

## GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Board of Education*

Committee of the Whole / Work Session – February 13, 2023

### MINUTES

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

#### ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Ashley Kuykendoll, Ben Cwayna, Jon Shiflett, Nicole Shannon, Toni Glasscoe and Jarrod Smith **Board Members Absent:** Denise DuFort **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Wendy Seida, Kelly Jones, Martez Warren and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Tim Totten, Alison Walczak and Kim Manning

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Secretary Shannon provided an overview for making public comment to the board.

Tim Totten addressed the board to ask that information regarding the cost of running the health center after the grant funds run out be shared with taxpayers.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### **A. 98B Data Presentation**

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services, Dr. Steve Gabriel presented the board with a detailed overview of the district's K-8 Math and ELA Goal Report and the High School Math and ELA Goal Report respectively noting this is the mid-year report and the board will receive the end of year report in June. The report presented tonight will be available on the District Transparency page tomorrow.

A detailed discussion among the members addressed thresholds and growth rates, comparison from last year's results, tapping into teaching practices that are working and sharing them across the district, bringing back the former ABC Reports that would provide more details specific to each building, streamlining practices and providing resources for parents to help their students at home, ensuring students have an understanding of the difference in a passing score in high school versus a passing score in college, ongoing presentations on standards-based grading in the elementary schools to reflect student knowledge in a subject matter, noting progress doesn't happen overnight but we are continuing to see progress, noting the information presented tonight is a requirement of law, but the district is constantly looking for better ways to report to the board, and for curiosity seeing a comparison of how our students are doing versus our neighboring districts and nation-wide.

##### **B. Sale of Wacousta Elementary Building**

Superintendent Barnes led a discussion with the members on the possible sale of the current Wacousta Elementary School Building to Watertown Township. He noted the board authorized him, back in November, to begin negotiations with Watertown on the possible sale of the current elementary building. He noted he is not at a point where he needs some

direction from the board on how they would like him to proceed providing possible scenarios on how they might like to see him move forward.

A detailed discussion among the member showed support for obtaining an appraisal of the current building and then looking at the shared partnerships that can be gained from the sale of the building to Watertown and consideration for the cost of demolishing the building to determine price.

### **C. Strategic Plan SMART Goals Implementation Planning**

Superintendent Barnes reviewed the document outlining the implementation of the 2022-2023 SMART Goals under the Strategic Plan. He noted the District School Improvement Team, District Leadership Team, and Parent School Improvement Team played an integral part in mapping out who would be responsible for each strategy and how we track out progress toward meeting each goal. He noted there will be periodic updates on progress throughout the remainder of the year with a final wrap up in June on what was accomplished and what will roll over as we continue to strive to meet the goals established under the Strategic Plan.

A detailed discussion among the members included noting some of these are big tasks for one person and were advised that this is being used as a way to measure that we continue to keep our eye on the focus the board established under the Strategic Plan. All of the items may not be accomplished in the current school year, but it is a tool that establishes set items to focus on that allow us to show that we are striving to meet the goals. Clarification on how we are building the competency in our staff sharing that ongoing training is a constant noting we cannot expect our people to do the work without providing the proper training. Drilling down into the instruction is work that is happening, narrowing our focus on essential learning and defining the levels of learning that kids are demonstrating to align our teaching that will allow us to teach content with defined parameters, that will be on our website for parents to see the expectation of what will show the students are learning essential skills.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 23, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve January 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **B. APPROVAL OF TEACHER HIRINGS**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the hiring of Destaine Johnson and Rachel Hess, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **C. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR CONSENT ELECTION IN MERC CASE NO. 23-A-0068-RC**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the Consent Election in the Michigan Employment Relations Commission Case Number 23-A-0068-C, as presented, and Authorize the District Superintendent, or his designee, to sign that agreement.**

Superintendent Barnes shared This relates to a petition by our custodial group to unionize. As the employer, the board has to approve the agreement for the consent election for the group. The group has followed all of the rules, and this is the next step in the process.

The motion carried unanimously.

**D. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Capital Funds Invoices in the amount of 70,945.43, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett noted all of the upcoming invoices were reviewed by the Board Bond Advisory Committee and have been approved to be brought forward. This set of invoices represent allowable expenses at the High School Fine Arts renovation.

The motion carried unanimously.

**E. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, 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 \$47,510.00, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett noted this represents upgrades to electrical for projectors and the replacement of a door at Holbrook.

The motion carried unanimously.

**F. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$915,418.82, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett noted this represents bond work at Delta Center.

The motion carried unanimously.

**G. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 1 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$5,600.02, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett noted this is for ice machines for the athletic trainer's office.

The motion carried unanimously.

**H. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$389,882.34, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett noted this is for work on the Fine Arts addition.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD**

Dr. Barnes thanked the board for the conversation tonight noting the topics of conversation provide the leadership of the district to allow us to continue to move the district forward. He addressed the public comment noting the first planning meeting for the incoming health center is scheduled in mid-March but he thanked Mr. Totten and noted he will keep his concern in mind as we work through the details of the health center.

Ms. Shannon shared some of the exciting recent events at Delta Center including Math Night, the Glow Party and International Night.

Dr. Glasscoe sharing information on the C3R Summit that Dr. Barnes was the keynote speaker, an upcoming training event that LCC will be hosting around data and appropriations the University will be receiving to address learning gaps for recent graduates.

**CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Ms. Shannon 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.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Dr. Glasscoe YES  
Ms. Shannon YES  
Mr. Shiflett YES

Mr. Cwayna YES  
Ms. Kuykendoll YES  
President Smith YES

**The motion carried unanimously at 7:27 p.m.**

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:57 p.m.

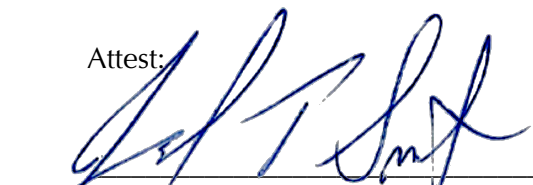
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Nicole Shannon, Secretary

Attest:

  
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Jarrod Smith, President