

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Board of Education**

Work Session – March 13, 2017

MINUTES

President Mulvenna called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call by Superintendent Brian Metcalf indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Patrick McKennon, Denise DuFort, Beverly Winstanley, Sara Clark Pierson, Jon Shiflett, Linda Wacyk and Kim Mulvenna. **Central Office Administrators:** Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Sutherland and Mark Deschaine **Others in Attendance:** Chris Groves, James Gee, Dawn Kennaugh, Lori Bucholz, David Averill, Melissa Mazzola and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEM

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

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$33,017.54, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

In accordance with MCL380.4203, member Sara Clark Pierson abstained from the vote.

**B. BID AWARDS**

**Motion by Mrs. Wacyk, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve bid awards to Axiom Construction Services Group in the amount of \$1,173,300 for general construction and to Abatement and Demolition Services in the amount of \$94,645 for abatement at the Delta Mills Early Childhood Center, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

In accordance with MCL380.4203, member Sara Clark Pierson abstained from the vote.

PRESENTATION

**A. ELEMENTARY A-B-C REPORT**

District Elementary Principals David Averill, Dawn Kennaugh, Lori Bucholz, Chris Groves and Jim Gee presented the board with the results of their Attendance, Behavior and Course Completion for their respective buildings for the first trimester of the 2016-2017 school year.

**B. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH DISCUSSION**

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel provided the board with information regarding the district's current reproductive health curriculum and noting that the Comprehensive Health Advisory Team (CHAT), which includes district employees as well as representatives from the community, have looked at our curriculum and are recommending that the district implement a new reproductive health curriculum that would start earlier in the student's school career. He noted currently Grand Ledge Public Schools has reproductive health being taught in grades 5, 7 and 9. The question has always been: "Is this early enough?" The new trend is 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade with research showing this is a better way to approach this curriculum. The recommended new curriculum is Puberty: The Wonder Years created by Wendy Sellers. It is age appropriate and again, it is the recommendation of CHAT that we move forward with implementation in the fall 2017.

Superintendent Metcalf advised with consensus of the board we will begin to move forward with this implementation and purchase.

Consensus of the Board was unanimous to move forward with the board requesting PHW teacher Sara Zeko to present to them on the subject.

**B. LCC EARLY COLLEGE DISCUSSION**

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel provided the board with a detailed overview of LCC's Early College program noting this was a consortium with Ingham County and up until last year it was exclusively for Ingham County schools. However, last year they added DeWitt and about a month ago, he met with them about Grand Ledge Public Schools joining in. He advised this is a STEM emphasized program where students apply for the program and in their junior and senior years, they attend classes at LCC. However, they must commit to one additional year, or a 13<sup>th</sup> year. They finish their high school requirements but at the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> year, they earn their Grand Ledge Public Schools high school diploma, as well as up to an Associates Degree.

A detailed discussion included credits transfer to most major universities, the district would establish how many students this would be open to (start with six), the loss of the per pupil foundation allowance for each student enrolled as 97% goes to LCC for enrollment while the district keeps 3% for administrative costs. Could get going as soon as next year. LCC will come in and host a parent night, take registration for this and move forward.

Superintendent Metcalf again advised with consensus of the board we will move forward.

Consensus of the board was to move forward and bring LCC in for a parent night.

**B. RELEVANT ACADEMY DISCUSSION**

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel advised the board their are conversations taking place with Relevant Academy as a means of looking for ways to continue supporting our students. Relevant Academy is an online learning environment. Currently 25 at-risk students attend the Academy, but there are probably another 25-30 students who could benefit. The problem is the program is located in Charlotte. So, our

question is how we can make this program user-friendly for our students. One means being discussed is creating a North Campus here within our district.

Superintendent Metcalf asked for feedback from the board including continuing discussions on implementing a North campus?

Mrs. Clark Pierson advised she believes this is a good idea even though she is not an overall fan of online learning but Charlotte is too far away. She also advised this program is tied to the Eaton RESA and noted the reports to the RESA Board have been good.

Mrs. DuFort questioned how this compared to our former Alternative Ed program and was advised this has basically replaced that program since we discontinued providing that service.

Mrs. Wacyk advised she is a fan of online learning when it is done well and noting she would like to see some engagement with the families and students.

Consensus was to continue the discussions.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public comment.


**COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD**

There were no comments.


**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Jon Shiflett, Secretary

Attest:

  
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Kim Mulvenna, President