

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SEPTEMBER 29, 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, September 29, 2022 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium 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:

Steve Hill, President
Kathy Kusiak, Vice President
Shelly Booth, Member
Ed Lescher, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

John Jared, Secretary
Ivy Fleming, Member

Administration present:

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

Kathy Kusiak served as Secretary in the absence of Secretary, John Jared

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced Julia Fornero, in the presence of her family, as the September Student of the Month. She read Julia'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 Julia the opportunity to speak to the Board and she thanked the Board for the honor. She also said she was appreciative for the opportunities and support that she has had throughout her years at Grant. The Board and audience applauded Julia and Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the September Student of the Month.

Hall of Fame Induction

Dr. Sefcik provided a brief overview of the Hall of Fame, which includes faculty members and alumni. Board members made their way down to watch the video presentation for the Hall of Fame Inductee, Roy Lucke. After the presentation, Dr. Sefcik and President Steve Hill invited Fred Loffredo and Roy Lucke to the stage. Mr. Loffredo provided details of the many ways that Mr. Lucke has impacted the community through his work as a fireman, policeman, and his career in public safety. Dr. Sefcik then read the Resolution to Induct Mr. Lucke into the Hall of Fame.

Mr. Lucke said how honored, and humbled, he was to be inducted into the Hall of Fame and how much Grant shaped his future. President Steve Hill presented him with the award to commemorate his induction into the Hall of Fame.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the induction of Mr. Roy Lucke into the Grant Community High School Hall of Fame for 2022.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

The Board took a short break to allow the audience to leave if they chose.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held August 18, 2022

Minutes of closed meeting held August 18, 2022

September Bills Payable

August Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from March 18, 2021

** 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: Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

Highlight of Upcoming Curriculum Change Recommendations

Dr. Sefcik provided a handout regarding 2023-2024 Curriculum Changes, which was a preview of the changes in advance of next month's meeting and provided the rationale for the proposed changes.

Demographic Trends and Enrollment Projections – Updated Study

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that Dr. Kasarda completed a comprehensive update to the District's Demographic Trends and Enrollment Projections study. The update considered the following factors: residential development patterns, feeder school enrollment changes, and an accounting of the factors that shape our future enrollment numbers. Dr. Kasarda's numbers have tracked within a few students of the "as anticipated" series and we expect the same moving forward.

Sixth Day Enrollment

Dr. Sefcik provided the summary of the 6th Day Enrollment numbers for Grant as well as our feeder districts. Enrollment increased slightly and was within 6 students of the "as anticipated" projection according to the Kasarda report.

School Board Policy Manual – First Reading

Dr. Sefcik reminded the Board that last November, the Board approved shifting to an IASB customized School Board Policy Manual. After many meetings and iterations, President Hill, Vice President Kusiak, Kris Olk and Dr. Sefcik presented a revised Board Policy Manual for a first reading. The policies will remain substantially the same, we continue to follow IASB and legal

recommendations and minor updates have been made to some policies. She noted that the new policy manual will be presented at the October meeting for a second reading or approval.

Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik made the following overnight travel recommendations:

The wrestling team is requesting to travel to a wrestling tournament in Kaukana, Wisconsin, January 6 – 7. There will be approximately 14-17 student-athletes and 3 coaches in attendance. Costs will be covered through fundraising and activity funds. There will be no costs to students.

The girls' softball team is requesting to travel to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, from March 25 – 29. They will compete in 6 softball games at the Cal Ripen Fields. There will be approximately 14 student-athletes and 3 softball coaches in attendance. The majority of costs will be paid through activity funds.

The baseball team is requesting to travel to Marion, Illinois, from March 26 –30. They will compete in 4-6 games. There will be approximately 27 student-athletes and 2 coaches in attendance. All costs will be covered by the baseball program.

