

**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
***Board of Education***

**May 13, 2024**

**MINUTES**

President Shannon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call by Superintendent Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Nicole Shannon, Denise DuFort, Ashley Kuykendoll, Jarrod Smith, John Shiflett, Ben Cwayna and Toni Glasscoe. **Members Absent**: None. **Central Office Administrators**: Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Julie Waterbury, Wendy Seida, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance**: Ken Wright, Jan M. Seeger, Kelly Manning, Kurt Manning, Josh Bumstead, Doreen Earle, John Piper, Owen Curtices, Caden Hoskins, Coban Holmes, Mark Jones, Melissa Mazzola, Crystal Howard, Dan Howard, Kali Stevens, Chase Kimmey, Lisa Kimmey, Robert Hoxie, Tina Hoxie, James Hoxie, Luke Hoxie, Michelle Rainsberger, Allyson McCann, Sally Jo Nelton, Michelle Oppenheim and Kim Manning

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the May 13, 2024 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the May 13, 2024 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.**

Included on the Consent Agenda were the April 22, 2024 Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

- A. GLHS Class of 2024 Top 25 Scholars** – Grand Ledge High School Principal, Ken Wright, presented the Class of 2024 Top 25 Scholars: Colin Curtis, Aditi Kamath, Akshath Narmat, Adithya Thatavarthi, Anya Heany, Ethan Lowry, Landon Birchmeier, Cooper Kim, Ian Garnaat, William Hunter, Abram Skinner, Gwendolyn Manning, Zachary Rainsberger, Lainey Evans, Caden Hoskins, Carson Lemon, Luke Hoxie, Rachel Carlson, Lily Zarka, Thomas Newman, Elizabeth McFarland, Sarah Bovee, Owen Curtis, Nathan Gruner and Aadhitya Sudhakar.

The students were individually presented with a certificate on behalf of the Board of Education and district.

- B. Beagle Middle School** – Principal Dave Kushman and Assistant Principal Kelly Shumway shared about new staff positions that are supporting the culture at Beagle, the increase in instructional leadership capabilities, MiCIP school improvement goals and progress toward those goals, and shared they are grateful for the support and work of their outstanding PTO. Then students serving on the Beagle Comet Council and members of the LINKS Program shared information with the board about their respective group and the things they are doing to help make their school a better place. In closing, Mr. Kushman and Mrs. Shumway thanked the board for their support and invited everyone to attend the Beagle STEAM Showcase being held on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.
- C. Superintendent Performance Update – Community Relations** – Superintendent Barnes provided his update with a focus on Section B of the Superintendent’s Evaluation Rubric, Community Relations. He provided the established goal and the current initiative established under each of the goals including Parent Feedback, Communication with the Community, Community Feedback, Media Relations, District Image and Approachability.

## **REPORTS**

- A. Capitol Connections** – Dr. Glasscoe shared information regarding the state budget and legislation addressing a MIPSER (Michigan Public School Employees Retirement) rate reduction, and legislation that would mandate Kindergarten enrollment of any child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1 and opt out options.
- B. Eaton RESA** – There was no report as the meeting will take place on Wednesday.
- C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation** – Ms. Shannon noted registration to participate in this year’s 5K Comet Chase Fundraiser is open until June 1 and shared that current enrollment projects they are going to break previous participation records.
- D. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee** – Ms. Kuykendoll noted the committee reviewed their plans for over the summer and into the next school year with regard to recent policy updates, implementation of the Student Safety Supervisor and the Student Inclusion, Mental Health and Wellness Supervisor, data updates to come, and strategies to reengage some of our stakeholders.
- E. Governance Committee** – Ms. Shannon noted the committee has worked on board policies that will be discussed later in tonight’s meeting.
- F. Bond** – Bond Supervisor John Piper provided the board with an update on the current bond projects including the new Wacousta build status, Neff Early Childhood Center, Grand Ledge High School, Willow Ridge, Hayes and the Transportation building. In closing he shared he is confident all buildings will be ready for students on or before the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

**G. Superintendent** – Dr. Barnes shared the new Grand Ledge Public Schools Health Center is actively seeing patients and the positive impact it has made for our families.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Kuykendoll reviewed the rules for giving public comment.

AJ Kuykendoll addressed the board to share his recommendation to make the Dream Depot play structure out at Wacousta Elementary School bigger expanding into the green space and gave a shout out to all the wonderful teachers he has had so far; Mr. Sewick, Mr. Hurth and Ms. Heiler.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. REVISED BOARD POLICIES**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education waive the first reading of revised Board Policies 2461, 6520 and 7250, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

President Shannon reviewed the Governance Committee’s proposed changes to each of the policies.

