
GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Regular Meeting – April 23, 2018

MINUTES

President Shiflett called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Metcalf indicated the presence of ***Board Members***: Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort, Beverly Winstanley, Kim Mulvenna and Jon Shiflett. Sara Clark Pierson joined the meeting at 6:23 pm. ***Central Office Administrators***: Steve Gabriel, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske and Sara Sutherland. ***Others in Attendance***: Erica Ledesma, Melissa Mazzola, Megan Bowers, Jennifer Schafer, Mike Schafer, Lindsay Grostefon, Kristy Merignac and Kim Manning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the April 23, 2018 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the April 23, 2018 Consent Agenda Item, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the meeting minutes of the March 26, 2018 Regular Meeting and the April 9, 2018 Work Session Meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- A. Capitol Connections Report** - Mrs. DuFort advised there is not a lot going on as members are just returning from break. However, work in the committees has continued. She noted HB5579 was modified to add \$25M to the State Police budget, the possible expansion of mandatory reporters under Okay To Say to include coaches and volunteers and HB 4422 that addresses the critical substitute teacher shortage has passed. In closing she advised she would be attending the Legislative Conference on May 22.
- B. Eaton RESA Report** – President Shiflett advised Eaton RESA Board Representative Jay Bennett was unable to attend tonight but asked him to report the Eaton RESA has approved an addendum to their current Technology Services Agreement with Ingham ISD. This addendum will allow additional monies in order to expand on-site and

remote shared services to increase use of instructional data for local district. He also noted the Eaton CASBA meeting is scheduled for May 1 at 6:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza where the Eaton RESA will present their 2018-19 budget to the local boards and John Tramontana, Director of Communications, PR & Marketing for MASB will be on hand to present board member awards and give a short presentation on MASB services and supports.

C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report – Mrs. DuFort noted the board did not meet last month but reminded everyone the Annual 5K Comet Chase is scheduled for June 23rd and if you register before June 14th the registration fee is only \$10 with a small processing fee. In closing she challenged her board colleagues to participate in the race.

D. Grand Ledge Parks & Recreation Report – No Report.

E. Governance Committee Report – Mrs. Winstanley advised the committee met last week to set this year's goals for the Superintendent noting student achievement remains a priority, the continued necessity for improvement and developing a strategy to increase student achievement in science, along with increasing the district's communication and transparency.

F. Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Metcalf took a moment to recognize and congratulate Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel on completing and successfully defending his dissertation noting he will officially graduate on May 4th. He noted this is an amazing accomplishment that shows the dedication and commitment Dr. Gabriel has toward education and our district. He asked everyone to join him in congratulating Dr. Gabriel on this 3-year long endeavor.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Erica Ledesma expressed her concern that all volunteers should be undergoing background checks; specifically referencing those volunteers who work concession stands at district events.

Superintendent Metcalf request Ms. Ledesma speak with him after the meeting to provide further details noting it was his understanding that all volunteers were undergoing background checks.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Reproductive Health Curriculum

Motion by Mrs. Winstanley, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna or the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Reproductive Health Curriculum for the district, as presented.

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel noted the board gave consensus to move forward with this curriculum late last year. He provided the board with an overview of the process for recommending this curriculum including who makes up the Comprehensive Health Advisory Team (CHAT), the current reproductive health curriculum in grades 5, 7 and

9, noting the new curriculum will start reproductive health in grade 4, revise the grade 5 curriculum and add grade 6. He reviewed the curriculum: Puberty: the Wonder Years including information on the author, what is in the curriculum for our schools, parent engagement, guidelines for discussion and reviewed the lessons for grades 4, 5 and 6. He noted the district conducted two public forums on the curriculum that parents were invited to attend to review the curriculum and ask any questions they may have. He is now seeking final approval from the board to implement the new curriculum.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. New School Accountability System Presentation

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel provided the board with an overview of the new school accountability system noting in 2015 Congress pass the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to replace No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and in 2017 the ESSA plan was approved by the U.S. Department of Education. He noted the goal is to identify and support schools struggling to help students meet Michigan Standards. He reviewed the difference in the two systems, the six components for accountability, the index system and the state overall. He then provided the board with an overview of Grand Ledge Public Schools under the new accountability system and the long-term goals.

A detailed discussion among the members noted the current administration has really focused on improvement, the stability of the district in having a superintendent who has been with the district for a longer period of time; the impact the consistency in the curriculum has played in in the district's progress along with increased professional development opportunities for staff. It was noted we need to commend our highly qualified and certified teachers and building administrators who have embraced the new curriculum and strived to ensure our students are meeting the State Standards. In closing it was noted the district will continue to make progress by not looking at one way to improve, but by adding layers to ensure our students' continued progress.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

District employee Melissa Mazzola questioned what specific test they are using to manage the cohorts to track student growth.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Gabriel noted at the elementary level MSTEP is being used however he was unsure what they are using at the secondary level. He noted moving forward the State will be paying for 8th grade students to take the PSAT.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mr. Cwayna welcomed Superintendent Metcalf back.

Mrs. Mulvenna noted she is impressed with the new accountability and hope that funding follows from the legislature.

Mrs. Clark Pierson apologized for her late arrival.

ADJOURNMENT

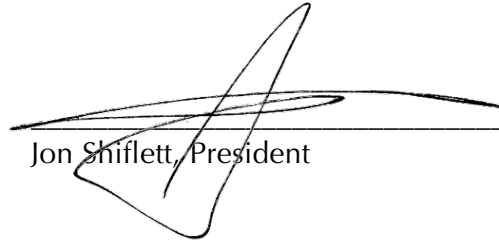
The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Patrick McKennon, Secretary



Jon Shiflett, President