

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

APRIL 27, 2023

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 27, 2023 and called to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake.

ROLL CALL

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

Steve Hill, President
Kathy Kusiak, Vice President
John Jared, Secretary
Shelly Booth, Member
Ivy Fleming, Member
Ed Lescher, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent: None

Administration present:

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

Student Representative: Nicole Kaminski

AUDIENCE

Raquel Babani, Salomon Babani, Melissa Babani, Caitrin Myers, Marissa Myers, Karen Ramilec, Josh Altergutt

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Recognition and Informational Items

April Student of the Month

Dr. Sefcik introduced Raquel Babani, in the presence of her parents, as the April Student of the Month. She read Raquel's profile of accomplishments, which included academic achievements, extracurricular activities, service to the community, what she enjoys in her spare time, and future plans. Dr. Sefcik offered Raquel the opportunity to speak to the Board and she thanked the Board for providing the tools and support that students need to be successful and for making the school a better place. The Board and audience applauded Raquel and Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the April Student of the Month.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Oath of Office

Mr. Hill asked the newly elected Board Members to stand and take their Oath of Office. Mrs. Fleming, Mr. Jared, and Mrs. Kusiak recited their Oath of Office.

Elect President of the Board of Education

Mr. Hill asked for nominations for the office of President and Mr. Jared and Mrs. Kusiak nominated Steve Hill for the office of President. No other nominations were received.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Lescher to elect Steve Hill as Board President.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion – **Passed**

Elect Vice-President of the Board of Education

Mr. Hill asked for nominations for the office of Vice-President and Mr. Jared nominated Kathy Kusiak for the office of Vice President. No other nominations were received.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Fleming to elect Kathy Kusiak as Board Vice-President.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion – **Passed**

Elect Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Hill asked for nominations for the office of Secretary and Mr. Hill nominated John Jared for the office of Secretary. No other nominations were received.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Booth to elect John Jared as Board Secretary.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion – **Passed**

Appoint Treasurer to the Board of Education

Mr. Hill asked for a motion to appoint Beth Reich to serve as Treasurer for the Board.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to appoint Beth Reich to serve as Treasurer for the Board.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion – **Passed**

Establish day, time, and location of Board of Education Meetings

Mr. Hill asked for a motion to set the day and time of the Grant Community High School Board of Education meetings for the third Thursday of each month, through June 2025, and that the remaining meetings in the existing schedule will be maintained.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Jared to set the day and time of the Board of Education meetings for the third Thursday of each month, through June 2025, and that the remaining meetings in the existing schedule will be maintained.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion – **Passed**

Committee Appointments

Mr. Hill asked for, and received, volunteers to fill the following committee appointments:

SEDOL Delegate – Kathy Kusiak

SEDOL Alternate – Shelly Booth

Site & Facility Committee Member – Steve Hill

Site & Facility Alternate – John Jared

IASB Representative – Ivy Fleming

IASB Alternate – Kathy Kusiak

PBIS Committee Member – John Jared

PBIS Alternate – Bob Yanik

Insurance Committee Member – Ivy Fleming

Insurance Committee Alternative – Ed Lescher

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held March 16, 2023

April Bills Payable

March Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from October 21, 2021

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

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Recognition and Informational Items (continued)

Student Services Data

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that the Student Services Data report would be online and if they have any questions, they can reach out to the Principal, Jeremy Schmidt or Ryan Geist, Assistant Principal.

Distinguished Bulldog Recognition

Dr. Sefcik provided details of the new student recognition program, the *Distinguished Bulldog* recognition, to support and enhance the development of college and career ready students. The requirements are:

- Minimum GPA of 3.75
- Minimum SAT Composite Score of 1400
- 95% attendance junior and senior year (average of the two years ≥ 95%)
- At least one academic indicator in English language arts and mathematics
- Three career ready indicators

School Board Policy Modifications – First Reading

Dr. Sefcik provided the following Board policies for a first reading. They will be presented for a second reading and potential action at the May meeting.

Section 200 School Board

2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers

Section 400 Operational Services

4:60 Purchases and Contracts

Section 500 Personnel

5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct

5:150 Personnel Records

5:260 Student Teachers

5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria

5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Section 600 Instruction

6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

6:230 Library Media Program

Coffee Shop Planning

Dr. Sefcik said that a group of students and administrators visited Huntley High School to tour their coffee shop as efforts continue in the planning of our coffee shop. We are scheduled to open at the start of the 2023/24 school year and we look forward to the employment opportunities for our Transition students.

Graduation

Dr. Sefcik noted the graduation ceremony will be held on Sunday, May 21st, at 2:00 pm in the Fieldhouse. She welcomed all Board members to attend and Mr. Yanik, Mrs. Booth, Mr. Lescher, Mr. Jared, Mr. Hill, and Mrs. Fleming responded that they will be there and Mrs. Kusiak will confirm closer to the event. They will soon determine seating and diploma distribution.

Student Representative to the Board of Education

Dr. Sefcik was pleased to announce that junior student, Julia Podgorski, has been selected as the Student Representative to the Board of Education for the 2023/24 school year. Julia will join us for the May and June meetings to shadow Nicole.

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Elyssa's Mission, End of Semester Information, Assessment Updates, Spring Events and Activities: Career Fair, Activity Fair, Health and Wellness Fair, Spring Musical, and Prom, Student Recognition: National Honor Society, NLCC Art Festival, Illinois Principals Association, and Freshman Honors Breakfast.

