

# **GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING FEBRUARY 20, 2020**

## ***CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL***

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

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

Paul LaRoche, Vice President  
Ivy Fleming, Member  
John Jared, Member  
Kathy Kusiak, Member  
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent: Steve Hill, President  
Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary

Administration present: Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent  
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager

Paul LaRoche served as President Pro Tem in the absence of President, Steve Hill  
Kathy Kusiak served as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of Secretary, Ruth Michniewicz

## ***AUDIENCE***

Heather Friziellie-District 114, Genevieve Fritz, Kathy Caulfield, Sheila Cameron

President Pro Tem, Paul LaRoche recognized Heather Friziellie, Superintendent of Fox Lake School District 114, to present her information on the March 17, 2020, Zero Tax Rate Ballot Proposal. She distributed a FAQ sheet and their district newsletter that provides information how the ballot proposal will address building security, safety, and maintenance issues, pay competitive salaries to attract and retain quality teachers, and purchase updated and rigorous instructional materials.

## ***CONSENT AGENDA***

Minutes of regular meeting held January 16, 2020

Minutes of closed meeting held January 16, 2020

February Bills Payable

January Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from August 16, 2018

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, 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, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

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

### February Student of the Month

Dr. Sefcik invited Genevieve Fritz, in the presence of her mother, Kathy Caulfield, to join her to be introduced as the February Student of the Month. Genevieve's academic achievements include induction into the National Honor Society during her sophomore year, qualifying for Scholars' List and Honor Roll each semester, and participating in Illini Girls State. She is taking 4 AP classes and holds an impressive 5.018 GPA. She is involved in Jazz Band, Marching Band, and the Youth Advisory Council for Alcohol Awareness. She volunteers for the Fox Lake Triathlon, Community Garden, Fox Lake Farmer's Market, Victory Lakes Nursing Home, and the service opportunities through NHS. Genevieve works at Kiddie Kottage Daycare, and enjoys baking, family and friends time, and taking on leadership roles such as Big Dawg Mentor. Genevieve plans to earn a degree in education with a focus on the social sciences and will attend Illinois State University in the fall. She aspires to enter the teaching field as a high school teacher and ultimately becoming a principal. Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate the occasion, and the Board and audience applauded to congratulate her on these achievements.

### Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist Certification

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that she recommends the National Strength and Conditioning Association's coursework that leads to the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) certification. It includes sport-specific testing sessions, designing, and implementing safe and effective training and conditioning programs, and guidance regarding nutrition and injury prevention. The collective bargaining agreement includes language that addresses the district's need for teacher(s) to take coursework and acquire a certificate and pay for such coursework/licensure. A select number of physical education teachers have been identified to receive this training and the cost to the district is \$862 per teacher.

\*\* A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist certification as presented.

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

Aye: Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

### Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) Staffing Recommendations

Dr. Sefcik explained that the District is approximately 18 months into working with DMGroup to define the District's MTSS framework. The MTSS framework is to identify struggling students early and to intervene quickly. The primary focus has been developing academic supports, but also to support behavior and students' social and emotional needs, which is equally important to the learning process. In order to implement our MTSS framework effectively and provide needed supports for students, she recommends three positions for the 2020/21 school year. The math interventionist will continue from this year's pilot, and recommends the addition of a new English interventionist, and an MTSS Coordinator who will oversee the academic and social/emotional supports.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared to approve the Math Interventionist, English Interventionist, and the MTSS Coordinator positions for the 2020/21 school year.

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

Aye: Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

#### Portrait of a Graduate Update

Dr. Sefcik reported on the first Portrait of a Graduate meeting that was held on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fifty stakeholders participated as members of the Design Team including students, parents, administrators, faculty, staff, business owners, and local community members. The first meeting acquainted participants with the Portrait process and how they will help to develop our Portrait of a Graduate. The facilitator from Battelle for Kids, Steve Fujii, spent much of the evening discussing the landscape shifts that are impacting, and will continue to impact, our students. The group was asked to complete homework that includes sharing their hopes, aspirations, and dreams they have for our students, which will be explored in the next meeting. Several Team members will shadow students for a day to help provide a deeper understanding of the educational experience that students have in order to enrich the Portrait process.

