

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2019

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, October 17, 2019 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:

Steve Hill, President
Paul LaRoche, Vice President
Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary
Ivy Fleming, Member
John Jared, Member
Kathy Kusiak, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

None

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Mr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal
Dr. Nathan Miller, Assistant Principal
Mr. Greg Urbaniak, Dir. Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessments
Mrs. Tina Sonders, Director of Special Education

AUDIENCE

Joseph Ngo and Hai Ngo, Justin Splitt, Randy and Kristin Splitt, Stephanie Lesperance

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held September 12, 2019

October Bills Payable

September Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from April 19, 2018

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

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik invited Joseph Ngo, in the presence of his father, to join her to introduce him as the September Student of the Month. She detailed his accomplishments that include induction into the National Honor Society during sophomore year, where he is currently serving as President, his inclusion on Honor Roll each semester, earning the Daily Herald Leadership Team Award, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, and Most Character Award from Mr. Weinmann. He holds a remarkable 5.365 GPA and his extracurricular activities include: Class Council, serving as Vice President; Math Team - three-time Regional Champ and 10th place at State; Founder and President of Computer Science Club; Table Tennis Captain; FBLA Treasurer - 3-time Regional/State finalist and National qualifier; Boys' Volleyball; and Girls' Tennis Manager. Joseph has logged over 300 hours of service to his community, coordinated numerous NHS service events, and is a Math Lab Tutor, Big Dawn Mentor, and same-day surgery assistant at Vista Hospital. He enjoys working with kids, cooking/baking, programming robotics, and yo-yoing. He participates in Hackathons, which are programming competitions that address real-world issues. He plans to major in computer science and is considering University of California-Berkeley, Stanford, Princeton, or University of Illinois-Urbana. Dr. Sefcik presented Joseph a certificate to commemorate being chosen as September Student of the Month.

Dr. Sefcik asked Justin Splitt to join her, with his parents in the audience, to introduce him as the October Student of the Month. Justin was inducted into the National Honor Society during his sophomore year and earned Honor Roll status each semester and was awarded Scholar Athlete for Cross Country, Basketball, and Track each year. He holds an impressive 4.47 GPA. His numerous extracurricular activities include Class Council President, Student Council President, Principal's Advisory Council member each year, and Math Team as a freshman. Justin has been competing in Cross Country four years, earning All-Conference, All-County, and awarded MVP in his sophomore and junior years; Boys' Basketball during freshman and sophomore years; Track all four years, serving as Captain, earning All-Conference, All-County, All-State, and a State Champion in the 4X400 Relay and 6th place in the 800 Meter. He was chosen for the NLCC Leadership Conference and named Buffalo Wild Wings Athlete of the Month in September 2018. Justin's community involvement includes NHS and Student Council service events, Big Dawg Mentor, Peer Tutor, Volunteer Coach/Instructor at Grayslake Park District youth sports, volunteer youth referee, and Feed My Starving Children. He works at Libertyville Sports Complex and babysits. He plans to earn a degree in Engineering or Architecture and competing as a collegiate runner. He is evaluating his university options currently. Justin was presented with the October Student of the Month certificate.

System 44 Curriculum Presentation

Dr. Sefcik reported that System 44 is an evidence-based reading program designed for older students with significant deficiencies in reading skills. She introduced Tina Sonders, Director of Special Education to provide further information. She indicated that System 44 offers age appropriate level text for high school students. Our current reading programs include Language Live, Read 180, and Reading Plus. System 44 would replace Language Live, if approved, beginning with 2020/21 school year. It is for students with a Lexile level below 600. Students would work with System 44 and then on to Read 180. Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of a 3-year contract with System 44 in the amount of \$29,071.22.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Kusiak to approve a 3-year contract with System 44 in the amount of \$29, 071.22.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Portrait of a Graduate

Dr. Sefcik presented information on Portrait of a Graduate, a process to collectively identify, as a community, what a Grant graduate should look like. The process involves educators, students, parents, and community members collectively defining the goals to work toward 21st century learning experiences for all students. Costs for implementation at the District is \$35,100. Additional optional services are available.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve moving forward with Portrait of a Graduate.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Curriculum Changes for 2020/21

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the following proposed curriculum changes for 2020/21.

New Courses:

PLTW – Principles of Engineering

Course Revision:

Accounting I

Advanced Placement Calculus AB

Advanced Placement Calculus BC

Advanced Placement Statistics

Course Deletions:

Physical Education 10

Business Management and Entrepreneurship

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Michniewicz to approve the curriculum changes for 2020/21 as presented.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

DMGroup Update

Dr. Sefcik reported that the new guiding coalition held a kickoff call with DMGroup on October 9th. A few key members were added including interventionists and Student Services staff. This year will be spent developing and refining a district-wide multi-tiered system of support that will be used to improve student learning.

