

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Work Session – August 12, 2019

MINUTES

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

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Metcalf indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Jarrod Smith, Kim Mulvenna, Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort and Patrick McKennon. Jon Shiflett joined the meeting 6:30 p.m. **Central Office Administrators:** Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Bill Barnes, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Pam Metcalf, Kelly Shumway, Gail Christianson, Annette Johnson, Sarah Simon and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEM

A. APPROVAL OF TEACHER HIRING'S

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the teacher hiring's, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

New teachers Pam Metcalf, Kelly Shumway, Caitlin Christenson, Annette Johnson and Sarah Simon introduced themselves to the Board and thanked them for the opportunity.

B. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1 BOND INVOICE

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve payment of a Proposal 1 Bond Invoice in the amount of \$804,317.02, as presented.

President McKennon advised this represents invoices from Apple in the amount of \$260,040 for the purchase of new iPads, CDW in the amount of \$26,398.02 for iPad cases, JRA Food Service in the amount of \$1,225 for work on the Beagle Middle School kitchen design and three invoices from GMB for bond professional services in the amounts of \$289,131 for May 2019, \$117,975 for June 2019 and \$109,548 for July 2019. He advised the Board Bond Advisory Committee reviewed all invoices and approved them being brought forward for full board approval.

The motion carried unanimously.

C. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$79,676.03, as presented.

President McKenna advised this includes invoices from GMB Architects in the amount of \$2,637.50 for professional services for the high school parking lot, Boynton Fire in the amount of \$11,670 for replacement of the Neff Firm Alarm, DL Baron in the amount of \$3,200 for sidewalk repairs at Hayes, Lansing Tile in the amount of \$18,754 for high school classroom tile replacement, Marx Wetlands LLC in the amount of \$3,000 for wetland delineation field work and three invoices for Myers Plumbing for work at the high school in the amount of \$24,250 for a cooling tower, \$9,347 for Electrical work and \$6,817.53 for VFD noting the Board Bond Advisory Committee reviewed these invoices and approved them to be brought forward for full board approval.

The motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF 2019-2020 STUDENT HANDBOOK REVISIONS – 1ST READING

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 1st Reading of the revisions to the 2019-2020 Student Handbooks, as presented.

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Dr. Barnes advised these revisions reflect changes based on state law regarding epi-pens, changing the language as it regards use of student images due to the increased opportunities to highlight the great work our students are doing in the school and community.

The motion carried unanimously.

E. BOARD OF EDUCATION GOVERNANCE POLICIES – CATEGORY 1 – ENDS (E100-E105) – 1ST READING

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 1st Reading of the Board of Education Governance Policies – Category 1 – Ends to include policies E100, E101, E102, E103, E104 and E105, as presented.

A detailed discussion among the members noted the Governance Committee has begun the process of reviewing all Board Governance Policies and will bring the revisions forward for full board discussion and review prior to implementing any changes. This represents the first phase of those revision.

Mrs. Mulvenna asked for better clarification of the annual reporting cycle on policy E102.

The motion carried unanimously.

F. REVISED SCHOOL CODE SECTION 380.1250

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve and authorize Superintendent Metcalf to determine and administer performance compensation, of not more than 2% of annual salary, for all employees in accordance with Section 380.1250 of the Revised School Code.

In accordance with MCL 380.4203, members Jarrod Smith and Patrick McKennon abstained from the vote.

The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM

A. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

President McKennon led a discussion among the members regarding he had discussed this with the Governance Committee. He noted he attended a board meeting and they had a student representative from the High School present at the meeting. He noted it could be someone from the student body who would attend each board meeting and would have a regular place on the agenda to update the board on what they are working on, what is going on, or other important topics to the students. He noted it would kind of represent a liaison to the board as far as just keeping the members in know of what is going on at the high school. It would not be a “bring us your concerns” but strictly informative. Concerns would be brought directly to Dr. Metcalf.

Discussions among the members included if this would be part of the monthly reports section of the agenda, noting they would be seating in the audience not at the table, making the students know their input is valued, creating a partnership, adding value to the board, possibly giving them a template to start, reminding the members it will be about 16, 17 and 18-year-old stuff – what they are doing, and wondering if the students will want to do this.

Dr. Metcalf suggested he have a discussion with Grand Ledge High School Principal Jill Mangrum to gather her thoughts and see if this is something she believes could provide benefit to the students along with the board.

Input from the Administration noted it is an interesting concept, the belief they would need to have a template, would the students want to do this, the benefit would depend on who the student is that is selected to represent them – if you get the right student it is great, if you don’t it could fizzle out fast, implementing the student advisor to help coach the kids, possibly looking outside student counsel for the representative – maybe National Honor Society.

It was agreed by the members for Dr. Metcalf to begin a discussion with the High School Principal.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Superintendent Metcalf noted the district had to make some tough decisions last week with regard to student enrollment. He advised he has talked with a handful of parents, some of whom weren't happy with me, but some who understood.

Mrs. DuFort recognized many of the staff have been in and getting ready for the start of another school year. She commented the district is blessed and we need to continue to recognize our employees noting 2% is a small token.

Mrs. Mulvenna mentioned she was sad to read of the passing of former district employee Sue Schnarr. She was a positive and always welcoming person who will be missed.

Mr. Shiflett apologized for his tardiness.

Dr. Gabriel noted our staff is very dedicated and the hard decisions Dr. Metcalf mentioned didn't just affect our students and family, it impacted staff as well. But, like always, our staff was professional and while it wasn't an easy decision for anyone, it was the right decision to make.

Dr. Metcalf gave a shout out to Ann Anderson for the Comet Camp this summer for approximately 140 1st and 2nd grade students to help bridge the summer slide. He noted he spoke with Mrs. Anderson last week and she advised she received good responses back from the parent survey following the camp.

Dr. Gabriel advised students were invited to attend Comet Camp and noted it may be beneficial to have Ann attend a meeting and provide a report to the board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Ben Conway, Secretary


Patrick McKennon, President