

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OCTOBER 19, 2023

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, October 19, 2023 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox.

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:

Mrs. Kathy Kusiak, Vice President
Mrs. Shelly Booth, Member
Mrs. Ivy Fleming, Member
Mr. Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

Mr. Steve Hill, President
Mr. John Jared, Secretary
Mr. Ed Lescher, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Dr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal
Dr. Stacie Noisey, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
Mr. Eric Taubery, Divisional Administrator
Mr. Blair Schoell, Divisional Administrator
Mrs. Veronica Lukemeyer, Divisional Administrator

Student Representative: Ms. Julia Podgorski

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

AUDIENCE

Cabrina Little, Isabella Little, John Little

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held September 21, 2023
Minutes of closed meeting held September 21, 2023
October Bills Payable
September Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from April 21, 2022

Quarterly list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers, and brokers

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

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Recognition and Informational Items

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced Isabella Little, in the presence of her parents, as the October Student of the Month. She read Isabella’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 Isabella the opportunity to speak to the Board and she thanked the Board for the honor. She also thanked the staff that had such an impact on her, the School Board for the funding and making so many opportunities and positive changes, and to her family for their support. The Board and audience applauded Isabella and Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the October Student of the Month.

Curriculum Changes for 2024/25

Dr. Sefcik asked Dr. Noisey to provide information on the proposed curriculum changes for 2024/25. Dr. Noisey began with current course level differentiation, then College of Lake County’s General Education Core Curriculum (GECC), and the weighted credit of the dual credit courses. She asked Mr. Taubery, Science and Math Divisional Administrator, to talk about the Science Department proposed changes. Mrs. Lukemeyer, English/Social Studies Divisional Administrator, provided the English and Social Studies proposed changes. Finally, Mr. Schoell, Business/Family and Consumer Science Divisional Administrator, reviewed the proposed changes for Business and FCS. Dr. Noisey then looked at the number of course offerings for Honors, AP, Dual Credit, and Tech Campus programs in 2023/24 and the additional Dual Credit courses proposed for 2024/25.

In all, the proposed course revisions and addition included the following:

Electives:

- Mobile App Design I
- Mobile App Design II

English:

- English 10
- Advanced English 10

Mathematics:

- Applied Math II

Science:

- Advanced Placement Biology
- Advanced Placement Chemistry
- Advanced Placement Environmental Science
- Advanced Placement Physics I
- Advanced Placement Seminar: Biotechnology
- Honors Anatomy
- Honors Biotechnology I

- Honors Earth Science
- Honors Physics
- Physics

New Course:

Science:

- General Chemistry

School Report Card Timeline

Dr. Sefcik shared the 2023 Illinois School Report Card closed on September 29 and opened on October 2 for superintendents to preview for accuracy. She was told there were some reporting errors. Report Cards were re-released to preview on October 16, will be shared with the media on October 25, and results publicly shared on October 30. She shared the indicators and description of metrics for this year's Report Card and will review results with the Board in November.

Calendar DRAFT – 2024/25

Dr. Sefcik provided a draft of the 2024/25 calendar which has been shared with feeder districts for consideration. Some notable dates are institute days on August 8 & 9, first day of student attendance on August 12, and the last day, provided no emergency days are utilized, on May 22, with the graduation ceremony taking place on May 18. The draft calendar will be discussed with feeder districts in order to align with their calendars to the greatest extent possible. She hopes to present a final calendar at the November Board meeting.

Homecoming - 2024

Dr. Sefcik was happy to report that Homecoming 2024 will take place the week of September 16 – 21, which contains the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting. No date change will be necessary to align with the Hall of Fame induction.

Illinois Association of School Board Recognition – Established Board Leader

Dr. Sefcik congratulated Board Vice President, Kathy Kusiak, who has been recognized by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) for her participation in a number of professional development and leadership activities. Because of her ongoing commitment to continued learning and participation in leadership activities, she has earned the designation as an IASB Established Board Leader.

Joint Conference Planning

Dr. Sefcik reminded the Board that the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference will take place from November 17 – 19, 2023. Pre-conference workshops begin the morning of November 16th and require advance registration. She encouraged members to plan sessions and sync them to their phone or calendar. The Resolutions Committee Report was provided so there would be time to review prior to the conference.

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Keep it RED-Alcohol Awareness Campaign, Professional Development offerings, PSAT/NMSQT, Non-Compliance with Health Records, Elyssa's Mission, and Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences.

Student Representative's Report

Julia Podgorski provided her report which included information on Student Activities, Sports, and Events.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Action Items

Course Changes 2024/25

Dr. Sefcik recommended accepting the course changes for the 2024/25 school year, as presented.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the course changes to the 2024/25 curriculum guide.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Winter Coaches

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the winter coaches, as presented.

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

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

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Tom Duffy, Full-time Mathematics teacher, MA45, Step 21, starting 1/8/2024
- Jammie Meyer, BDIPS Paraprofessional, \$17.90/hr., starting 10/16/2023
- Cassie Reid, Co-sponsor, Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Kathy Garon, On-call Substitute Bus Driver, pay adjustment from \$24.17 to \$27.17, effective 10/21/2023

Notification of FMLA requests from the following individuals:

- Jordan Alexander, Teacher, effective January 8, 2024 - February 5, 2024
- Peggy Gigliotti, Paraprofessional, effective October 30, 2023 - November 3, 2023

** 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: Yanik, Kusiak, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

2023 Tentative Tax Levy

Mrs. Reich provided the tentative 2023 Certificate of Tax Levy. The county is predicting that our equalized assessed value will increase from \$1,078,742,086 in 2022 to \$1,197,475,320. This is

a 11.00% total increase from the previous year including new construction. They are projecting our new construction to be \$9,667,389, which is an increase of 12.10%. She noted that in December, we will need to hold a hearing and will bring the resolutions and recommendation for approval of the final 2023 tax levy to the December meeting as well.

School Maintenance Project Grant

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that the Illinois State Board of Education has opened up the School Maintenance Project Grant. The School Maintenance Project Grant is a dollar-for-dollar state matching grant program providing awards up to \$50,000 to grantees, exclusively for the maintenance or upkeep of buildings or structures for educational purposes. There is no limit to the cost of a project; however, grant awards will not exceed \$50,000. We are planning to utilize these funds to assist with the weight room addition. The grant application must be presented to the Board for approval prior to submitting. She recommended approval of the School Maintenance Project Grant Application.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to approve applying for the School Maintenance Project Grant.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that there were three Freedom of Information Act requests received and fulfilled.

CLOSED SESSION

** At 7:53 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); other matters relating to individual students 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(10); 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, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

** At 8:20 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Fleming to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Jared, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

No action was brought as a result of closed session.

ADJOURN

** At 8:20 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the meeting.

Kathy Kusiak, President Pro Tem

Ivy Fleming, Secretary Pro Tem