

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING JUNE 17, 2021

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, June 17, 2021 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:

Kathy Kusiak, Vice President
John Jared, Secretary
Shelly Booth, Member
Ivy Fleming, Member
Ed Lescher, Member

Members absent:

Steve Hill, President
Bob Yanik, Member

Administration present:

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

Mrs. Kusiak served as President Pro Tem in the absence of the President, Steve Hill

AUDIENCE

Joree Morris

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held May 20, 2021

Minutes of closed meeting held May 20, 2021

June Bills Payable

May Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from December 11, 2019 and December 19, 2019

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

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Faculty Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced Grant Transition Program Teacher, Joree Morris as the 2021 Outstanding Educator of the Year. Dr. Sefcik read from her nomination that was submitted by her peers. She will receive up to \$2,000 for materials, subscriptions, and now that events are opening up, she can attend a national conference of her choice. The Board applauded and thanked her for her contribution to the Grant community. Joree addressed the Board to say that she was honored to be chosen and thanked her paraprofessional, Peggy Gigliotti, saying that she couldn't do it without her teamwork!

School Board Policy 6:185 Remote Educational Programs

Dr. Sefcik reported that with the ISBE resolution supporting in-person learning, we are continuing to plan for students to return to campus next school year. The exemption for students with medical conditions that may place them at increased risk of COVID-19 has been removed. As it may be in the best interest of some students to continue with a remote educational program, the District must have a policy in place to permit that as an option for consideration. The policy presented would provide the District with the opportunity to place eligible students in a remote learning program, when it is deemed medically necessary or in the best instructional interest of the student.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mr. Jared to approve the addition of School Board Policy 6:185-Remote Educational Programs.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

2021 School Report Card

Dr. Sefcik provided information on the 2021 Illinois Report Card. There were three release dates, but those have now been condensed into a December and April release. Each will include different data: December 2, 2021- will include metrics that do not rely on assessment data and District scores that completed the spring assessment testing; and April 27, 2022 - will include all remaining assessment data at the school, district, and state levels. New and additional metrics that will be included in the Report card were outlined. She also included the ISBE College and Career Ready Indicator guidance.

College of Lake County High School Feedback Report

Dr. Sefcik furnished this report that provides a profile of our students enrolled at the College of Lake County and their college readiness in reading/writing and mathematics. She was happy to report that college readiness of Grant students increased in each of the last two years in both reading/writing and mathematics and our students scored above the Lake County average in mathematics.

Consolidated District Plan

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the Consolidate District Plan as presented. Districts that receive federal funds are required to have the Board of Education annually approve the plan.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the Consolidated District Plan, as presented.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Deep Equity Partnership

Dr. Sefcik provided information on Deep Equity training in partnership with District 114 and possibly Grayslake District 127. The program is a multi-year commitment and the cost is \$49,000 for the leadership series and \$41,200 for the youth series. These costs may potentially be shared among the participating districts. Grayslake 127 is participating in the meetings but has not fully joined. Dr. Sefcik answered questions from the Board. It was shared that there may be an administrative recommendation for consideration at the July meeting.

Bilingual Liaison

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that our EL Divisional, Veronica Lukemeyer, has assumed more responsibilities in regards to the EL program and a part-time, shared district supporting position would be beneficial. The position would oversee the Bilingual Parent Advisory Council and be the main contact for families, which has grown to over 50 students. We would share this position with Gavin and Fox Lake and split the cost. We would pay 20% of the salary for one day of work per week for GCHS and Gavin and Fox Lake would each have two days of work and contribute 40% per district. It was shared that there may be an administrative recommendation for consideration at the July meeting.

Legislative Update

Dr. Sefcik provided a listing of bills impacting education that have been approved by the legislature and are awaiting signature of the governor. She will keep the Board updated if and when these are formally approved and action is needed.

Travel and Overnight Trips

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the overnight travel of the Cross-Country team requesting to attend the Peoria Notre Dame Cross-Country Invite from September 17-18, 2021. Cost of the travel will be paid with team activity funds, except one meal students will be responsible for on the way back on Saturday afternoon.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Jared to approve the overnight travel for the Cross-County team, as presented.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Fall Coaches 2021/22

Dr. Sefcik presented the 2021/22 Fall Coaches list for approval.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mr. Jared to approve the list of 2021/22 Fall Coaches, as presented.

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

Aye: Lescher, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations and notifications.

