

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MAY 21, 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, May 21, 2020 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom meeting web link. All those in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Steve Hill, President
Paul LaRoche, Vice President
Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary
John Jared, Member
Kathy Kusiak, Member

Members absent:

◆ Ivy Fleming, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Administration present:

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

◆ Ivy Fleming joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

AUDIENCE

Shamus Quinn

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held April 16, 2020

May Bills Payable

April Treasurer's Report

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

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

Aye: Michniewicz, LaRoche, Jared, Kusiak, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming, Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student of the Month

Dr. Sefcik provided the profile for the May Student of the Month, Vivian Hernandez, in the Board's packet to read and played the short acceptance video provided by Vivian Hernandez.

Excellence in Education Award – 4th Quarter

Dr. Sefcik asked Mr. Schmidt to introduce the 4th Quarter Excellence in Education Award winner as All Staff! The administration wanted to recognize all staff for their efforts during remote learning. Everyone worked together to reimagine how to do just about everything!

Graduation Requirements

Dr. Sefcik reported that our graduation requirements have been historically more stringent than what is required by the Illinois State Board of Education. The directive from ISBE was “do no harm” with regard to students due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She made the following recommendation to the graduation requirements per Executive Order 2020-31 and Emergency Rules for the Class of 2020:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	3.5 Credits
Math	2.5 Credits (Algebra I and geometry content required)
Science	1.5 Credits
Social Studies	1.5 Credits
Elective	.5 Credit
Physical Education	Waived
Health Education	Waived
Consumer Education	Waived
Civics/Government	Waived

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared to authorize the change to graduation requirements per Executive Order 2020-31 and Emergency Rules for the Class of 2020, as presented.

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

Aye: Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak
 Nay: None
 Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Succession Plan 2020/21

Dr. Sefcik provided the Board with the succession plan for the 2020/21 school year as required by School Board Policy 3:70.

Virtual Honors Night

Dr. Sefcik said that a virtual Honors Night took place on May 6th and 73 dedicated students were recognized. Due to generous donations from our Grant community, \$45,750 in scholarships were given out that evening. She expressed her wish that these students could have experienced these acknowledgements in person, but this venue provided a unique opportunity to still recognize the efforts of these dedicated students over their high school career.

Fall Play / Spring Musical Selections 2020/21

Dr. Sefcik announced the fall play and spring musical have been selected for next year. A Christmas Carol will be performed in the fall and Seussical will be the spring musical.

Update on 2020/21 Planning

Dr. Sefcik said she expects guidance from the State by June 1st, but the administration has been planning for a variety of possibilities for beginning next school year including full return, blended, and continued remote learning.

Rollover of Unused Vacation Days for Eligible Employees

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that due to the stay-at-home order, many eligible employees were unable to utilize all of their vacation days. The handbook requires these employees to use their vacation days in the fiscal year in which they were provided. In order to fairly allow employees to utilize these days, she recommended allowing the carryover of 2019/20 unused vacation days through June 30, 2021. Staff would be encouraged to be flexible and coordinate these dates with the administration to ensure adequate staffing in the building at all times.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the rollover of unused vacation days for eligible employees through June 30, 2021.

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

Aye: Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Ryan Reynolds, Full-time Special Education Teacher, MA Step 0

Recommend accepting the resignation letters from the following individuals:

- Maryann Greaves, Food Service, effective - end of 2019/20 school year

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

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

Aye: Jared, Kusiak, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt provided his monthly report in the Board packet which included information on End of Year Material Drop-off/Pick-up, Semester Grades, Summer School, and Virtual Graduation.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

2019/20 Amended Budget

Mrs. Reich provided the 2019/20 tentative amended budget for review. The changes have been made to accommodate changes in grants, transfers between funds, special education tuition, state funding, and property tax. She noted that property taxes will be collected by the county in four payments instead of two. The amended budget has been on display for the statutory 30 days.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the 2019/20 amended budget.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

2020/21 Budget

Mrs. Reich provided the tentative 2020/21 budget. Adjustments are being made in property taxes and state funding. There are still unknowns tied to collection rates and student fees. Updates will be made as soon as those are known. Per statute, the budget must be on display for the statutory 30 days. It will be on the July agenda for hearing and approval. She recommended placing the 2020/21 budget on display for the statutory 30 days.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mrs. Michniewicz to place the 2020/21 budget on display for the statutory 30 days.

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

Aye: Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Medical Rate Renewal

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that insurance rates were raised 15% for PPO B and 13% for PPO C in 2016/17. In 2017/18 rates for both plans were raised by 2.61%. Last year, rates were held steady. This year we have seen a rise in claims, but reserves have held steady due to increased lives on the plan. According to the Lakes Region Benefit Cooperative, we have over 90 days of reserves, so we can hold steady again this year. The Insurance Committee recommends no rate increase this year.