Late Start / Flex Time 2020/21 Update

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that one of the items agreed to in the collective bargaining process was piloting weekly late starts beginning with the 2020/21 school year. Principal Schmidt communicated the history of the District's transition to a professional learning community and how the weekly late starts will support efforts for continuous improvement. How Teams work together effectively was shared and the guiding document "Components of a High-Functioning Grant PLT",

which provides a framework for Teams was presented. The possibility of a new late start bell schedule providing more equitable academic time was discussed, and the opportunity to re-frame late starts as flex time for additional student interventions was explored.

Attendance Week Recognition

Dr. Sefcik was happy to report that we tied for first place among high schools for the Regional Office of Education Annual Attendance Week Competition for 2019. Our attendance rate was 98.94% for the week of September 9-13. The PBIS Committee, faculty, and staff communicated the importance of being at school every day and keeping it R.E.D. and we're proud of the students' efforts to be at school every day.

School Report Card Update

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that the 2019 Illinois School Report Cards will be released on October 30th. Updated documents regarding indicators of student success, college and career readiness, and new data points were discussed.

6th Day Enrollment

Dr. Sefcik shared the 6th Day Enrollment numbers at Grant as well as our feeder schools. Overall enrollment decreased from 1,890 to 1,843, which is in alignment with our demographic study. The number of 1,848 students appeared as the "Occur as Anticipated" projected number in the study. The demographic study shows it continues to be a reliable instrument in our long-range planning.

Homecoming – 2020/21 BOE Date Change

Dr. Sefcik reported that Homecoming in 2020 has been set for Friday, October 9. We formally induct our Hall of Fame Inductees at a Board meeting immediately prior to Homecoming as they participate in activities that occur that week. She recommended changing the date of the October 15, 2020 meeting to October 8, 2020.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Jared to approve the change of the October 15, 2020 Board of Education meeting to October 8, 2020.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik asked for approval of the overnight travel requests submitted for the following:

- Theatre students to travel to the Illinois Theater Festival, January 9 – 11, 2020. There will be 2 adults chaperoning 12 students. The district would pay for registration, meals, and a hotel room for the adult chaperones.
- Varsity Softball team to travel to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, March 21 – 25, 2020. There will be 3 coaches chaperoning approximately 14 student athletes. The majority of costs will be paid through activity funds, with some meal expenses the responsibility of athletes.
- Varsity Baseball, to travel to Marion, Illinois, from March 22 – 26, 2020. There will be 2 coaches chaperoning approximately 24 student athletes. The majority of costs will be paid through activity funds, with some meal expenses the responsibility of the athletes.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the overnight travel requests for Theatre, Varsity Softball, and Varsity Baseball as presented.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Winter Coaches

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the winter coaching staff as presented.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Kusiak to approve the winter coaches as presented.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following recommendations:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Jeff Austin, Film Club Sponsor
- Joe Barczak, Assistant Wrestling Coach
- Lori Lev and Will Schmadeke, Chess Club Co-Sponsors

Recommend accepting the resignation from:

- Joshua Christian, Freshmen Basketball Coach, effective immediately
- Chris Carlson, Boys Volleyball Coach, effective immediately
- Alexander Hernandez, Custodian, effective immediately

Notification to the Board of FMLA from Stephen Liddle, on an intermittent basis, 1 week-January 8-14, 2020, and the remaining March 30 – May 19, 2020.

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

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Future Ready Schools: Student Chromebook Update, September 27-Institute Day, Student Non-Compliance with Health Records and Immunizations Requirements, Fall SAT Suite of Assessments, Building-Wide Campaigns-Senior Week-College Information Night and Test Your Best Week.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Audit 2018/19

Mrs. Reich presented the 2018/19 Audit completed by Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs & Co. She reported that the district is overall fiscally stable and debt-free. She highlighted a few pages including page 16, which shows an overall snapshot of the past year.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. Jared to approve the 2018/19 Audit.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Recommendation for TSI Certifications

Mrs. Reich provided information on the Technology Support Internship class that was introduced this year. Students in this class perform a variety of roles, such as runner, customer service associate, computer technician, and working on certification coursework. The recommendation is that the District pay for the students to take the Microsoft Office Specialist Certifications. Additionally, the recommendation also supported paying the entire cost for both exams of the CompTIA programs, but if the student is unsuccessful in passing these, 50% of the cost of the exams would be passed on to the student. The total estimated annual cost to the District is \$13,488.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mrs. Michniewicz to approve the District paying the exam costs for students to qualify for certifications as presented and at a cost of \$13,488 annually.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported that the new digital sign is up and masonry will be completed soon.

Dr. Sefcik asked Board members if they would like to use their own device to access Board Book beginning in November or have the District provide one on Board night. We will provide Chromebooks for those requesting it.

CLOSED SESSION

** At 8:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mrs. Michniewicz to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); 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: Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

** At 8:40 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, 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: Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to un-enroll students #2019-20/01 and 2019-20/02 due to not residing within District 124 boundaries.

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

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

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

- ** At 8:43 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary