

# **GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124**

## **MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

### **APRIL 21, 2022**

#### ***CALL TO ORDER***

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Grant Community High School District 124, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Thursday, April 21, 2022 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake.

#### ***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

All those in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ***ROLL CALL***

On Roll Call, the following Members were found to be present:

Steve Hill, President  
Kathy Kusiak, Vice President  
Shelly Booth, Member  
Ivy Fleming, Member  
Ed Lescher, Member

Members absent:

John Jared, Secretary  
Bob Yanik, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent  
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager  
Mr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal

Kathy Kusiak served as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of the Secretary, John Jared.

#### ***AUDIENCE***

Sharon Becker, Carrie Stump, Jacquelyn Homan, Richard Homan, Kim Schnoor, Tina Sonders, Ryan Geist, Dana Oddo, Veronica Lukemeyer, Neil Jolcover, Laura Jolcover, Katherine Sagritalo, Diane Nellen, Nathan Miller, Thomas Ross, Norma Casino, Darryl Casino, Joseph Casino, Joe Bongiovanni, Stacie Noisey, Cathy Wiener, Sam Wiener

#### ***SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT***

##### April Student of the Month

Dr. Sefcik introduced Joseph Casino, in the presence of his parents, Darryl and Norma Casino, as the April Student of the Month. She read Joseph's profile of accomplishments, which included academic achievements, extracurricular activities, service to the community, what he enjoys in his spare time, and future plans. Dr. Sefcik offered Joseph the opportunity to speak to the Board and he thanked the Board for the honor. He also said he was appreciative for the opportunities, resources, and amazing experiences that he has had throughout his years at Grant. The Board and audience applauded Joseph and Dr. Sefcik presented him with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the April Student of the Month.

## **AUDIENCE** (cont'd)

Mr. Hill welcomed the audience and thanked them for coming. He asked if anyone wanted to address the Board. Mrs. Kim Schnoor stood and expressed her interest to speak and moved to the podium. She spoke on the subject of recent local requests to ban a specific book and wanted the Board to know that she does not support a ban, but instead, believes that families should determine what is best for their own children. No other members of the audience requested to speak and Mr. Hill thanked Mrs. Schnoor for addressing the Board and thanked the other members of the audience for their attendance at the meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of regular meeting held March 17, 2022

Minutes of closed meeting held March 17, 2022

April Bills Payable

March Treasurer's Report

Quarterly list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers, and brokers

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** (cont'd)

### Student Services Data

Dr. Sefcik introduced Tina Sonders, Director of Special Education and Ryan Geist, Assistant Principal for Student Services to provide an update of the Student Services Department data such as the increasing need for student support and intervention practices. Data included suicide prevention efforts, risk assessments conducted, students receiving school counseling services, and interventions/supports provided to students.

### MTSS Framework Update

Dr. Sefcik introduced Dr. Stacie Noisey, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Tina Sonders, Director of Special Education, and Veronica Lukemeyer, Divisional Administrator, to provide details on the District's MTSS Framework. Information presented included a description of what MTSS is, the areas in which we provide support, the Tiers students fit into, the Vision statement, the critical components to achieve the vision, the school level process overview, data review meetings, and future planning.

### Library Procedures

Dr. Sefcik introduced Dr. Nate Miller, Assistant Principal for Student Services and Librarian, Carrie Stump to provide information on how library resources are selected. A process used to select library resources and for potential objections was presented to the Board to formalize the selection of library materials that are not directly associated with curriculum and instruction.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the Library Procedures as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

#### Legislative Update

Dr. Sefcik provided information on some of the legislative updates including COVID Paid Administrative Leave, Spring Session legislation: curriculum changes, substitute shortage, employee leave benefits, school fees, school construction, Invest in Kids, etc.

#### IHSA Membership 2022/23

Dr. Sefcik recommended continued membership in the Illinois High School Association for the 2022/23 school year. As an IHSA member, we are recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education and we will adopt and abide by the constitution, by-laws, terms and conditions, and administrative procedures, guidelines, and policies of the Association. Additionally, Dr. Sefcik shared that a proposed membership assessment by IHSA for 22/23 and 23/24 has been eliminated.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mrs. Booth to approve membership in the IHSA for the 2022/23 school year.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Hill, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

#### Future Business Leaders of America National Competition (FBLA)

Dr. Sefcik reported that 10 students qualified for the National FBLA Competition and National Leadership Conference. It will take place in Chicago from June 29 – July 2. The sponsor, chaperone, and students will stay in Chicago for the duration of the competition and the estimated cost will be \$4,948.31.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Lescher, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the travel for the FBLA students, sponsor, and chaperone for the National FBLA competition and leadership conference, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Lescher, Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

#### Journalism State Competition

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that three members of the District's competitive Journalism Team qualified for the IHSA State Series. The students and Journalism Team's sponsor will travel to Normal, Illinois on April 21 and return on April 22. Estimated cost is \$1,041.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the travel for the Journalism Team students and sponsor for the IHSA State Series, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

### Graduation

Dr. Sefcik was pleased to announce the planning for a traditional graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, in the Fieldhouse. The ceremony will begin at 2:00 pm. She welcomed the Board members to attend this event and to RSVP at their earliest convenience in order to secure seating and determine diploma distribution arrangements.

### IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference

Dr. Sefcik asked the Board to consider attending the 2022 Joint Annual Conference that will take place in Chicago on November 18-20. Registration will open on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup> and we will complete the registration process for the members that are interested in attending.

### Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Kevin Geist, Asst. Director of Activities and Athletics, 2022/23
- Lauren Becmer, part-time .8 Social Studies teacher, BA Step 0, 2022/23 school year.
- Mira Giannetti, full-time Family & Consumer Science teacher, BA Step 0, 2022/23 school year.
- Julia Lightbody, full-time Bilingual teacher, MA+15 Step 16, 2022/23 school year.
- Max Boton, Head Girls' Tennis Coach, 2022/23
- Mark Jolcover, Head Wrestling Coach, 2022/23
- Christopher Prostka, Assistant Football Coach, 2022/23

Accepting the resignation letters from:

- Lynsea Volbrecht, Special Education Teacher, effective end of 2021/22 school year
- Jacquie Raslawski, System's Analyst, effective 9/15/2022
- Brittany Kline, Girls' Basketball Coach, effective immediately

Notification of FMLA request from Jamie Martin, beginning on June 1, 2022 and ending on August 23, 2022.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the personnel recommendations as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

### Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on End of Semester Information, Alternative Pathways Program, Elyssa's Mission: Signs of Suicide, Assessment Updates, Spring Musical, Student Recognition: NHS, IL Principals Association, NLCC Art Festival, Freshman Honors Breakfast, and the HeartSmart EKG Program.

## ***BUSINESS AFFAIRS***

### 2022/23 Budget

Mrs. Reich reported the 2022/23 Budget is under construction. She continues to monitor changes due to COVID and renewal rates for health insurance should be available next month. She hopes to bring the tentative budget next month to request it be placed on public display.

2021/22 Amended Budget

Mrs. Reich provided the 2021/22 tentative amended budget for review. Changes that have been made are to accommodate increases in Title I, II, and IV grants, increase in state revenue tied to an error in the EBF Funding, increase in costs associated with special education transportation and other supplies, and decrease in local revenue tied to school fees and interest. She recommended placing the tentative amended 2021/22 budget on display for the statutory 30 days.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to approve placing the tentative amended 2021/22 budget on public display for the required 30 days.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Tax Cap Adjustment

Mrs. Reich stated the state multiplier from the Illinois Dept. of Revenue is 1.0 for tax year 2021. This equalizer is then applied to our equalized assessed value (EAV) resulting in a total EAV of \$988,614,180. This is an increase of \$36,647,383 from 2020. The EAV increased 3.85% from last year. As a result, the tax rate is 2.332392. The consumer price index for this tax cycle was 1.4%. Approximately, \$647,781.57 had to be cut to comply with the tax cap limitation. She also provided a copy of the detailed cap adjustments, as well as a comparison of Grant High School's tax rate to other high school district's in Lake County.

Landscape Bid Approval

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that the most recent landscaping contract expired in November 2021. On April 8, 2022, bids were opened for Lawn and Grounds Maintenance. She recommended the lowest bid from Balanced Environments for a 3-year contract beginning April 2022 through November 2024 for the base bid of \$48,966 for year 1, \$51,414 for year 2, and \$53,985 for year 3. She also recommended declining Alternate Option A, which was to include the grass cutting at the main campus, 285 E. Grand Ave.

\*\* A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Kusiak to award the Lawn and Grounds Maintenance contract to Balanced Environments, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Hill, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Resolution Adopting Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois Supplement Savings Plan

Mrs. Reich told the Board in August 2018, the state legislature passed ILCS 5/16-204, part of P.A. 100-769, which requires the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois (TRS) to set up and offer an optional defined contribution plan to members. As part of this, all employers who have members participating in TRS need to pass a resolution adopting the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois Supplemental Savings Plan. She recommended adoption of the Resolution Adopting Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois Supplemental Savings Plan.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Kusiak to adopt the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois Supplement Savings plan.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Lescher, Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

## ***OTHER BUSINESS***

Dr. Sefcik reported on the two Freedom of Information Act requests that were fulfilled.

## ***CLOSED SESSION***

- \*\* At 8:30 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mrs. Fleming to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9).

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

- \*\* At 8:48 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Booth to end closed session and return to open session.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

## ***ACTION CLOSED SESSION***

- \*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the addition of a Full-time Social Worker beginning with the 2022/23 school year.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

## ***ADJOURN***

- \*\* At 8:50 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Kusiak to adjourn the meeting.

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Steve Hill, President

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Kathy Kusiak, Secretary Pro Tem