Rates recommended for 2020/21 are as follows:

<u>Plan B</u>	<u>Current 19/20</u>	<u>Proposed 20/21</u>
Employee	\$ 749.44	\$ 749.44
Employee+Child	\$1,992.88	\$1,992.88
Employee+Spouse	\$2,157.04	\$2,157.04
Family	\$2,534.02	\$2,534.02

<u>Plan C</u>	<u>Current 19/20</u>	<u>Proposed 20/21</u>
Employee	\$ 675.84	\$ 675.84
Employee+Child	\$1,801.69	\$1,801.69
Employee+Spouse	\$1,948.20	\$1,948.20
Family	\$2,093.24	\$2,093.24

** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mrs. Kusiak to approve the medical rates as presented, that includes no increase for the 2020/21 fiscal year.

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

Aye: Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Tax Cap Adjustment

Mrs. Reich provided a copy of the detailed cap adjustments and reported the state multiplier from the Illinois Department of Revenue is 1.00 for tax year 2019. This equalizer is then applied to our equalized assessed value (EAV) resulting in a total EAV of \$927,557,050. This is an increase of \$56,218,272 from 2018. The EAV increased 6.45% from last year. As a result of the increase in property, our tax rate decreases to a rate of 2.350940 in 2019 from 2.431534 in 2018. The consumer price index for this tax cycle was 1.9%. Approximately, \$420,795.13 had to be cut to comply with the tax cap limitation.

Cybersecurity Threat Assessment

Mrs. Reich reported that the report from CDW was received and prioritized by their rankings of critical, high, moderate, and low. She included the Executive Summary and the Summary of Findings and Recommendations. She proudly reported that we had no items listed as critical risk and only 16 items were listed as high. The technology staff has begun working on these items.

Edgenuity 3-Year Renewal

Mrs. Reich recommended approval of the 3-year renewal of the Edgenuity software platform that the District uses for BDIPS, Credit Recovery, course supplements, and math interventions. These are online programs where student progress can be tracked by teachers, case managers, counselors, therapists, administration, etc. Courses are directly aligned to the core subject curricula and are 100% customizable. The quote includes a 10% discount over three years, which is a savings to the district of \$8,600. The Edgenuity 3-year renewal is a one-time payment of \$87,971, which will be paid out of grant funds.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. LaRoche to authorize a 3-year renewal with Edgenuity in the amount of \$87,971.

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

Aye: Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Bid Awards for Bid Release 1 and Bid Release 2 Summer Work

Mrs. Reich said the Bid Release 1 was opened on April 23 and included Trade Packages 9a: Refinishing of Wood Floor and Trade Package 12a: Telescoping Bleachers. We received only one bid for Trade Package 9a which was significantly over the estimated budget for the project. We recommend rejection of Trade Package 9a in entirety. For Trade Package 12a, six contractors were solicited, with three submitting bids. The lowest responsible bidder was Larson Equipment and Furniture Company. Recommend awarding the bid with alternate 12a-1: Adding Power to the Bleachers to Larson Equipment and Furniture Company in the amount of \$39,000.

On May 5, Bid Release 2: Trade Package 31a: Parking Lot Improvements, was opened. This is the north parking lot project and 27 contractors were solicited and five submitted bids. The lowest responsible bid was from Superior Paving, Inc. of Fox Lake, IL. Recommend awarding the bid for Trade Package 31a: Parking Lot Improvements to Superior Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$274,000.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mrs. Fleming to reject Trade Package 9a in its entirety.

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

Aye: Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. Jared to approve the award of Trade Package 12a with alternate to Larson Equipment and Furniture Company in the amount of \$39,000.

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

Aye: Jared, Kusiak, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mrs. Michniewicz to approve the award of Trade Package 31a to Superior Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$274,000.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

Amendment to Contract for Transportation Services

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that Durham School Services, has requested an amendment to the contract we have with them for transportation services. Durham provides transportation for two of our students with medical needs. With the schools shutdown, Durham is concerned they will lose the staff assigned to these students. They are asking for an amount that will pay the drivers and aides, but does not include gas, maintenance, or any profit. She recommended approval of the Amendment to Contract for Transportation Services as presented.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the Amendment to Contract for Transportation Services with Durham School Services, as presented.

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

Aye: Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Yanik

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported that two FOIA requests were received; our virtual graduation ceremony will be held this weekend; 300 seniors wanted their cap and gown in time for the ceremony, which they were able to get during material drop-off/pickup.

CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held.

ADJOURN

** At 7:36 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. Jared to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary