

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

Regular Meeting – August 26, 2019

**MINUTES**

President McKennon 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 Metcalf indicated the presence of ***Board Members***: Jarrod Smith, Jon Shiflett, Kim Mulvenna, Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort and Patrick McKennon. ***Central Office Administrators***: Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Bill Barnes, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth ***Others in Attendance***: Jill Mangrum, Ken Wright, Greg Almy, Melissa Mazzola, David Logel, Tabitha Gilbert, Samantha Badgley, Lanny Lo, Steve Kreft, and Kim Manning

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the August 26, 2019, 2018 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the August 26, 2019 Consent Agenda Item, as presented.**

Included on the Consent Agenda were the meeting minutes of the July 15, 2019 Regular Meeting, the meeting minutes of the August 12, 2019 Work Session and the hiring of Erica Heilbronn to teach 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Beagle Elementary School.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Dr. Gabriel advised Erica was our final hire to start the new year.

**REPORTS**

- A. Capitol Connections Report** - Mr. Smith noted there is not a lot to report and that everyone is still waiting for the budget and to find out what the student foundation allowance will be.
  
- B. Eaton RESA Report** – Mrs. DuFort shared there have been two meetings of the RESA Board. During one of the meetings the Strategic Plan Update was shared, which provided comparative data from across the county including literacy, school readiness, NWEA, current strategies to improve student outcomes and CTE enrollment. It also provided information regarding the RESA's increased efforts for internal and external

communications as well as the increase of shared services with constituent districts. The board was also presented with the opportunity to learn about and visit the Mobile “Fab Lab” that is used to market CTE programs that local district use to provide students with information about careers. They further received an update about the Capitol Regional Technical Early College program noting it is growing every year and provides students with a great opportunity to gain college experience at little to no cost to the resident district or the family.

**C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report** – No report.

**D. Bond Update** – Superintendent Metcalf advised at the most recent meeting with the district’s construction management firm, Clark Construction Company, he was assured the work would be done at Beagle and Holbrook to ensure the restructuring will take place for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. While he is optimistic, he reminds everyone that unforeseen circumstances can arise that will alter this goal.

On a note not related to the bond, Dr. Metcalf advised during one of the recent water tests, lead was evident in the testing at two of the faucets at Willow Ridge Elementary School. Over the weekend, all faucets and valves were replaced at the school and new tests will be conducted to ensure safe drinking water. Until the new test results are in, bottled water is being provided for students and staff. He expressed his thanks to Maintenance Supervisor John Piper who oversaw the project over the weekend.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

President McKennon noted he had suggested the board implement Student Representatives to the Board at the last meeting. This would provide the board with a direct connection to the student body at the Grand Ledge High School. He is happy welcome three of our high school students to report to the board tonight.

GLHS Student Tabitha Gilbert informed the board the National Honor Society is working with City Hall and the Eaton County Parks to adopt a portion of Fitzgerald Park. GLHS Student Lanny Lo advised the board it was a successful start to the new school year and the high school expressing thanks to the PALS (Peer Assistance Leaders) and everyone behind the scenes. And in closing, GLHS Student Samantha Badgley provided the board with an update regarding student council working over the summer on Safe Driving and noting they are now gearing up for homecoming.

Community member Steve Kreft shared the community members over by Beagle Elementary School are a bit anxious regarding construction and he is wondering if there will be a bit more of a concrete timeline in the near future.

Dr. Metcalf assured Mr. Kreft the district will share more information as soon as we reach that phase noting we are still in the design phase. He noted he would anticipate the district will have more details in early October and shared the district will, once again, be hosting several community forums to keep everyone in the know. In closing he noted information will also be shared through the district website.

District parent and community member Miranda Coburn addressed the board with regard to the district's recent moving of students from one school to the next. She noted she understands the rationale behind the decision but expressed that she has concerns for the impact this may have on the students. She expressed her concerns with the district still accepting Schools of Choice students and asked how the district validates addresses to ensure students are attending their "home school".

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of 2019-2020 Student Handbook Revisions**

**Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Revisions to the Student Handbooks for 2019-2020, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**B. Approval of Board of Education Governance Policies – Category 1 – Ends (E100-E105)**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve Board of Education Governance Policies – Category 1 – Ends – including Policies E100, E101, E102, E103, E104 and E105, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

District employee and GLEA Representative Melissa Mazzola asked if the handbook and governance policy revisions could be read into the record or if she could get a copy.

President McKennon advised the Handbook Revisions were minimal addresses requirements for the administration of Epi-Pens and with regard the use of student photos on social media in addition to other publications. As for the Governance Policy Revisions, there are several policies that were reviewed and updated but assured we would get her a copy.

District Employee and GLEA President Greg Almy noted he understands the board is going through the process of reviewing all the board Governance Policies and asked there he would find those board policies noting GLEA would like to review them as well.

Trustee Mulvenna noted these policies are the ones that Govern the Board of Education and would not be something the board would be seeking input from the association on.

President McKennon advised we would share a copy of the updated policies with Mr. Almy.

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD**

Mr. Shiflett thanked the administration for the continued focus on the district fiscal vitality noting we did not have to borrow again this year noting the savings this brings to the district in terms of interest paid.

Mrs. DuFort questioned if the state does not pass a budget by September do we work under the same budget as last year.

Chief Financial Officer Nancy Rasinske advised we would only work under the same budget as last year if they pass a continuation budget. If they don't pass a budget, we would get nothing.

Mr. Smith thanked Mrs. DuFort for her update on the Career and Technical Early College noting this is a great opportunity for our students, and their parents, as it can save them some money in student loans and tuition.

Mrs. Mulvenna thanked Mrs. Coburn for coming in noting she understands these decisions can sometimes put parents in a tough spot. She also noted Schools of Choice is a touchy subject.

President McKennon congratulated everyone on a great opening week of school noting there are always a few opening day glitches but it is part of a new school year and no matter how hard we try, there will be adjustments.

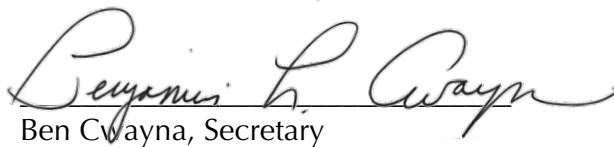
Dr. Metcalf echoed President McKennon stating our transportation works hard to transport approximately 3,500 students to and from school each day noting it is not just from one point but from multiple locations. He advised our Transportation Supervisor Pete Bucholtz implemented a "Bus Driver of the Year" and asked parents to submit their comments about their student's bus driver. He then compiled them and shared them with the drivers. He recognized our custodial and maintenance staff on their great efforts to get our buildings ready for last Monday noting that while most think school started last Monday, for several of our staff, it started weeks ago and that includes our teaching staff who started showing up three weeks ago and getting their rooms ready for the students.

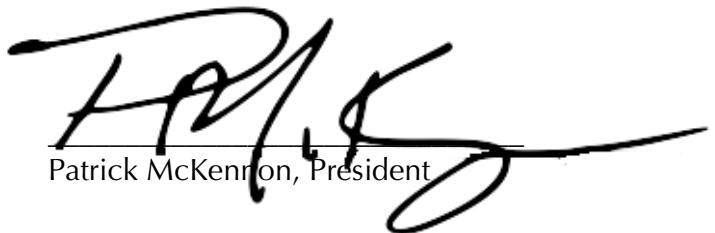
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

  
Ben Cwayna, Secretary

  
Patrick McKennon, President