



**Member Matters: Open Forum
Chat Log
Oct. 19, 2021**

- 12:09:30 From Janice Van Gasse : What is the process for recall?
- 12:11:18 From Justin Barnaby : <https://www.masb.org/the-basics-of-recall.aspx>
- 12:11:40 From Howard Baron-Bloomfield Hills : The Pennsylvania School Board Association has withdrawn from NSBA. Have you heard of other state SBA's doing the same thing? Can you talk to why states are withdrawing and what NSBA is going to do, if anything, about it?
- 12:13:01 From Barb Anness : Myself and two other board trustees are currently being targeted for a recall. The petitioner has attempted this five (!) time unsuccessfully.
- 12:14:08 From Colleen Burton : In Wayne County there is a mask mandate that was issued by the Wayne County Health Department, and applies to all public and private educational institutions. The language states that all persons - students, staff, vendors, and visitors, must wear a mask inside of any educational institution. Are we correct that all audience members are therefore required to wear a mask? It seems to us that this is a requirement.
- 12:17:08 From Dawn Corporan : For the state of Michigan what is the hierarchy level for school districts?
- 12:17:43 From Don Wotruba : Dawn, what do you mean by hierarchy.
- 12:17:46 From Justin Barnaby : This is exactly the problem when the State passes the buck down public health decisions to local school boards
- 12:19:19 From Dawn Corporan : Will that apply for board members to mandate vaccines?
- 12:19:43 From Don Wotruba : School board members are not employees of the district so it should not impact them
- 12:19:46 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Do you mean if WE have to be vaccinated?
- 12:23:34 From Barb Anness : Shifting the focus future and what school boards should be doing in terms of planning: what's the position of the MASB on the environmental impact

of school district and do you have a position on the importance of school districts addressing it, in terms of policy (to reduce their carbon footprint), curriculum, etc?

12:24:23 From Barb Anness : Also, have any other MI school boards drafted a climate action plan and if so, please share.

12:25:44 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Ann Arbor has a sustainability committee (w/community members)to create a policy and plan.

12:26:40 From Barb Anness : Thanks, Susan Baskett. Is it accessible online for viewing? Has it been presented to the school and community-wide?

12:27:25 From Howard Baron-Bloomfield Hills : Is MASB considering withdrawing from NSBA?

12:27:34 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : No, it's still in the crafting stage. Covid got in the way of progress. Probably won't be available until Spring.

12:30:12 From Jennifer Smith : also a resolution encouraging having buildings LEED certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)

12:30:57 From Howard Baron-Bloomfield Hills : Electric buses!

12:30:57 From Barb Anness : Thanks, Don. I'll look for that. Agree that curriculum is a local issue but would love to see MASB take the lead in helping districts craft something for this. The Aspen Institute has: <https://k12climateaction.org>

12:31:26 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : We have electric buses, too!

12:31:33 From Barb Anness : Thank you, Jenn!

12:31:34 From Nick Reichenbach : Virtual flexibility: I don't want to get caught assuming 2022-23 will be 'normal'. Will MASB continue to press for flexibility for virtual counts as was amended by legislature in 2020-21? The revert in the school bill as it related to families going virtual was painful and unnecessary.

12:31:57 From Barb Anness : Great question, Nick.

12:31:59 From Stan Miller : Mona Shores has a (non-NEOLA) policy under Facilities and Operations that says, "The Board intends that the educational program be fully supported by suitable facilities. The District will endeavor to utilize energy-efficient resources whenever possible and practical, as well as conduct operations in an environmentally-conscious and responsible manner."

12:32:01 From Don Myers : I have not seen anything from NEOLA for environment

12:32:45 From De'Shondria Bedenfield :
<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2021-2022/billanalysis/Senate/pdf/2021-SFA-0664-F.pdf>

12:33:19 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Thank you, De'Shondria!

12:34:04 From Dawn Corporan : Can essay funds be used for bomb sniffing bogs?