#### Coaching and Co-Curricular Staff Recommendations

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that the collective bargaining agreement calls for an administrative/union standing committee to regularly discuss how many coaches and sponsors are assigned to each sport/activity. Based upon the committee's meetings, the administrative recommendations are based upon student participation and number of current coaches, and are as follows:

- Addition of one (1) Math Team Assistant Sponsor
- Addition of one (1) Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach
- Addition of one (1) Track Assistant Coach (Shared Girls/Boys)
- Reduction of one (1) Cross Country Assistant Coach

Supporting information was provided to explain the administrative position.

\*\* A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the administrative coach/sponsor recommendations as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Yanik, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

#### Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik requested approval of the following overnight travel requests:

- Winterguard to attend the Midwest Colorguard Championship Tournament in LaPorte, IN, March 28-29, for 25 participating students and 2 chaperones with a proposed cost to the District of approximately \$2,350.
- Debate Team to attend the IHSA State Debate Tournament in Bloomington, IL, March 20-21, for 5 participating students and 2 chaperones with a proposed cost to the District of approximately \$2,300.
- Newspaper journalism students to attend the state level Journalism competition in Bloomington, April 23-24, for students who may qualify based upon a local IHSA Journalism competition on April 2. The estimated cost to the District, if students qualify to advance, would be \$989.41.

\*\* A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the overnight travel requests as presented.

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

Aye: Yanik, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

### Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Marissa Myers, Paraprofessional, \$14.29/hr., starting 2/21/2020
- Michael Kouvelis, Asst. Boys' Volleyball Coach
- John Gizowski, Asst. Boys' Volleyball Coach

Recommend accepting the resignation letters from the following:

- Chelsea Wolfe, Instructional Coach, effective immediately
- Kalla Gold, Paraprofessional and Girls' Basketball Coach, effective 2/14/2020
- Carrie Joray, Head Cheerleading Coach, effective end of 2019/20 season
- Marissa Myers, Food Services, effective 2/21/2020

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

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

Aye: LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

## ***BUSINESS AFFAIRS***

### Property Tax Relief Grant Update

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that the Property Tax Relief Grant application the Board approved in December was submitted. On January 27, 2020, notification was received that Grant was not one of the thirty-nine districts that received the grant. She noted that we will continue to be dedicated to exploring all options available to continue to assist our taxpayers.

### National School Lunch Program Audit

Mrs. Reich was happy to report that the Illinois State Board of Education completed an audit of our National School Lunch Program last week and they found us compliant in all major areas.

### 2019/20 Amended Budget

Mrs. Reich stated that the 2019/20 Amended Budget is almost complete. The budget was approved prior to the Grant Council's finalized contract so there have been some necessary adjustments made to the salary budget lines. She anticipates bringing it to the Board at the March meeting to request it be placed on public display, with a hearing and approval to occur in May.

### 2020/21 Budget

Mrs. Reich notified the Board that she is beginning the 2020/21 budgeting process by meeting with departments and assessing needs. Staffing will be finalized in mid-March and she hopes to have a draft for the Board's review at the April meeting.

## ***OTHER BUSINESS***

Dr. Sefcik reported on three Freedom of Information Act requests received and fulfilled from NBC Chicago, Illinois Retired Teachers Association, and Parent Foundation. She thanked the Board for their understanding that there is no Principal's Report during Mr. Schmidt's absence. CDW and Tech department are still working on the security report, that will be presented at an upcoming Board meeting. The District also completed an extensive compliance review with the Regional Office of Education and there are a few items being updated or submitted per their analysis. The ROE recognized Kris Olk for the organization of the paper and electronic files.

***CLOSED SESSION***

No closed session was held.

***ADJOURN***

\*\* At 7:30 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the meeting.

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Paul LaRoche, President Pro Tem

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Kathy Kusiak, Secretary Pro Tem