Student Representative's Report

Nicole Kaminski provided her report which included information on student clubs and activities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josh Altergutt requested to address the Board on the subject of Sports Code of Conduct.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Action Items**Threat Assessment**

Dr. Sefcik reported that Threat Assessment is a violence prevention practice that is used when an individual threatens to commit a violent act or engages in threatening behavior. Our school threat assessment model, developed by Dr. Dewey Cornell, allows school-based teams to follow a decision-tree process to resolve less serious transient threats quickly while focusing greater attention on more serious, substantive threats.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mr. Jared to approve the District's Threat Assessment Protocol and Threat Assessment Team.

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

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Future Business Leaders of America National Competition (FBLA)

Dr. Sefcik proudly announced that twelve students qualified for the National FBLA Competition and National Leadership Conference. The competition will take place in Atlanta, Georgia from June 27 – 30. The cost to the District will be \$11,520.86 for sponsor, an additional chaperone, and the twelve students for airfare, airport shuttle, and other costs, as presented.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the cost for the FBLA competition, as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik presented overnight travel requests from the following:

- Journalism-three students qualified for the State competition on Friday, April 21st, and requested to travel to Bloomington-Normal. Cost to the District was \$737.20.
- Dance Team-the Dance Team is requesting to travel to Bloomington, IL, for the Unity Camp, from June 26-28 and will include three coaches and approximately 30 student-athletes. Student-athletes will be responsible for their own costs and the cost for coaches will be paid with activity funds.
- Wrestling Team-the Wrestling Team is requesting to travel to Waverly, IA, for the Wartburg Wrestling Team Camp, from June 14-17, and will include five coaches and approximately 20-30 student-athletes. Student-athletes will be responsible for their own costs and the cost for coaches will be paid with activity funds.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the overnight travel for Journalism, the Dance Team, and the Wrestling Team, as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Mike Kennedy, move from Student Dean to Full-time Special Education-Transitions Program Teacher for 2023/24 school year
- Trisha Crambes, move from Math Teacher to Full-time Instructional Coach for 2023/24 school year
- Stephanie Lesperance, Teacher Leader - Electives
- Laura Widenhoefer, Special Education Teacher, MA Step 0, 2023/24
- Martin Mayer, 2nd Shift Custodian, \$16/hr., starting April 10, 2023
- Nicholas Peterson, Asst. Cheer Coach

Accept the resignation letter from the following:

- Cory Dooley, Math Teacher, effective end of 2022/23 school year
- John Florian, Transportation, effective April 14, 2023
- Joseph Peters, Custodian, effective April 14, 2023.
- Emily Torrey, Asst. Marching Band, effective immediately

Notification of FMLA request from the following:

- Lauren Behm, Teacher, starting April 19 through May 22, 2023
- Rosa Ramirez, Food Service, starting March 13 through May 22, 2023

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

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

2022/23 Tentative Amended Budget

Mrs. Reich provided the 2022/23 tentative amended budget for review. Changes have been made to accommodate increases in Title I, II and IV grants, increase in costs on special education tuition and transportation. Mrs. Reich requested approval to place the tentative 2022/23 budget on public display for the statutory 30 days.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Booth to place the tentative 2022/23 budget on public display for 30 days.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

2023/24 Budget

Mrs. Reich reported that the 2023/24 Budget is under construction and contract negotiations and health insurance renewal rates have not been determined. Based on the unknowns and that there is not 30 days between the May and June meeting, she will bring the tentative budget in June to place on public display.

Tax Cap Adjustment

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that the state multiplier from the Illinois Department of Revenue is 1.00 for tax year 2022. This equalizer is then applied to our equalized assessed value (EAV) resulting in a total EAV of \$1,078,742,086. This is an increase of \$90,127,906 from 2021. The EAV increased 9.12% from last year. As a result, the tax rate is 2.263175. The consumer price index for this tax cycle was over 7%, so it was capped at 5%. Approximately, \$267,882 had to be cut to comply with the tax cap limitation. A copy of the detailed cap adjustments was provided, as well as a comparison of Grant High School's tax rate to other high school districts in Lake County.

Architectural Facility Vision/Master Plan Engineering Services Campus MEPFP Assessment

Mrs. Reich stated that during our search for architectural services, the District expressed the need for a list of priority projects and most important was the Facility Master Plan. Our architect of record, Wight & Company, has proposed a total fee of \$40,000 for this work. The plan will include evaluating the district's mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems and assign a rating system to prioritize projects to maintain the building systems.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared to approve Wight & Company to create the Architectural Facility Vision/Master Plan for the amount of \$40,000, as presented.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Wight & Company Project Authorization Exhibit – Weight Room Expansion

Mrs. Reich said a second priority for Wight & Company, is to modify the district's weight room to accommodate the increasing enrollment in *Intro to Strength and Conditioning* and *Advanced Strength and Conditioning*. Enrollment in these courses has more than doubled in the last five years. We would like to authorize Wight & Co. to begin work on schematic designs to improve this space. This will be done on an hourly basis that will roll into the fee for the overall project. When designs are ready, they will be brought to the Site and Facility Committee for review and will make a recommendation to the Board.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the authorization for Wight & Company to begin schematic designs for the weight room, as presented.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that there were four Freedom of Information Act requests received and fulfilled.

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 7:52 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared 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); other matters relating to individual students 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(10); student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2).

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

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:23 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Lescher to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

No action was taken as a result of closed session

ADJOURN

- ** At 8:24 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Booth to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

John Jared, Secretary