12:34:05 From Bob Grover : Original language stated an order had to be in place. Has that been addressed?

12:34:49 From De'Shondria Bedenfield : SB 664 Bill Language
<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2021-2022/billengrossed/Senate/pdf/2021-SEBS-0664.pdf>

12:35:07 From Tracey Hart : For School Boards that stream their meetings, are there guidelines/recommendations around whether or not to include public comment in the live stream (or archived recordings for later viewing)? I have seen statements around the potential need to review the footage and possibly redact/edit pieces due to issues such as student privacy issues.

12:36:40 From Nick Reichenbach : Jen - keep up the pressure! I owe your team dinner when in Grand Rapids in a few weeks!

12:37:28 From Barb Anness : Yes, therapy dogs have been extremely helpful throughout our district.

12:39:04 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : We allow public comments via zoom by having public submit comments electronically and then have staff member read them during the public comment section.

12:40:01 From Stan Miller : Virtual public comment also risks public comment from out of district and even out of state. In Mona Shores, we had commenters from Lansing, Traverse City, Detroit, and California.

12:40:19 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Wow!

12:40:38 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : How did you learn that they're from out of state?

12:40:51 From Justin Barnaby : Public comment doesn't mean just from within your school district, correct?

12:41:01 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : yep

12:41:01 From Stan Miller : Everyone from outside our district was drummed up by an advocate.

12:41:10 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Double wow!

12:41:47 From Stan Miller : And yes, public comment can't be limited to district residents – but if they have to actually show up in person, not many folks are likely to travel very far.

12:41:50 From Nick Rush : We have public comment from outside our district every meeting recently. Still local to our county, but also drummed up by an advocate.

12:42:11 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Nick, where are you?

12:42:18 From Barb Anness : Valid point, Stan.

12:42:19 From Nick Rush : Jackson County

12:42:44 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Still good to know where these folks live-and vote.

12:44:17 From Nick Rush : Yeah, we have a form to fill out but as long as name is there, they speak

12:44:24 From Howard Baron-Bloomfield Hills :
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2dj59Db1C4>

12:44:37 From Patricia Burton : Our district does not have Covid days available anymore. We extended it through March of 2021. Once vaccines were available to everyone 18+, regular sick days needed to be used.

12:45:10 From Shawn K. Wightman : We ask for name and residence; they don't have to give their residence, but we like to ask them anyway and hope that they do...

12:45:18 From Howard Baron-Bloomfield Hills : SNL School Board Skit
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2dj59Db1C4>

12:45:33 From Tracey Hart : Just to clarify my question... Can we chose to exclude public comment from our streaming... ex. begin the streaming after public comment?

12:45:45 From John Severson : Have to go! Thank you

12:45:46 From Barb Anness : How many opportunities be provided for public comment in a BOE mtg.?

12:46:15 From Barb Anness : ^ should be provided

12:46:30 From Jennifer Smith : https://www.msbo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/fedffunds_usdofe_fact_sheet_esser3.pdf

12:46:50 From Stan Miller : @Barb Anness, only one public comment period is required by law. We have one at Mona Shores.

12:46:52 From Jennifer Smith : <https://www.msbo.org/school-finance/funding/federal-funds/>

12:47:10 From Shawn K. Wightman : (1) public comment at beginning of meeting only...

12:47:17 From Shawn K. Wightman : https://www.mlive.com/public-interest/2021/10/anti-mask-county-boards-undermine-michigan-health-officials-push-them-to-quit.html?e=620575b4d41a799ede334700d49862ed&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletter_michigan_politics%202021-10-19&utm_term=Newsletter_michigan_politics

12:48:02 From Nick Rush : We have two public comments, but I wish we only had one

12:48:04 From Stan Miller : We just moved our public comment period to the end of the meeting. It ensures that we can focus on our agenda items while we are still fresh.

12:48:33 From Stan Miller : Also helps educate the public about what we really do.