**B. EATON RESA 2024-2025 GENERAL EDUCATION BUDGET RESOLUTION**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Resolution in Support of the Eaton RESA 2024-2025 General Education Budget, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

President Shannon	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>
Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

**C. EATON RESA 2024-2025 CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION BUDGET RESOLUTION**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Resolution in Support of the Eaton RESA 2024-2025 Career & Technical Education Budget, as presented.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	President Shannon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

**D. FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT RENEWAL**

**Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Food Service Management Contract Renewal with Chartwells, as presented.**

Chief Financial Officer Julie Waterbury noted this is the last year we can renew our contract with Chartwell's. Next year we will have to go out for bids.

Superintendent Barnes noted the district maintains a great working relationship with Chartwells and commended our Food Service Director Darrin Gyurich for service to our district.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**E. GLHS FURNITURE PURCHASE**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Grand Ledge High School Furniture Purchase from DBI in the amount of \$22,073.84, as presented.**

Superintendent Barnes noted this is office furniture for the new office at Grand Ledge High School.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**F. CAFETERIA TABLE BID AWARD**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the bid award for cafeteria tables to Global Equipment Company in the amount of \$44,739.35, as presented.**

Chief Financial Officer Julie Waterbury noted this will replace one-half of the current high school cafeteria tables with tables that have connected seats and will be easier and more efficient to use and half a 15-year warranty.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**G. WACOUSTA FARM LAND**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the use of the Wacousta Farm Land, as presented.**

Superintendent Barnes and Chief Financial Officer Julie Waterbury shared this will allow a small portion of the Wacousta property to be farmed by a local farmer. The parcel is just under 24 acres of land to which the district will receive \$125 per acre per year.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**H. PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES**

**Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$47,900, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort advised this was reviewed by the Board Bond Committee and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents fire and safety at the High School and the survey of the land for the road study project.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**I. PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$1,141,714.05, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort advised this was reviewed by the Board Bond Committee and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents regular payments to Clark Construction and furniture and trades at Wacousta.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**J. PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 3 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$442,013.72, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort advised this was reviewed by the Board Bond Committee and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents regular payments to Clark Construction and GMB Architects and trades work at the High School and Neff.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD**

Assistant Superintendent Steve Gabriel recognized all the presentations tonight noting the Top 25 is his favorite night and he was very impressed with all the students.

Superintendent Barnes echoed Dr. Gabriel's comments and in addition recognized AJ Kuykendoll for sharing his ideas for the Wacosuta playground commenting he is not sure we can make the Drean Depot Bigger, but we are looking at options and sharing that a new kindergarten playground is in the works and thanking him for sharing his comments about his teachers.

Dr. Glasscoe commended the Prom 4 U held over the weekend noting it is a highlight for her and giving a huge shout out to Hidden Farms the venue where the event is held. She mentioned an ERESA celebration on May 16<sup>th</sup> and lastly expressed what a wonderful opportunity this was for our Top 25 noting we are very fortunate to have such a rich student body.

Mr. Cwayna commended the presentations tonight and expressed his appreciation to everyone for being here.

Mrs. Kuykendoll also commended the presentations, congratulated the Top 25, recognized the Beagle Team noting how impressed she was with the Student Council and LINKS program and the students being here to present remarking the school is developing well-rounded students and she thought it was remarkable having such young people focused on such big topics. In closing she acknowledge AJ for speaking with such confidence noting she is very proud of him and noting he is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader.

Mrs. DuFort noted she was totally impressed with the Top 25 and their career aspirations, remarked the Beagle presentation was also wonderful commending them for their adult learning connection goal and recognizing their 98% success rate, their MathUP class, Comet Council and LINKS giving the students kudos. In closing she shared highlights from attending the MASB Behind the Scenes at the Capitol and encouraging other members to attend future events.

President Shannon remarked all the students were outstanding.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Negotiations Strategies, as Per Section 8(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976 and Material Exempt from Disclosure, as Per Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	President Shannon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>		

**The motion carried unanimously at 8:03 p.m.**

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

The meeting reconvened in open session at 9:02 p.m.

**EMPLOYEE CONTRACT**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Master Agreement between the Grand Ledge Education Association and the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:02p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

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Ashley Kuykendoll, Secretary

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Nicole Shannon, President

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