

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
***Board of Education***

Regular Meeting – July 11, 2022

MINUTES

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

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call by Assistant Superintendent Bill Barnes indicated the presence of ***Board Members***: Jon Shiflett, Nicole Shannon, Jarrod Smith, Ben Cwayna and Toni Glasscoe. ***Members Absent***: Sara Clark Pierson and Denise DuFort. ***Central Office Administrators***: Bill Barnes, Julie Waterbury, Kelly Jones, Wendy Seida and John Ellsworth. ***Others in Attendance***: Tim Totten, Anthony Beattie, Ashley Kuykendoll, Howard Pizzo, Nell Pizzo, Kyle Dymond, Melissa Mazzola and Kim Manning

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the July 11, 2022 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the July 11, 2022 Consent Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

Included on the Consent Agenda was the June 27, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**REPORTS**

**A. Capitol Connections Report**

Dr. Glasscoe shared the State Aid Budget includes \$9,000 for pupil foundation allowance along with additional funding for special education.

President Shiflett reminded everyone this is the time of year when legislative staff and persons wanting to represent you in the legislature are most visible in your neighborhood. He encouraged everyone to share how important public education is to them.

**B. Grand Ledge Education Foundation**

Ms. Shannon advised the committee will be meeting soon to establish a grant approval process in light of how successful their most recent fundraiser was.

**C. Bond Update**

Dr. Johnson shared the asphalt paving at Beagle should be complete this Friday and landscaping by the end of July. The new track is complete with only punch list work to be complete. The high school fine arts construction continues to move along on schedule.

The high school pool should be complete this week. Delta Center construction bids have been extended to July 21, 2022 with hopes of having a complete list of contractors for the board's approval at their August meeting. In closing he shared he has a meeting this week to discuss the Wacousta design.

**D. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Dr. Bill Barnes noted in Dr. Davenport's absence he wanted provide an update with regard to the process of updating our current board policies to adopting NEOLA board policies. This journey began in August 2021 following the board's approval to partner with NEOLA. Dr. Davenport began working with a representative from NEOLA and the Central Office Leadership Team to review the NEOLA Policies. The team is close to finalizing this review, at which time it will then go to the Board Governance Committee for their review and input. This has not been a small task, noting the general overview of all the policies being reviewed was noted on tonight's agenda. Each of these policies have to be reviewed to ensure alignment with district practice, understand the need to update our district practice, and examine the impact on staff, students, families and district operations of implementation. Until the NEOLA policies are brought forward to the full board and approved for implementation, the board, and district, will continue to operate under our current policies which are available on our district website under the Board of Education.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Smith read the rules for addressing the board.

Ashley Kuykendoll addressed the board regarding discussion around facilities and infrastructure along with school safety concerns noting she sent an email to the administration inquiring about emergency practices and engagement for parents. She questioned how the district is establishing and sustaining emergency management expectations with parents / guardians and receive feedback from the community. She questioned how the district will implement requirements for financial literacy expectations under House Bill 5190. She shared she has been hearing concerns from parents regarding the length of bus routes, expressing specific concern for the youngest students noting she understands there is a bus driver shortage. She also shared concerns she has heard regarding engagement and discipline of special education students and high school students desire to have more access to CTE program on site.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. PRE-BOND WORK AT DELTA CENTER**

**a. APPROVAL OF PRE-BOND COSTS**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the estimated payments in the amount of \$216,016.59 from Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Funds for work required prior to the Delta Center Construction and Authorize Superintendent Marcus Davenport, or his designee, to execute the Electric Service Agreement with the Board of Water and Light, as presented.**

Dr. Glasscoe noted the district did exercise the bid process, however, due to the urgency to get this work done, the district must move forward quickly. It was noted there is only one vendor qualified to do the work needed, that being the Board of Water and Light. If this work is not done now, the construction at Delta Center would be delayed an entire year.

The motion carried unanimously.

**b. APPROVAL OF EASEMENT**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to grant a permanent easement to the City of Lansing by its Board of Water and Light to enter the District's property located at 3105 S. Canal Road and Authorize Superintendent Marcus Davenport, or his designee, to execute the Easement for Underground Electric Facilities, as presented.**

President Shiflett noted this is an extension for the pre-bond work just approved. It was noted this will replace a current easement with the Board of Water and Light.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEE CONTRACT**

**a. BUILDING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATION**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Employee Contract with the Building & Grounds Maintenance Association, as presented.**

Chief Financial Officer provided a synopsis of the changes in the member packet noting updated PTO time accumulation for new employees, employees with 2-4 years of service, employees with 5-9 years of service, employees with 10-14 years of service and employees with over 15 years of service noting time will be front loaded but if an employee leaves the district prior to the end of the fiscal year, their PTO time will be prorated based on actual days worked and reimbursement to the district may be requires. Required certifications for staff, step increases, and receiving a payment in lieu of a cost-of- living adjustment of \$.50 per regularly scheduled hours and part-time employees and new hires will receive a prorated payment based on their reduced number of hours. This provides for continuity across our employee groups.

The motion carried unanimously.

**B. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF FOOD SERVICE INVOICE**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of a Food Service Invoice to Stafford-Smith in the amount of \$19,422.00, as presented.**

Mr. Smith shared this is for work at the Beagle cafeteria.

