
GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Regular Meeting – June 27, 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, Jay Bennett, Kim Mulvenna, Brody Boucher and Beverly Winstanley **Central Office Administrators:** Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Nancy Rasinske and Norma Schutzki, **Others in Attendance:** Jim Gee, Amber Schwennesen, Treveor Moody, Alisha Sheets, Megan Weber, Jennifer McCaffrey, Tayler Pacsai, Melissa Mazzoloa, Lori Bucholz, David Averill, Dawn Kennaugh, Paula Dunn, Trevor Dunn, Kimberly Shoup, Michael Patrick and Kim Manning

OPEN – Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing

Motion by Mrs. Winstanley, seconded by Mr. Bennett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to Open the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing at 6:02 pm.

A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Wacyk	<u>YES</u>
Boucher	<u>YES</u>	Winstanley	<u>YES</u>
Bennett	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Financial Officer Nancy Rasinske provided the board with a details on the district's taxation process including an overview of how millage rates work, the district's tax collection schedule, rules governing fund accounting, general fund millage rates, details of the debt fund noting the millage rate is a constant, but the revenue is variable. She further reviewed the district's Capital Improvement Fund details and changes for the district's property tax rates noting Non-Homestead and Capital Improvement tax rates will not change, but the Debt Service will decrease by .50 mills. She provided details of the final 2015-2016 budget noting a projected fund balance of 7.8% and providing them information on the per pupil foundation allowance noting the district is anticipating a foundation grant increase of \$120 per pupil, which now puts Grand Ledge Public Schools back to where we were in 2010. She reviewed enrollment projections noting the district is planning for enrollment stability for the 2016-2017 school year and reviewed the revenue projections for the year including the foundation grant increase, the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System costs and the loss of Federal Funding from grants. She reviewed the projected 2016-2017 expenditures and in closing providing an overview of the 2016-2017 general fund budget summary noting a projected ending fund balance, at this time, of 7.83% for the 2016-2017 school year.

In closing, she reviewed the district's cash flow projection noting that under the State's payment schedule the district, like many district's throughout Michigan, will once again be forced to borrow funds through the Michigan Municipal Bond Authority to maintain its fiscal integrity. She noted this year the district will borrow \$3,000,000 (three million dollars) to sustain itself until the State's first state aid payment in October.

Motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley to Close the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing at 6:23 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Boucher for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the June 27, 2016 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the June 27, 2015 Consent Agenda Item, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the meeting minutes of the May 23, 2016 Regular Meeting and Closed Session, the meeting minutes of the June 13, 2016 Work Session and Closed Session, the Contract Renewal for district administrators Steve Gabriel, Nancy Rasinske, Mark Deschaine, Steve Baker, Jill Mangrum, Blake Wegenke, Ken Wright, Julie Taylor, Chris Groves, Lori Bucholz, Dawn Kennaugh, and David Averill, the hiring of Jim Gee as Principal for Willow Ridge Elementary School, the teacher hirings of Anna Bensel, Kristen Nichols, Meeghan Justema, Alexandra Briggs, Trevor Dunn, Katie Goff, Amber Schwennesen, Alish Sheets, Nicole BellDean, Barbara Zaremski, Ashlynn Piecuch, Taylor Pacsai, Elizabeth Smith, Gouchong Vue and Tiffany Organek and the appointment of Megan Weber as the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Representative for the district.

The motion carried unanimously.

Each of the new teacher hires took a moment to introduce themselves to the board. New Willow Ridge Principal Jim Gee thanked the board for the opportunity to lead Willow Ridge and noting he is excited to enter this new chapter in his career. Ms. Weber thanked the board for her appointment to PAC Representative for the district expressing she looks forward to

REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. **Capitol Connections Report** - Mr. Bennett reported an education bill was passed that included \$40M in funding for MSTEP, even though the house voted to eliminate MSTEP. In addition, the bill contains \$2.5M in funding for private schools for state mandates. He advised MASA, MSBO and MASB are already starting to look into the legal ramifications of this legislation with regard to public education funding being earmarked to private schools.

A discussion among the members centered around this being a step toward voucher implementation.

Mr. Bennett concluded advising the Michigan Department of Education is looking for volunteers to participate in work groups that will develop the implementation process for the ESS Act. If anyone is interested, all information can be found on the MDE website.