The theater teacher is requesting to travel to the Illinois Theater Festival at the University of Illinois, January 12 – 14. Approximately 24 students will attend with 4 teachers. Students will pay the festival fee and for several meals. The District will cover all remaining costs, which is estimated to be \$2,067.75.

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

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

School Maintenance Project Grant

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that the State Board of Education has opened up the School Maintenance Project Grant that is a dollar-for-dollar state matching grant program. It provides up to \$50,000 to grantees, exclusively for the maintenance or upkeep of buildings or structures for educational purposes. We are planning to upgrade security cameras and put more fob readers on outside and inside doors, as well as update door handles on internal doors. With updates to curriculum in Health and Wellness, we are looking to update the weight room floor and equipment to better serve the curriculum. The estimated costs for these projects is approximately \$190,000.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mrs. Booth to approve submitting the School Maintenance Project Grant Application.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

Contract with GSF Cleaning and Support Services

Dr. Sefcik stated that the District continues to experience a shortage in custodial staff. Many options have been explored including reaching out to contract companies to see if we can access temporary assistance. We requested four custodians, but GSF Cleaning and Support Services is offering to provide two full-time custodians, as they are also experiencing staffing shortages.

The agreement with them is for one year at a monthly cost of \$8,172.34 for two full-time custodians.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the agreement with GSF Cleaning and Support Services for one year at a cost of \$8,172.34 per month for two full-time custodians.

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

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Chris Callahan, full-time paraprofessional, \$17/hr, starting 9/19/2022
- Sherly Kizhakkudthu, Security, \$17/hr., starting 9/19/2022
- Lilian Makey, Security, \$15/hr., starting 9/26/2022
- Annette Centeno, Dishwasher, \$15/hr., starting 9/26/2022
- Elizabeth McKee, full-time Food Service, \$16/hr., starting 9/21/2022
- Tara Singer, Piano Accompanist, \$35/hr., maximum 425 hours, starting 9/12/2022
- Pete Laubenstein, Asst. Boys Track coach
- Marissa Myers, Speech Team Assistant
- Mira Giannetti, Asst. Cheer Coach – Fall Sideline and Winter Competition
- Ryan Reynolds, Asst. Special Olympics Coach

Position changes for the following individuals:

- Sophie Shaw – from Security to paraprofessional, \$15.30/hr., effective 9/26/2022
- Rita Gier, from Temp. Health Aide to BDIPS paraprofessional, \$17.30/hr., effective 8/8/2022

Wage adjustment for Richard Wetter, Transportation wage change from \$20.40 to \$23.30, effective October 1, 2022.

Accepting resignations from the following individuals:

- Abigail Bjork, Custodian, effective 8/25/2022
- Carol Koren, Food Service, effective 9/8/2022
- Jeff Shaw, Transportation, effective 9/2/2022
- Kyle Oliver, Security, effective 9/26/2022

Recommend Leave of Absence for Michele Keenan, Boys Head Volleyball Coach for the 2022/23 school year.

Notification of Family Medical Leave Act requests from:

- Kristina Maestranzi, English Teacher, effective October 11, 2022 – January 23, 2023
- Patricia Qasabian, FCS Teacher, effective January 19, 2023 – April 24, 2023

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

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

Aye: Kusiak, Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Safety Planning, Back to School Night, Homecoming, and Professional Development.

AUDIENCE

Shannon Gipson requested to address the Board regarding ELA student assignments and parental notification.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reminded the Board that the IASB Lakes Division dinner meeting will be held on October 12 and to contact Kris Olk if they would like to attend; Joint Conference workshops are available for registration; Officer Cawley and Mr. Vern Jones will be honored at the October Board meeting for their intervention to save the life of a student.

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 8:20 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: Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:23 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, 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: Hill, Kusiak, Booth, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Jared, Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

No action was taken as a result of Closed Session discussion.

Audio recorder malfunctioned, no recording for this closed session is available.

ADJOURN

** At 8:24 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Booth to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

Kathy Kusiak, Secretary Pro Tem