

**ISOA Executive Board Meeting
March 2, 2022
Minutes**

Present

Dansville Jason Mellema (Interim)
East Lansing Monica Fink
Holt Rob Halgren
Ingham ISD John Wolenberg
Lansing Nino Rodriguez
Webberville Amy Coe
Williamston Sarah Belanger

Absent

Dansville Mike Kapp
Haslett Cammy Wheeler
Ingham ISD Nancy Stanley
Leslie Mary Crowl
Mason Michael Kelly
Okemos Melanie Lynn
Stockbridge Keven Numinen
Waverly Mary Ann Martin

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am by Jason Mellema

Be Smart 4 Kids – Gun Safety

Katie See – Greater Lansing Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense (GLAMS)
Eric Gaines – Local GLAMS Leader

Be Smart focuses on the importance of prevention and secure storage of firearms in our homes, precisely because this can save lives in and outside of our schools: reducing teen suicides and unintentional shootings. 80% of guns used in school shootings come from the home or from a friend and 18,000 children are killed or injured in gun violence each year.

The Be Smart program is something that has been adopted by school districts including a Resolution on Safe Storage. School Districts can utilize the Be Smart program in a variety of ways: through posts on school websites, through materials sent home, and as a part of regular safety and security programs.

The Be Smart 4 Kids presentation can be presented to school boards or other parent groups. The presentation is 20-25 minutes and is an adult presentation as it focuses on safe storage of weapons.

- S Secure all guns in homes and vehicles, keeping them stored, locked and separate from ammunition
- M Model responsible behaviors around guns
- A Ask others (at playdates, parties, etc.) about the presence of unsecured firearms in homes your children visit
- R Recognize the risk that teens face for suicide and their greater vulnerability when they have access to guns
- T Tell others about gun safety and Be Smart. This is a completely non-political program, designed to focus on our responsibility as adults to keep kids safe and to recognize the ways in which they might be at risk.

Ingham School Officers Association

Districts interested in getting more information about a presentation can contact:

Katie See - katieosullivansee@gmail.com or 517.256.0694

Eric Gaine – gaineric@gmail.com

Superintendents' Round Table Update

Brian Friddle, Stockbridge Community Schools Superintendent, gave an update on the issues discussed during the February Superintendents' Round Table meeting:

- A reminder that March is Reading Month
- Masking – Discussion on district plans for masking or lifting the requirement
- Special Education – Continued discussion on SE compliance issues
- Substitute Rates – In the face of a continued substitute shortage, districts are paying anywhere from \$100-\$200 per hour. It varies across the county.
- ISOA Legislative Letter – Superintendents discussed the collaborate letter sent to legislators regarding flexibility with the 75% attendance rule.
- Grants – Discussion on the availability of state and federal funding

District Updates

- Lansing The ISOA collaborative letter requesting flexibility with the 75% attendance rule was shared with the board. The district will have a 130-million-dollar bond vote on May 3. The board held a retreat and discussed the evaluation of the superintendent, student growth, and updating the strategic plan.
- Webberville Recently had a board member resign – a new member has been appointed. The district is reevaluating their membership in their current athletic league and considering options, which includes moving to another league or becoming an independent district.
- Ingham ISD WTC recently hosted a successful SkillsUSA regional competition with several students moving on to the next level of competition. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. The WTC Wall of Fame and Scholarship Dinner will be held on March 15 at the Ingham County Fair Grounds. Ingham ISD is looking into developing a teacher cadet program at the WTC. The program would prepare students to become teachers and early childhood educators.
- Holt Holt held the opening bids for Phase 1 of the bond construction project. The district continues focused DEI work for students and teachers. It is Black Lives Matter in School Week in Holt.
- East Lansing Kindergarten information night on February 23. The district will be interviewing for a Director of HR and a high school principal. The district held several events in recognition of Black History Month including; Robert L Green spoke at Green Elementary, the Black Student Union had interviews with Ernest Green, read Amanda Gorman's book *Change Sings*, and held a My Black is Excellent event at the high school. The Board voted to extend the mask mandate until two weeks after spring break and approved the MASB 75% attendance resolution.

Ingham School Officers Association

Williamston Choir took 1st division rating and qualified for state. High school student won a 2022 NSCDA congressional essay contest. High school teacher honored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as teacher of the year and will be a state finalist. Won a Michigan Science Teacher grant at the high school. Teacher Ann Wade earned National Board Certification. Williamston and Haslett did a “Be Nice” basketball event together which promoted a focus on mental health and seeking care if needed. Due to work restrictions, Jeff West had to resign from the WCS board and in turn, the IOSA board.

Stockbridge The district has been focusing on the reengagement of students after the pandemic. What they originally thought would take months has turned into a goal all year but the are continuing to make strides in returning to normal. The elementary had its first assembly in two years. The district is not seeing an uptick in positive rates without the masks but will continue to monitor. A sportsmanship initiative is being rolled out with athletics. Kindergarten Round-up will be in March. Working on DEI and preparing staff to engage. Field trips will be starting again.

Dansville The board has selected a candidate for the superintendent position and will be offering a contract and hopefully have someone in place by the end of March.

2021-22 Meeting Schedule

August 11, 2021

September 1, 2021

October 6, 2021

November 3, 2021

December 1, 2021

January 2022 – No Meeting

February 2, 2022

March 2, 2022

April 2022 – No Meeting

May 4, 2022