

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Board of Education*

Work Session – October 9, 2017

MINUTES

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

Roll Call by Superintendent Brian Metcalf indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Patrick McKennon, Denise DuFort, Beverly Winstanley, Sara Clark Pierson, Linda Wacyk and Kim Mulvenna. **Central Office Administrators**: Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Sutherland and Mark Deschaine. **Others in Attendance**: Melissa Mazzola, Jamie Keating, Tracey Keating, Jen Bouck and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Melissa Mazzola addressed the board on behalf of the Grand Ledge Education Association to express the Associations concerns with regard to moving toward a balance calendar noting they are happy with the current school calendar.

ACTION ITEM

A. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Mrs. Winstanley, seconded by Mrs. Clark Pierson for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$306,460.08, as presented.

President Mulvenna noted the invoices include a \$200,000 payment to Astro Turf Corporation for the High School Stadium project, \$74,960 to Dew-El Corporation for the installation of privacy partitions at the High School and Hayes, two invoices to Myers Plumbing and Heating. One in the amount of \$15,462 for work on the septic system at Delta Mills Early Childhood Center and another in the amount of \$1,363.08 for replacement of the water line to the north wing of Neff Kindergarten Center. There are also two invoices to Superior Asphalt for the installation of a handicap ramp at Delta Mills Early Childhood and the removal and installation of asphalt work in the parking lot at Wacousta Elementary School in the amount of \$4,000 and \$10,675 respectively.

The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

A. 2016-2017 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel provided the board with a detailed overview of high school student achievement including information about the Advanced Placement classes offered at Grand Ledge High School, the number of students receiving a “3” or higher on an AP Test covering 2007-2017 including an overview of how GLHS compares to the State and Global. He further provided the board with the

number of AP Scholars including Scholars, Honors, Distinction, and National for 2011-2017. He provided an overview of the 2017 and 2017 SAT scores in English, Math and the composite score showing the percentage of students reading for college English and Math and finished by provided the board with a comparison of the percent of those meeting the college readiness benchmarks and ACT scores in English, Math, Reading and Science from 2007 to 2017.

During a detailed discussion among the members Mr. Gabriel noted while there is still a gap in scores, the numbers are going up and we are reducing the gap. He pointed out there are a lot of conversations taking place. And the interventions we have put in place have been a big help. He commended the SAT prep class and the results that have come from students taking that course. He noted he would like to see the pre-requisites for AP courses lessened to encourage more students to take AP courses

In closing he noted more of our elementary curriculum is being handled with fidelity, which will yield improvements, but not immediately. In addition, the newly enacted 3rd grade reading retention law will also help.

B. 3RD GRADE READING

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel provided the board with an overview of Public Act 306 (3rd Grade Reading Retention) noting this new legislation requires screening and support for all students who are not at grade level in reading and has a provision for retention of students who are one or more grade level(s) behind by the end of 3rd grade according to their M-STEP assessment starting with the 2019-2020 school year. He advised there are currently more than 30 states that have policies targeting 3rd grade reading proficiency. He reviewed the 3rd Grade ELA results on the M-STEP from 2016-17. He further provided details of what districts are required to provide under this new legislation and what a student is required to meet in order to be promoted/enrolled into the 4th grade beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. He reviewed the "Good Cause" exemptions under the law with regard to promoting a student and shared specific strategies GLPS is doing to address this new law.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Melissa Mazzola addressed the district's rankings in Mr. Gabriel's High School Student Achievement presentation.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Board Vice President Linda Wacyk and President Kim Mulvenna asked Ms. Mazzola to share the results of the teacher survey regarding a balanced calendar noting the teachers' perspectives are important but from the community aspect there seems to be support.

Ms. Mazzola noted she believes if you address the issues the board will see more staff get behind it.

Mr. Gabriel pointed out there are many version of a balanced calendar and he believes until the district find tunes the concept and gets feedback, what the teachers are concerned with may not even be with the district is considering. This is very early in the discussion.

Mrs. Clark Pierson mentioned she has a third grade nephew who was out running on the new community stadium field and noting she is glad to see the field getting used and feels it is important for the community to have so many venues in which people can come together.

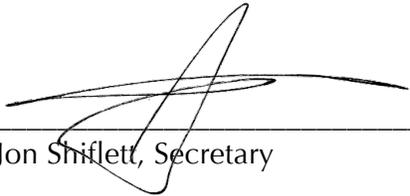
President Mulvenna agreed with Mrs. Clark Pierson but pointed out the district has an ever-increasing list of infrastructure needs that will need to be addressed.

Mrs. DuFort thanked Mr. Gabriel for his presentations expressing she believes we are way ahead of the curve with what we have been doing and with the reading and math coaches.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jon Shiflett, Secretary

Attest:



Kim Mulvenna, President