- b. **Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report** - Mr. Bennett advised the Josh Spalsbury 5K Comet Chase took place on June 18th. He noted sponsorship was up, as were the number of races, however, he does not have final numbers for the event.
- c. **Grand Ledge Parks & Recreation Report** – Mr. Boucher reported a summer programming pamphlet has been distributed throughout the community as has been well received. He noted the committee is waiting for the survey report with regard to its Strategic Plan. In closing he advised the construction phase of the board launch has been delayed until August.

B. Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Metcalf

- a. **Elementary A-B-C Report** – Elementary Building Principals David Averill, Dawn Kennaugh and Lori Bucholz provided the board with an overview of the Absence, Behavior and Course Completion results for the 2nd and 3rd Trimester for Neff Kindergarten Center, Beagle Elementary and Delta Center Elementary. Information for Wacousta and Willow Ridge Elementary Schools was also shared with the members.
- b. **Special Education Monitoring – CIMS Report** – Dr. Schutzki advised the board the state requires the district conduct timely IEP’s for all students receiving services. IN accordance with state standards and federal rules, an IEP must be reviewed and renewed prior to 365 days of the last IEP. 100% compliance is mandatory. Dr. Schutzki advised Grand Ledge Public Schools conducted 1,100 IEP’s this year. However, seven (7) of those IEP’s were conducted late. She advised she has implemented a schedule that will have IEP’s conducted a minimum one (1) month before the due date. For teachers who are consistently late on holding IEP’s, progressive discipline has been implemented.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

District employee Kimberly Shoup addressed the board stating being a teacher is one of the most important jobs in Grand Ledge and encouraging the board to look into a more appropriate curriculum for social / emotional support of students. She expressed she believes social skills should be taught throughout the year in Kindergarten. In closing, she also expressed her support of having teaching assistants in every classroom K-2.

OLD BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF FINAL 2015-2016 BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

Motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Bennett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Final 2015-2016 Budget Amendment Resolution, as presented.

A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Boucher	<u>YES</u>	Winstanley	<u>YES</u>
Bennett	<u>YES</u>	Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>
Wacyk	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL 2016-2017 DEBT SERVICE AND GENERAL FUND BUDGET RESOLUTION

Motion by Mrs. Winstanley seconded by Mr. Boucher for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2016-2017 Debt Service, Food Service, Community Education, School Store, Athletics, Adventure Club, Capital Improvement, Technology Replacement and General Fund Budget Resolution, as presented.

A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Bennett	<u>YES</u>	Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>
Wacyk	<u>YES</u>	Boucher	<u>YES</u>
Winstanley	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO BORROW IN ANTICIPATION OF STATE AID FUNDING

Motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Notes through the Michigan Municipal Bond Authority in Anticipation of the State Aid Note, not to exceed \$3,000,000 (Three Million Dollars), as presented.

A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Wacyk	<u>YES</u>	Boucher	<u>YES</u>
Winstanley	<u>YES</u>	Bennett	<u>YES</u>
Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

President Wacyk explained the district's need to borrow money to sustain itself until the state sends its first state aid payment in October. She noted the district has, in past years, borrowed upward of \$6M. While working with the district's legal counsel and looking at the cash flow, it was determined this lesser amount will sustain the district but it is important for constituents to understand there should not be a need for district's to borrow money due to the state's payment cycle.

- B. APPROVAL OF 2016-2017 MHSAA MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION**
Motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2016-2017 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership Resolution, as presented.

A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Winstanley	<u>YES</u>	Bennett	<u>YES</u>
Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Wacyk	<u>YES</u>
Boucher	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD AND STAFF

Mrs. Mulvenna wished Dr. Schutzki good luck in her future endeavors noting she will be missed.

Dr. Schutzki thanked the board and administration noting it has been an honor and a privilege to work with the students and staff of this district. In closing she advised she is looking forward to the next chapter.

Superintendent Metcalf thanked Dr. Schutzki for her 17 years of services to the district and its students noting that during his five years as Superintendent he has appreciated her dedication and leadership for our most vulnerable students.

President Wacyk thanked Dr. Schutzki and congratulated her on her retirement.

CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Bennett , seconded by Mrs. Winstanley 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.

A ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	Wacyk	<u>YES</u>
Boucher	<u>YES</u>	Winstanley	<u>YES</u>
Bennett	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously at 7:48 pm.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 8:03 p.m.

APPROVE OF EMPLOYEE CONTRACT – Custodial Association

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Boucher for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the contract with the Grand Ledge Custodial Association, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Jay Bennett, Secretary

Linda Wacyk, President