

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AUGUST 20, 2020

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, August 20, 2020 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
Paul LaRoche, Vice President
Ivy Fleming, Member
Kathy Kusiak, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary
John Jared, Member

Administration present:

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

Paul LaRoche served as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of Secretary, Ruth Michniewicz

AUDIENCE

Sharon, Joseph, Katherine, and Connor Rada

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held July 16, 2020

Minutes of special meeting held July 28, 2020

August Bills Payable

July Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from February 21, 2019

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

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

Aye: LaRoche, Fleming, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced recent Grant graduate, Connor Rada, in the presence of his family as the National Champion in Banking and Financial Systems for Future Business Leaders of America. She let the Board know that the Village of Fox Lake also recognized Connor at a Village Board meeting and with two highway signs coming into town. Connor detailed the steps he went through to earn his first-place finish. Dr. Sefcik presented Connor with a certificate of the Board's and District's congratulations.

Presentation of New Faculty Members

Dr. Sefcik said we reimagined new teacher introductions, given the continued hybrid Zoom/In-person Board of Education meetings combined with gathering and social distancing limitations. Each new faculty member recorded an introduction video to share. New faculty members are: Kristen Arndt, Allison Barker, Mark Jolcover, Ryan Reynolds, Paige Gruber, Paige Stickle, Jason Papacek, and Cory Dooley.

School Year / Planning Update

Dr. Sefcik reported that the next communication to the community regarding the school re-opening plan will be September 30th. She, along with our feeder districts, will be creating a task force to look at the different facets of re-entry. The task force will include 2 parents, 2 staff members, 1 Board member, and 2 administrators from each district. There will also be 1 health professional and 2 medical professionals from the shared communities. A letter requesting volunteers in those areas will go out on August 21st and task force members identified by August 28th. Dr. Sefcik shared health concern FAQs released from IDPH and ISBE as it relates to reopening considerations. Health Department models will be provided at a later date when data is populated.

E-Learning 2.0 Plan

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the E-Learning 2.0 Plan that expands on the original E-Learning Plan that was approved by the Board in December, 2019. The modification now covers three situations of e-learning:

- Remote E-Learning for Extended Periods of Time
- Blended E-Learning with Some In-Person Instruction
- Emergency School Closing E-Learning Day

Expectations in all learning modes have been outlined for both teachers and students in the E-Learning Plan 2.0 Teacher Handbook and E-Learning Plan 2.0 Student Quick Reference Guide. Additionally, she recommended approval of the Resolution to Adopt Remote E-Learning Plan 2.0.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the E-Learning 2.0 Plan and Resolution.

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

Aye: Fleming, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Student Performance and Achievement Data

Dr. Sefcik told the Board that in previous years, she has presented student performance and achievement data for PSAT, SAT, Advanced Placement, and Measures of Academic Progress. However, with learning going remote in mid-March last school year, none of the spring testing took place as planned. Therefore, we are foregoing the data update for 2019/20 and look forward to collecting performance data for the 2020/21 school year.

Enrollment Update

Dr. Sefcik reported the enrollment as of August 7th as follows:

Grade 9	459
Grade 10	443
Grade 11	473
Grade 12	460
Total	1,835

This is a decrease of 28 students from last year and closely aligns with the Kasarda demographic report that shows the enrollment projection of 1,839 students noted in the *occurs as anticipated* model.

School Board Policy Modifications – First Reading

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the modifications to the following School Board Policies based on direction from the Illinois Association of School Boards and legal counsel:

2:220 School Board Meeting Procedure

4:180 Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery

7:190 Student Behavior

7:340 Student Records

7:345 Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve all modified policies as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations and notifications:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Tim Rennels, Part-time .6, Industrial Technology, MA+30 Step 21
- Emma Macniak, Teacher Aide, \$17.22/hr. starting August 10, 2020

Recommend granting the request of an unpaid leave of absence from the following:

- Kimberly Nelson, Food Service

Recommend accepting the letter of resignation from the following individuals:

- Heidi McCarthy, Art Teacher, Art Club sponsor, Environmental Club sponsor, effective immediately
- Emily Troemel, Teacher Aide, effective immediately
- Cristiana Catarino, Spanish Club sponsor, effective immediately
- Hilda Serna, Food Service, effective immediately

Notification of the following FMLA requests:

- Katherine Brunette, Transportation, August 17, 2020 – October 17, 2020
- Barbara Miller, Food Service, August 17, 2020 – November 12, 2020

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the personnel recommendations as presented.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Big Dawg Mentor Training, On-Site Material Pickup, Freshman Orientation, New Teacher Orientation, and Back-to-School Institute Days.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Building Cleaning and Sanitizing

Mrs. Reich provided an update on the steps our Buildings and Grounds department is taking to ensure the sanitation and cleanliness of the building. Each classroom has received a "Sanitizing Kit" to use on an as needed basis in addition to the cleaning performed by the B&G staff. Additionally, cleaning and sanitizing now includes the use of electrostatic sprayers that perform a deep clean. She detailed the steps being taken and praised Josh Staples for the efforts and organization that he has put forth.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported that two Freedom of Information Act requests were received and fulfilled. She said that it is time to post a Request for Proposal for legal services and she will be assembling a committee to interview.

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 7:50 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Fleming to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2); the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); and semi-annual review of closed session minutes 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21).

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

Aye: Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Kusiak, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:08 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: LaRoche, Fleming, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Kusiak to authorize the opening of closed session minutes, as confidentiality no longer exists, for the following Board of Education meeting dates: October 17, 2019, November 14, 2019, December 11, 2019, December 19, 2019, January 16, 2020, and June 18, 2020.

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

Aye: Fleming, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

** At 8:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

Paul LaRoche, Secretary Pro Tem