
GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Regular Meeting – August 27, 2018

MINUTES

President Shiflett called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Metcalf indicated the presence of ***Board Members***: Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort, Beverly Winstanley, Kim Mulvenna, Patrick McKennon, Sara Clark Pierson and Jon Shiflett. ***Central Office Administrators***: Brian Metcalf, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Sutherland, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. ***Others in Attendance***: Harriett Dean, Sara Zeko, Melissa Mazzola, Jill Chapman, Joshua Chapman and Kim Manning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the August 27, 2018, 2018 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. McKennon, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the August 27, 2018 Consent Agenda Item, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda was the June 25, 2018 Regular Meeting and Closed Session, the July 16, 2018 Regular Meeting and Closed Session and the August 13, 2018 Work Session meeting minutes and the hiring of teachers Chelsea Linsemier, Anna Rosalin, Ashley Parks, Elyse Fox and Nick Baribeau and the hiring of Counselor Marissa Messenger.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- A. Capitol Connections Report** - Mrs. DuFort provided an update the State Board of Education's Marshall Plan implementation noting it is deadlocked and now going to the Attorney General. The tuition student language that prohibits districts from collecting tuitions from out of state international students has been included in the final school aid budget. MASB is working to address this language due to its last-minute inclusion and because school districts have already approved their budgets. In closing she provided information for the Legislative Priority Meetings MASB will be conducting over the next two months to clarify their focus for the 2019-2020 school year.

President Shiflett added the legislature is still on its summer recess but will come back for a couple days before going out for their fall work period. He advised on the

importance constituents reaching out to public officials to advise them of how important public education is to you and without it our kids will be lost.

- B. Eaton RESA Report – There** was no report.
- C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report –** There was no report.
- D. Governance Committee Report –** Mr. McKennon advised the committee has met a few times and have agreed to a tool for conducting this year’s Superintendent’s Evaluation.
- E. Superintendent’s Report –** Superintendent Metcalf advised it was a good first week of school with the district currently having approximately 5,200 students enrolled. He also reported the district will be hosting community presentations on the upcoming bond proposals on September 17, September 26, October 2 and October 4 at the Sawdon Administration Building in the conference room. Each of the presentations will begin at 6:00 pm and anyone within the Grand Ledge Public Schools community is welcome to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Attendance Awareness Proclamation

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mrs. Clark Pierson for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Proclamation declaring September Attendance Awareness Month, as presented.

Mrs. Mulvenna noted the Grand Ledge Public Schools District already does a lot of the things noted on this proclamation but believes it is always good to reinforce the importance of attendance at school.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Special Services Update

Executive Director of Special Services, Sara Sutherland, provided the board with a detailed overview of the district’s performance captured on the Strand Report as published in May 2018 as it relates to the 2016-2017 school year. Areas of success include dropout rates for special education students, suspension and expulsion, preschool environment, parental involvement, child find and timely initial evaluations. Areas the district will continue to improve upon include early childhood transitions noting Grand Ledge Public Schools has an 87.5% success rate, secondary transitions, noting Grand Ledge Public Schools has a 92.5% success rate. In closing, Ms. Sutherland noted for the 2017-2018 school year, the special services department conducted 147 initial IEP’s resulting in 114 students found to be eligible for services. However, throughout the entire 2017-2018 school year, 827 IEP’s were held for students.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Energy Conservation Update & Check Presentation

District Energy Specialist Thom Sowle provided the board with an overview of the energy savings realized as a result of our conservation measures. He also commended the board on being an early adopter of energy conservation that put the district into a small group that is allowed to purchase their energy at a secondary market. This has also saved the district hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

Mr. Sowle then introduced Ralph Huston from Consumers Energy who was in attendance to present the district with a rebate check. Thom advised that Consumers Energy has been there for the district to provide training and to provide us with ideas about saving energy. This year, we had a chiller fail at Beagle Elementary that had to be replaced and the check tonight is a rebate to help offset the cost of that replacement. Chad Meyers from Myers Plumbing was also in attendance. Chad, and his company did all the work for us to replace the chiller, but they have worked closely with the district for several years.

Mr. Huston Ralph thanked Mr. Sowle, the district and the board expressing his gratitude for the commitment to energy conservation. He then presented President Shiflett with a rebate check of \$18,980.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Eaton County Truancy Officer Harriett Dean expressed her appreciation to the board for supporting September as Attendance Awareness Month. She noted attendance is so tied to student achievement it is important everyone understand that attendance at school must be a priority.

Grand Ledge High School teacher Sara Zeko who serves as a PBIS Coach expressed she is grateful to the board for adopting the Attendance Proclamation. She noted the high school works hard to stress the importance of attendance to its students and many of the things noted in the proclamation are already implemented, but it is always good for students, and parents, to hear it in a different voice. Teachers and administrators are always stressing to students and parents the importance of attendance, but now the board of education is providing that same feedback.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mrs. DuFort asked how the district is handling the extreme heat especially with little ones going out for recess.

Mr. Sowle advised some of our buildings have older systems which can cause issues, but all of our buildings are running well and the kids are comfortable.

Mrs. Mulvenna noted the Opening Day Ceremony was great. She through Vern Hazard from the Flippen Group provided a very uplifting presentation and she hopes we continue down that path. She also noted it was fun attending the Neff Open House and passing out flyers. Very interesting to see kids dressed up like princesses, just a fun time.

Mrs. DuFort also commented she felt the Opening Day Ceremony was great. She attended the Delta Center Open House and loves seeing the excitement from both students and staff for the start of another school year.

Mr. McKennon noted he attended the Wacousta Open House and everyone was very excited to be there. He noted a lot of people he spoke with acknowledge they had heard about the bond proposals.

ADJOURNMENT

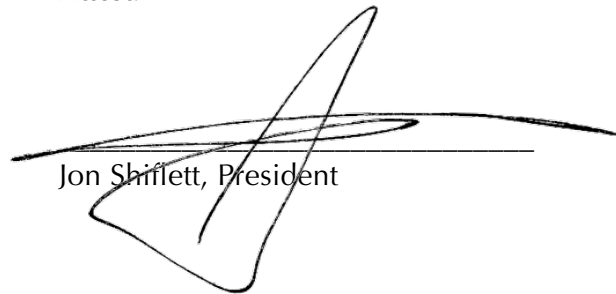
The meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Patrick McKennon, Secretary



Jon Shiflett, President