

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*Board of Education*

Organizational Meeting – January 11, 2021

MINUTES

President DuFort called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE

Notary Public Kim Manning administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Board of Education Members Patrick McKennon and Nicole Shannon, individually. Both of these candidates won election in the November 2020 Election.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Interim Superintendent Dave Chapin indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Ben Cwayna remotely from the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; Nicole Shannon remotely from Oneida Township, Eaton County; Patrick McKennon from Oneida Township, Eaton County; Sara Clark Pierson from Eagle Township, Clinton County; Jon Shiflett remotely from the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; ; Jarrod Smith remotely from the City of Lansing, Ingham County; and Denise DuFort remotely from the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County. **Central Office Administrators:** Dave Chapin, Steve Gabriel, Bill Barnes, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Theresa Abed, Kim Abed, Bill Albrecht, Tenaya Aldrich, Greg Almy, Emily Bartlett, Mike Bauer, Janelle Berry, Bianca Blackwelder, Kelli Bohnet, Jen Bouck, Mikjell Brown Shaw, Taylor Brush, Maria Capra, Katie Casteel, Cassidy Chandler, Cailin Christenson, Laura Clark, Miranda Coburn, Jenna Coburn, Nola Cockroft, Nick Crofut, Morgan Cross, Alyssa Cummings, Stephanie Curtis, Eric Daley, Ellie Darnell, Jill Dayton, Bri Dennis, Sarae Dolan, Scott Donaldson, Katie Dufresne, Lindsey Fender, Brian Flowerday, Katie Fox, Ehtan Fox, Elyse Fox, Joni Fuller, Grant Gallihugh, Ash Gobbell, John Gollenhon, D’Anne Golub, Jenn Grantham, Lindsey Greiner, Dale Gross, Laura Guild, Amanda Heinze, Jason Higgins, John Hubbard, Lara Hubbard, Jill Huisken, Clifford Hurth, Fred Hutchinson, Erica Jenks, Brian Jorgenson, Hillary Kohn, Christie Konieczny, Kelci Laugal, Marisa Lay, Erica Ledesma, Jessica Lee, Heidi Lopez, Jamie Losch, Jody Lyon, Jill Mangrum, Todd Marsh, Laura Mauren, Melissa Mazzola, Tonya McGill, Jamie McKennon, Charity McLaren, Michelle Mead, Alice Mills, Amber Moody, Kristy Moore, Kim Mulvenna, Jackie Nelson, Kelly Nevison, Laura Noa, Tiffany Organek, Ann Paquette-Lukens, Jeepman Parkview, Michelle Pfaff, Stephanie Phillips, Christina Powell, Erin Pribble, Marlene Promer, Heidi Ransom, Andrew Reynaert, Jenna Riekse, Erin Ries, Jennifer Rottier, Janet Rush, Christin Sandell, Julie Schieding, Ryleigh Scott, Lucinda Shier, Ashley Simon, Lesley Simon, Tracy Smith, Kelly Smith, Lauren Snyder, Julie Steinacker, Joy Sullivan, Lucas Terpstra, Carletta Thomas, Dawn Thomas, Steve Thompson, Rachel VanDeven, Michelle VanDuine, Doug Waldrop, Carly Waldrop, Megan Weber, Kelly Webster, Kristy Welch, Vicki Wenzlick, Nancy Wireman, Kristen Wren and Kim Manning

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Board Secretary Jon Shiflett conducted the Election of President.

**A. President**

Mr. Smith nominated Sara Clark Pierson for the 2021 President of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

<b>Ms. Shannon</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. Shiflett</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. McKennon</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. Smith</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Cwayna</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mrs. DuFort</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Ms. Clark Pierson</b>	<b>YES</b>		

**The Nomination carried unanimously.**

President Elect Sara Clark Pierson conducted the election for Vice President and Secretary.

**B. Vice President**

Mrs. DuFort nominated Jarrod Smith for the 2021 Vice President of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

<b>Ms. Clark Pierson</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Ms. Shannon</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Shiflett</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. McKennon</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Smith</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. Cwayna</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mrs. DuFort</b>	<b>YES</b>		

**The Nomination carried unanimously.**

**C. Secretary**

**Mr. McKennon** nominated Nicole Shannon for the 2021 Secretary of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

<b>Mrs. DuFort</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Ms. Clark Pierson</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Ms. Shannon</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. Shiflett</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. McKennon</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Mr. Smith</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Mr. Cwayna</b>	<b>YES</b>		

**The Nomination carried unanimously.**

Mr. McKennon thanked outgoing Board President Denise DuFort for her service over the past year noting it was a tough year and expressing his appreciation for her leadership.

Mr. Smith thanked Mrs. DuFort for her nomination of him to continue serving as the Vice President for 2021. He expressed his appreciation for the time she invested over the past year while serving as Board President as well as her grace under the various pressure noting he was proud to serve with her.

Superintendent Chapin noted that while he only had a half-year of working with Mrs. DuFort as Board President, he noted it was good to work with her and he found Mrs. DuFort to be honest, transparent, hard-working and caring. He remarked he looks forward to working with President-Elect Clark Pierson.

President-Elect Clark Pierson noted it has been a very tough year and she views the roll of President as the person who runs the meetings but this board operates with seven leaders, all with equal standing on the board and she looks forward to continuing to work with all the board member going forward.

**SELECTION OF BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

President-Elect Clark Pierson appointed Jon Shiflett will serve as Parliamentarian; Jarrod Smith, in conjunction with Jon Shiflett, will serve as Legislative Liaisons, Nicole Shannon will serve as the Board Representative on the Grand Ledge Education Foundation. Sara Clark Pierson, Nicole Shannon and Ben Cwayna will serve as the Board's Audit Committee members; Jon Shiflett, Patrick McKennon and Jarrod Smith will serve as the Board's Bond Advisory Committee members and Denise DuFort, Patrick McKennon and Ben Cwayna will serve as members of the Board's Governance Committee and Sara Clark Pierson, Jon Shiflett and Patrick McKennon will serve as members of the Board's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mr. McKennon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the January 11, 2021 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.**

Included under the Consent Agenda was setting the Board Compensation Rate, noting it remains the same as was set in 2014 with no increase, the reaffirmation and adoption of the Legal Reference Note; approval of the depositories/signatures for school funds;

naming the Grand Ledge Independent as the official newspaper for publication purposes and authorizing the Superintendent (or his designee) to be the designated person to post official business notices; the delegation of the district's election duties to the Superintendent (or his designee); retaining The Thrun Law Firm as the district's legal counsel, Maner Costerisan & Ellis, PC as the district's financial auditors and the Michigan Association of School Boards as the district's consultant for non-certified bargaining groups; and, reaffirming that all seven (7) members of the board of education will sign all ratified collective bargaining agreements.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Shannon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

**SETTING OF 2021 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2021 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, as presented.**

Dr. Chapin noted the board will only hold one meeting in April due to scheduled County-Wide School Board Meeting and in May, July, November and December to accommodate holidays and summer and winter recess. All other meetings will be conducted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. The second meeting in January, scheduled for January 25, 2021 is slated specifically to move the Superintendent Search process forward.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Shannon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

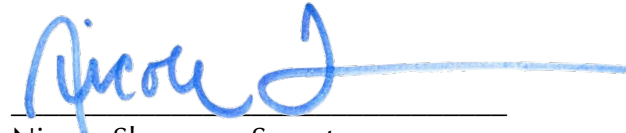
Mr. Smith noted if Nicole doesn't already have the rights to be read. We will get those to her before the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Nicole Shannon, Secretary



Sara Clark Pierson, President