

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MARCH 17, 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, March 17, 2022 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of Grant Community High School District Office, 25700 Old Grand Avenue, Ingleside, Illinois.

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
Shelly Booth, Member
Ivy Fleming, Member
Ed Lescher, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent: Steve Hill, President
John Jared, Secretary

Administration present: Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Mr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal
Dr. Stacie Noisey, Dir. Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessments
Mr. Tom Ross, Athletic Director

Kathy Kusiak served as President Pro Tem in the absence of Steve Hill, President.
Ivy Fleming served as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of John Jared, Secretary.

AUDIENCE

Tristan Mesmer, Justin Warmowski, Jessica Mitchell, Louise & Joe Mitchell, Anthony Johnson, Heather & Matt Warmowski, Leonard Grodoski, Rachel Manlubatan, Razel, Ruderlyn, & Rommell Manlubatan, Charlie & Ayane, Tairner Jasinski, Vanessa, Noel, Crystal, Michael Villegas.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held February 17, 2022

Minutes of closed meeting held February 17, 2022

March Bills Payable

February Treasurer's Report

Destruction of open meeting audio recording from September 17, 2020

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

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

February Student of the Month

Dr. Sefcik introduced Tristan Mesmer, the February Student of the Month. She reminded the Board that Tristan was competing at State last month and could not attend at that time. She read Tristan'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 Tristan the opportunity to speak to the Board and he thanked the Board for the honor and updated his future plans, which will include attending the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. He will be at the New York City campus for the first two years and then at the Los Angeles campus for his final two years. The Board and audience applauded Tristan and Dr. Sefcik presented him with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the February Student of the Month.

March Student of the Month

Dr. Sefcik introduced Rachel Manlubatan, in the presence of her family, Razel, Ruderlyn, and Rommel Manlubatan, as the March Student of the Month. She read Rachel'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 Rachel the opportunity to speak to the Board and she thanked the Board for the honor and the many opportunities that have been available to her. The Board and audience applauded Rachel and Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the March Student of the Month.

IHSA State Wrestling Champions

Dr. Sefcik asked Tom Ross, Athletic Director, to introduce the wrestlers that placed at the State competition this year. In the presence of their families and coaching staff he introduced the following athletes:

He began with sophomore, Ayane Jasinski who was an IHSA Girls State Place-winner for Grant by finishing in 4th place in the 100 lb. weight class and had a season record of 11-3. He mentioned that her father, Charlie took 3rd at the State Tournament for GCHS in 2000. Ayane will be returning for the Bulldogs for her Junior and Senior years.

He then presented senior, Crystal Villegas who earned All-State honors at the first-ever IHSA State tournament finishing 4th place at the 130 lb. weight class. She was a 3X State qualifier earning All-State honors twice, a sectional champion as a senior, finishing her season with a record of 18-2. Crystal has been a trail blazer for women's wrestling becoming the first female wrestler at Grant High School. She will continue to pursue the sport at the collegiate level.

He then introduced senior Justin Warmowski, who earned All-State honors for the 2nd time in his career at Grant. Justin finished in 3rd place at the IHSA State tournament becoming the highest place winner and first semi-finalist at the State tournament for the Grant wrestling program since 2010. Justin finished his senior season with a record of 22-5. He is leaving Grant as a 4-year Varsity starter, a 2X State alternate, 2X State place-winner finishing 4th as a junior and 3rd as a senior and a remarkable career record of 115-31.

The Board, coaching staff, and audience applauded these student-athletes and Dr. Sefcik presented each with a certificate to commemorate their recognition at the Board meeting.

Excellence in Education Award – 3rd Quarter

Dr. Sefcik asked Principal, Jeremy Schmidt, to introduce Special Education Teacher, Jessica Mitchell, chosen as the 3rd quarter Excellence in Education award winner. With her parents, Joe and Louise Mitchell present, Mr. Schmidt read the reasons she was chosen by her peers for this honor, including her care and support, and her ability to meet the needs of the individual student. She spends countless hours to get to know the student and their family by home visits and by communicating with RED Teams so she understands what will best serve each student. She creates a welcoming environment in her classroom and plans opportunities for her students to further develop academic skills and social interactions. Mr. Schmidt offered Jessica the opportunity to speak to the Board and she said how honored and thankful she was to receive the award. The Board and audience applauded Ms. Mitchell.

Curriculum Audit Presentation

Dr. Sefcik introduced Dr. Stacie Noisey, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessments, to provide information on the school-wide curriculum audit. She noted that all departments participated in the audit that was conducted during the 2021/22 school year. She detailed each Stage of the audit: Stage 1-reviewing all curriculum, Stage 2 & 3-demographic and academic data, and Stage 4-recommendations and plans for future years.

DESSA

Dr. Noisey presented a recommendation for a social and emotional screening tool through Aperture Education. The DESSA suite is a social and emotional learning (SEL) program that will complement MTSS and PBIS. It also involves educators, parents, and students, and will inform the delivery of SEL at Tier 1 and Tier 2 as well as measuring the results of that delivery. The Aperture System High School Package for the 2022/23 school year would be a total cost of \$18,200.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the purchase of the Aperture System High School Package for the 2022/23 school year for a total cost of \$18,200, as presented.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Winter Athletic Accomplishments

Dr. Sefcik asked Athletic Director, Tom Ross, to present the 2021/22 Winter Athletic Accomplishments. He included information on winter sports levels and participants, grade point average by sport, academic accolades by sport, and winter athletic accomplishments.

Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik requested approval of the overnight travel for Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Six members qualified for the State competition and conference in Springfield from April 7-9. Accompanying the six qualifiers will be their sponsor and an adult aide for a District cost of \$3,668.04.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the FCCLA overnight travel, as presented.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Lake County Area Vocational System Joint Agreement

Dr. Sefcik reported that the Lake County Tech Campus is requesting all member districts' Boards of Education approve an updated Lake County Area Vocational System Joint Agreement. This intergovernmental agreement has updated language that applies to instruction.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the Lake County Area Vocational System Joint Agreement, as presented.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Resolution Authorizing Non-Renewal and Dismissal of Permanent Substitute Teachers and Reduction of Assignment

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the Resolution Authorizing Non-Renewal and Dismissal of Permanent Substitute Teachers and Reduction of Assignment, as presented

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to approve Resolution Authorizing Non-Renewal and Dismissal of Permanent Substitute Teachers and Reduction of Assignment, as presented

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

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Resolution Authorizing Non-Reemployment of Full-time First-, Second-, and Third-year Non-Tenured Teachers

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the Resolution Authorizing Non-Reemployment of Full-Time, First-, Second-, and Third-Year, Non-Tenured Teachers, as presented.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the Resolution Authorizing Non-Reemployment of Full-Time, First, Second, and Third-Year, Non-Tenured Teachers, as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Cassi Reid, Leave of Absence Special Education Teacher, beginning April 6, 2022 through May 20, 2022, \$227.28/day.
- Lynsea Volbrecht, Assistant Boys' Volleyball Coach
- J.P. Gizowski, Assistant Boys' Volleyball Coach
- Martin Grum, Interim Head Boys' Volleyball Coach
- Ryan DeVito, Assistant Boys' Track

Accept the letters of resignation from the following:

- Paige Stickle, English Teacher, effective at the end of the 2021/22 school year.
- Nicholas Gaona, Bilingual Teacher, effective at the end of the 2021/22 school year.
- Matt Lukemeyer, Girls' Basketball Coach, effective at the end of the 2021/22 season.

- Jason Papacek, Football Coach, effective March 4, 2022.
- Lenny Grodoski, Head Wrestling Coach, effective at the end of the 2021/22 season.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, 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, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on National Merit Scholarship, Feeder Principal Articulation, The Big Game, NLCC Choir Fest, Elyssa's Mission, Spring Events and Activities: Grant's Got Talent, Blood Drive, HeartSmart EKG, Activity Fair, and Prom.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Construction Bid Awards

Mrs. Reich presented the recommendations for the construction bids for the south parking lot project. After review by IHC, she recommended the following:

- Trade Package 26a: Site Electrical Work - Carey Electric Contracting for \$94,200
- Trade Package 31a: Parking Lot Improvements - Superior Paving for \$717,750

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the construction bids for the south parking lot, as presented.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

2022 Asbestos Abatement Project Bid

Mrs. Reich provided bids for the asbestos abatement for the floor tile and mastic in the wrestling room. Bids were received on February 28, 2022. Pepper Environmental Technologies, Inc. is managing this project and has reviewed the bids. They recommend the bid award to Cove Remediation, LLC in the amount of \$62,000. The entire project, including management by Pepper, testing and IDPH reporting will not exceed \$105,700.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the asbestos abatement bid to Cove Remediation, LLC in the amount of \$62,000, with the entire project not exceeding \$105,700.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Appraisal Agreement

Mrs. Reich reported the last time we used Industrial Appraisal was during the summer of 2013. It is a good time to have them come out and do a valuation for insurance purposes as we have added the athletic property on Molidor Road and the Transition Center/District Office building, as well as for depreciation tied to GASB 34. She noted that we will receive a 15% discount on pricing as a member of the Collective Liability Insurance Cooperative (CLIC). Cost will be \$8,345.

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the appraisal with Industrial Appraisal for a cost of \$8,345.

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

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

Auditor Services – 3-year Contract

Mrs. Reich stated in February, we put out a Request for Proposal for Audit Services. Eight firms were solicited and four proposals were received. The lowest bid came from our current auditor, Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs & Co., LLP. She recommended a three-year contract not to exceed \$54,000, with penalties assessed if audit is not provided by District specified deadlines.

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the 3-year contract for auditing services with Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs, & Co., LLP, not to exceed \$54,000, as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik noted that numerous FOIAs were received and fulfilled; the Equity Team completed two days of training and has set a schedule for six meetings to set short and long-term goals; Mr. Hill, Mrs. Kusiak, Dr. Sefcik, and Mrs. Olk have been reviewing the first draft of the Board Policy Manual through IASB; and she provided the IASB Position Statement booklet.

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 8:19 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Lescher 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); 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: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:32 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Booth, 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, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the step change for Tim Norwood from step 19 (approved 2/17/22) to step 20 for the 2022/23 school year.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the step change for Tom Duffy from step 19 (22/23) to step 20 for the 2022/23 school year.

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

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the salary increase for Katie Kauth from \$17.79 to \$21.64 per hour to reflect increased responsibilities for 21/22, effective April 1st.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the salary adjustment for Kevin Hanik from \$31,900 to \$40,000 to reflect increased responsibilities, pro-rated effective March 21, 2022.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the salary adjustment for Vern Jones from \$22,400 to \$30,000 to reflect increased responsibilities, pro-rated effective March 21, 2022.

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

Aye: Fleming, Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the hiring of Kimberly Mampe and Sherly Kiizhakkadthu as Safety Paraprofessionals at the rate of \$15.00/hr. effective March 21, 2022.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the opening of the following closed session minutes from the following meeting dates: August 19, 2021, September 16, 2021, October 21, 2021, November 18, 2021, and December 16, 2021.

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

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

- ** At 8:33 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the meeting.

Kathy Kusiak, President Pro Tem

Ivy Fleming, Secretary Pro Tem