
GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Committee of the Whole / Work Session – June 13, 2016

MINUTES

President Wacyk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Brian Metcalf indicated the presence of ***Board Members***: Linda Wacyk, Jon Shiflett, Jay Bennett, Sara Clark Pierson, Kim Mulvenna, Brody Boucher and Beverly Winstanley. ***Central Office Administrators***: Brian Metcalf, Andy George, Steve Gabriel, Norma Schutzki and Mark Deschaine ***Others in Attendance***: Judith Zimmermann, Sara Sutherland, Cindy Zerbe, David Zerbe, Pat Gilbert, Michael Johnson, Melissa Mazola, John Ellsworth, Greg Almy, Denise DuFort, Jennifer Bouck, Mike Lane and Kim Manning.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

District Employee and GLEA Vice President Greg Almy spoke to the board about the proposed GLEA contract they will be voting on later this evening encouraging their support but noting there is still work to be done.

Judith Zimmerman who lives in a neighboring community spoke to the board in support of the auditorium coordinator and a recent encounter she had with him when she attended an event at the high school.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Teacher Leaves of Absence

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the teacher leaves of absence for Krista Hunsanger, Mary Ann Schmedlen and Julie Alexander for the 2016-2017 school year, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Property Purchase

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Resolution authorizing the use of Sinking Fund monies in the amount of \$259,000 to finalize the Purchase Agreement for property located at 6816 Delta River Drive in Delta Township, as presented.

Superintendent Metcalf explained he brought this opportunity to the board at the last meeting and the board agreed it was in the district's best interest to purchase this property. It moved very quickly when a charter school threw their hat in the ring expressing interest in the property. The current plan for the property is to put an early childhood program in the space, similar to the one currently housed at Holbrook. The district's architectural firm walked the property with the Superintendent and believes the building can be ready to go with a small amount of work.

Superintendent Metcalf expressed this property will serve our district and community well and could be used in the future for elementary classrooms when the need arises.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Bennett	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	President Wacyk	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Boucher	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Approval of The Payment of Invoices for the Design Phase of the Wacousta Playground
Motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Boucher for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of invoices to Leather & Associates in the amount of \$50,000 for the Design Phase of the Wacousta Playground, as presented.**

Superintendent Metcalf advised last year the district had to tear down the Wacousta Dream Depot due to numerous safety issues. Since then, a committee of dedicated staff and citizens have been working diligently through fundraising to replace the structure with a new Dream Depot 2.0. They have successfully raised well over \$100,000 toward the \$200,000 needed to build the new structure and this small amount will be the district's assistance in making this structure a reality. He commended the work of the committee.

The motion carried unanimously.

STATGIC PLAN SURVEY FINDINGS REPORT

Jeff Gartner of Gartner and Associates provided the board with a detailed overview of the district surveys that took place over the winter including students, parents and community members and staff that the district will use to renew their strategic plan, which is set to expire at the end of June.

SECONDARY A-B-C REPORTS

Hayes Middle School Principal Dr. Mike Johnson and Grand Ledge High School Principal Sara Sutherland individually provided the board with their second trimester Absence, Behavior and Course Completion reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD AND STAFF

Trustee Boucher thanked Mrs. Zimmerman for coming out and clarified that the board has been forced to make some very difficult decisions due to the lack of funding for public education from the State Legislature. He assured her that these decisions are not made lightly by members of the Board of Education and noting they are committed to bringing things back to employees when the finances permit.

CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Boucher for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiations Strategies, as per Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	President Wacyk	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Boucher	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Winstanley	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Bennett	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously at 7:38 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:56 p.m.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEE CONTRACT

Motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the contract with the Grand Ledge Education Association, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously with members Sara Clark Pierson and Brody Boucher abstaining from the vote as they have relatives who work within the district.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Jay Bennett, Secretary

Jon Shiflett, Vice President