The motion carried unanimously.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Capital Funds Invoices in the amount of \$41,104.80, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this is for eligible costs under the high school fine arts project.

The motion carried unanimously.

**D. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 1 BOND INVOICE**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of a Proposal 1, Series 1 Bond Invoice to GMB Architects and Engineers in the amount of \$64,651.00, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this is wrapping up payment to the architects for work under the project.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**E. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of a Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoice to Clark Construction Company in the amount of \$21,368.74, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this represents planning for Delta Center and Wacousta.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**F. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 1 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$287,085.23, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this is for both the pools at Beagle and the High School.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**G. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$1,063,134.11, as presented.**

Mr. Smith noted this represents construction for the fine arts at the high school and finishing up the track.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD**

CFO Julie Waterbury provided follow-up with regard to the legislation passed that extended the free meals noting this is only good through the end of September noting she is glad the board implemented the food service policies as they will be in play starting in October. She further shared that the district is providing a snack for our summer learning program participants using ESSER funding.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Barnes noting the bill impacting the financial literacy class doesn't take effect until the fall of 2024, sharing he has already had conversations with High School Principal Dr. Ken Wright noting the district has current that will meet this requirement. With regard to our Emergency Management Plan (EMP), the administrative team is in the process of reviewing our EMP to make sure it is up-to-date with current requirements and recommendations

from our local law enforcement partners and current requirements. He shared the district is very lucky to partner with Lansing Community College and the Eaton RESA to provide CTE programs to our students, but noting the district is always looking for unique opportunities for students. The process for adding CTE programs is a very lengthy process but we have begun talks with the Eaton RESA. Lastly, he welcomed the newest members of the Central Office Leadership Team, Wendy Seida, Executive Director of Student Services overseeing special education and Kelly Jones, Director of Human Resources and sharing the new Director of Operations, Marteze Warren will officially join the team in mid-July.

Mr. Cwayna questioned if the NEOLA policies were someplace that the board and community could look at them.

Dr. Barnes advised they are not available at this time as we are in the review phase. Once the leadership team has reviewed the policies, it will go to the Board Governance Committee for them to review and begin bringing them forward to the full board for discussion and public input.

Ms. Shannon noted that if you want to get a general consensus of what these policies look like, Eaton RESA operates under NEOLA policy and they are available on their website if someone wanted to look at what they entail, but you must keep in mind these policies are specific to the Eaton RESA. Dr. Barnes noted several local district's utilize NEOLA policies, but again, the language for those districts will be specific to them.

Dr. Glasscoe thanked Dr. Barnes for the real time responses and asked if we are prepared as it relates to the question about World Language.

Dr. Barnes explained the flexibility built into the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) while still maintaining the structure of the process. Grand Ledge Public Schools currently offers Spanish, French or German from highly qualified staff. We also have our German partnership with Lohne that has been in place since the mid 80's. German is also offered at the middle school level. He noted it is his belief that this flexibility is a good thing that allows use to meet the unique needs of our students and it is our intention, in light of the new requirements, to maintain those World Language programs.

Dr. Glasscoe questioned if there would be a schedule for the first reading of the policies to which Dr. Barnes noted he did not want to speak for Dr. Davenport but there is a lot of information in the policies and we will want to ensure everyone is well invested and have a good understanding. He believes there will be multiple opportunities for review and to provide input.

Dr. Glasscoe remarked the district does great work in many areas but not everyone knows or understands the processes involved and she believes it is really important for the board, as well as the community, to have high level presentations to share those things. Dr. Barnes noted this was a conversation in the leadership meeting this morning and Mrs. Seida expressed her belief that it is very helpful for parents to understand the processes and why we do what we do noting she will be happy to present information as she gets her footing in her new position.

President Shiflett thanked everyone for attending.

CLOSED SESSION – Attorney / Client Privilege

Motion by, seconded by for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session for the purpose of receiving Confidential Attorney / Client Communication, as per Section 8(1)(e) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976, Hultberg v. GLPS, File No, 42172.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Shannon	<u>YES</u>
Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>
President Shiflett	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously at 6:38 p.m.

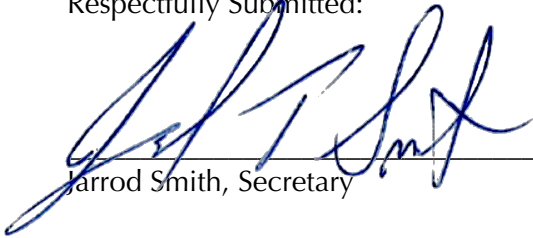
RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 6:49 p.m.

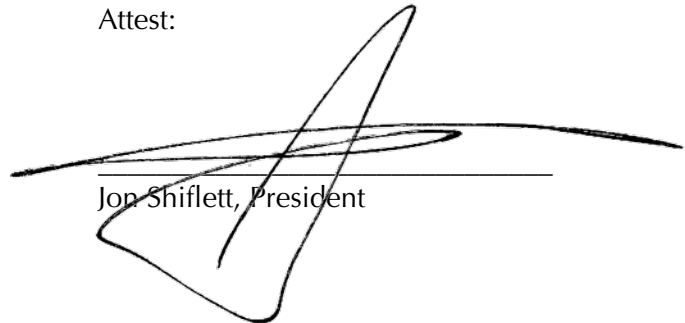
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Jarrod Smith, Secretary

Attest:

  
Jon Shiflett, President