12:48:43 From Nick Reichenbach : barb - well, if you had a 'study session' or 'work session' you still need public comment. our district used to do most of our work as committee of the whole (twice per month) and did most work (sub committee type stuff) as a whole board. since the public has become more involved, we didn't want the same people commenting twice in one night for 6 hours of meetings. so, we went back to sub committee work and a single board meeting per month

12:49:37 From Patrick Duff : What are other districts doing to attract bus drivers and substitute teachers?

12:50:06 From Valerie Bury : We do not live stream. We meet in person to encourage residents to attend

12:50:14 From Stan Miller : We offered a \$2,500 signing bonus for bus drivers, and we upped our sub pay.

12:50:18 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Job fairs, \$24/hr;

12:50:25 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Signing bonus as well

12:50:43 From Shawn K. Wightman : \$\$\$\$\$

12:50:50 From Stan Miller : I might drive bus after I retire. :-)

12:50:50 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : \$24/hr is the same as local public buses

12:51:23 From Barb Anness : Wait, so just for clarification: if we live stream only (without the ability for public comment virtually) we can turn off live streaming during in-person public comment and then turn it back on during the business portion of the mtg.?

12:51:28 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Good point, Brad!

12:51:32 From Susan Estep (she/her) : Interesting point Brad

12:51:34 From Janice Van Gasse : We had to close the high school because we didn't have enough teachers. We are trying to hire a permanent substitute, but aren't hopeful that we'll find any one.

12:52:02 From Shawn K. Wightman : Payout your bonuses at end of the year; otherwise they will leave once they get them...

12:52:07 From Kathy Carter-Lincoln Park : Our mandate says school related indoor activities for masks. Is the Board Meeting a school related activity?

12:52:37 From Catherine LaValley : Can the length of time to train new drivers be more flexible in the need crisis for bus drivers?

12:52:47 From Angela Shinaver - Portland Public Schools : I heard this weekend Massachusetts is using National Guard to help drive school buses!!

12:53:08 From Barb Anness : Got it, thank you Brad.

12:53:59 From Nick Rush : We do have one building sub at each of our buildings and that can help, but it is rarely enough

12:54:24 From Barb Anness : Thanks, public comment has become an opportunity for attacks and not productive feedback.

12:54:58 From Kathy Carter-Lincoln Park : Brad yes

12:55:04 From Colleen Burton : County order

12:56:21 From Bob Grover : Training is becoming more difficult starting in January so it is getting worse.

12:56:38 From Valerie Bury : Some schools train their own new drivers

12:56:54 From Patricia Burton : We had someone, without our knowledge, livestream part of a Board meeting on Facebook. Is this legal?

12:57:22 From Bob Grover : We do train our own and that is where the additional restrictions come into play.

12:57:35 From Stan Miller : We've had a *board*member* record public comment from the board table.

12:59:07 From Patricia Burton : Exactly, we thought she was taking photos.

12:59:37 From Mary Hall-Rayford : Thanks for the information. Looking forward to meeting people next month!

13:00:06 From Nick Rush : Thanks, everyone!

13:00:58 From Don Wotruba : thank you all for your participation today!

13:01:11 From Stan Miller : Thanks! This was great!

13:01:21 From Annie Covert - Fitzgerald Public Schools : This was great! THANK You!

13:01:24 From susan baskett-ann arbor board of education : Thank you!

13:01:25 From Mary McClellan : Thank you!

13:01:26 From Tracey Hart - Kenowa Hills : Great conversation! Thanks everyone!

13:01:27 From Susan Estep (she/her) : Thank you!

13:01:27 From Lenore Weaver : Thank you - Go Pack Go!

13:01:27 From Valerie Bury : Thanks everyone

13:01:31 From Jack Temsey : Thanks all!

13:01:38 From Dawn Corporan : Thank you so much 🌹

13:01:40 From Donald Hubler Macomb ISD : good information!

13:01:42 From Randel Meisner Fitzgerald Public Schools : thank you all

13:01:44 From Dawn Corporan : 😄😄😄😄