOE will be appointing a new school board member in September.
- East Lansing Ginger Johnston and Brennan Ford won the Sparty award for their yearbook theme of “Timeless” at the four-day Michigan Interscholastic Press Association Journalism camp this summer. The Sparty award is the highest award you can get at MIPA. 150-200 students attended the eight sections of MIPA camp and one group per section received a Sparty Award. Communities in Schools (CIS) and TechSmith collected five hundred backpacks with supplies for distribution. All building administrators and administrative assistants participated in training on De-escalation Strategies and Controlled Entry Procedures.

Jamie Vollmer Presentation

An information flyer was emailed to all ISOA members. Please continue to share the information and encourage board members, school staff and community members to attend. ISOA is one of the sponsors for this community event. Detailed information can be found on the [Ingham ISD website](#).

Monday, October 2 - Holt High School Auditorium

- 5:30-6:30 pm Reception with Jamie Vollmer
- 6:30-7:30 pm Keynote Presentation

RSVPs are requested for an accurate count for food. Use the RSVP link, or contact Heidi Pierce at 517.676.1051 or heidi.pierce@inghamisd.org

Upcoming Meetings

- October 4, 2023
- November 1, 2023
- December 6, 2023
- February 7, 2024
- March 6, 2024
- May 1, 2024