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- John Recktenwall, Full-time Teacher-English/Social Studies, BA Step 0

- Anthony Johnson, Full-time Credit Recovery Teacher, \$36,000 salary, formerly Teacher Aide
- Nick Fanella, Full-time Teacher Aide, \$16.15/hr., 2021/22 school year
- Cheryl Kwiatkowski, Transition Program Job Coach, formerly Teacher Aide
- Rachel Bicknase, Full-time Substitute, BA Step 0, 2021/22 school year
- Cory Bowles, Full-time 12 Month Administrative Assistant to the Athletic Director, \$38,500 salary, beginning July 1, 2021
- Alana Stephens, Sign Language Interpreter, \$30/hr., starting 6/10/2021

Recommend approval of the following summer school teachers, conditional upon adequate student enrollment and summer school courses taking place

- Ecaterina Everhart
- Kim Husko

Recommend accepting resignations from:

- Leonard Grodoski, Asst. Football Coach, effective immediately
- Thomas Evans, Asst. Varsity Football Coach, effective immediately

Notification of Family Medical Leave Act requests from:

- Rich Panerali, May 18 – May 27, 2021
- Michael Werner, September 15 – November 12, 2021

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

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Summer School, Freshman Placements, Summer Operations, and Graduation.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

CLIC – Renewal of Workers' Compensation and Liability Insurance

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that the District received our renewal for workers' compensation and the liability insurance through the collective Liability Insurance Cooperative (CLIC). Workers' compensation shows an increase of 9.39% due to funding the variable costs/loss fund and increase in payroll, and the liability/property/casualty package is increasing 13.66%, due to the actual insurance package that CLIC received when they went out to bid, which is primarily in the Cyber Liability Theft.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the renewal of workers' compensation and liability insurance with CLIC, as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Bid Results – Cardiovascular Equipment Bid

Mrs. Reich provided the bid results for Cardiovascular Equipment that included (37) indoor cycles and (37) dumbbell holders for the bikes. It was advertised in local publications for more than 10 days prior to the bid opening. Three contractors requested and received bid documents and three bids were received. Low bidder was Life Fitness at \$51,844.03 for the indoor cycles and \$1,727.90 for the dumbbell holders for a total bid of \$53,571.93.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to accept the bid from Life Fitness of a total of \$53,571.93 for (37) indoor cycles and (37) dumbbell holders.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Student Online Protection Act (SOPPA)

Mrs. Reich presented information on the Student Online Protection Act. An amendment to PA 101-0516 has new requirements to ensure the protection of student data that goes into effect on July 1, 2021. School districts will be responsible for written agreements, posting requirements, policy, breach notification, security procedures, parent notification, and deletion of records. Our action plan includes identifying all software used in district and getting the IL Data Privacy Agreement signed by operators, creating webpage to house required public information, creating response to breach plan, create an updated process for teachers to request new software to be used in classrooms, adding parent notification of SOPPA rights to handbook and newsletter, and review and update security procedures and practices.

Information Technology Managed Services Agreement

Mrs. Reich told the Board that our 2-year, 6-month contract with McQueen Technology Group, LLC will be ending at the end of June. A review was conducted with them and we were satisfied with the services that were provided. They proposed a 3-year contract of 50 hours a month at a cost of \$7,000 per month, for an annual total of \$84,000, which is \$0 increase from previous contract.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the 3-year contract with McQueen Technology Group, LLC, as presented.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Soteria Device Purchase Agreement

Mrs. Reich recommended approval to purchase the Soteria Device for \$19,995 with an annual license fee of \$1,500. This device scans our systems and servers 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to identify ransomware, phishing attempts, DoS attacks and tests for other vulnerabilities. When vulnerabilities are identified, it sends a notification to a tech team member to take action.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Jared to approve the purchase of the Soteria Device, as presented.

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

Aye: Lescher, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Turf Replacement Update

Mrs. Reich provided an update on the field turf. Keifer was on site, the product was ordered, and a tentative start date was given of July 1, 2021. The cost is \$574,180 and we received \$530,155 for the settlement, which is a difference of \$44,015.

Daily Substitute Rate for 2021/22

Mrs. Reich researched the daily substitute rate of pay of area schools and recommends our substitute pay be set at \$125/day for the 2021/22 school year.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the substitute pay be set at \$125/day for the 2021/22 school year.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Treasurer's Bond for 2021/22

Mrs. Reich reported that the Treasurer is required by law to be bonded for 25% of the amount of monies they have custody of. The Board of Education must approve the bond and then it is filed with the Regional Office of Education. The bond renewal is for \$10,500,000 and the cost of the bond decreased from last year to \$9,975.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Jared to approve the treasurer's bond renewal, as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported a Freedom of Information Act request was received and fulfilled. She informed the Board that new guidance from IDPH and ISBE for opening schools in the fall is expected in July.

CLOSED SESSION

** At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Booth, 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).

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

** At 8:30 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: Fleming, Lescher, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik
Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the administrator compensation increases, as presented.

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

Aye: Lescher, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the compensation increases for support staff.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

** At 8:32 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mr. Jared to adjourn the meeting.

Kathy Kusiak, President Pro Tem

John Jared, Secretary