

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Work Session – February 11, 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, Sara Clark Pierson, Ben Cwayna and Patrick McKennon. ***Central Office Administrators:*** Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. ***Others in Attendance:*** Colleen Price 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. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$9,390, as presented.

Mrs. Mulvenna provided an explanation of the invoices noting the Board Bond Advisory Committee reviewed all the invoices and approved them to be brought forward for full board approval.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. APPROVAL OF TEACHER HIRING

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Teacher Hiring, as presented.

Assistant Superintendent Mike Johnson provided the board with background information on Joe Brya noting he is a 2005 graduate of GLHS, he received highly effective status on his previous teacher evaluations and was described as a quality teacher. In addition to teaching at the High School, Joe will act as our Varsity Football Coach. Joe served as an assistant coach here for a few years before moving and most recently served as the head football coach at Eaton Rapids.

The motion carried unanimously.

C. APPROVAL OF BOND PROCEEDS INVESTMENT MANAGER

Motion by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve PFM Asset Management, LLC to serve as the district's investment manager of the 2019 Bond proceeds, as presented.

Chief Financial Officer Nancy Rasinske advised the district met with three bond investment management providers and recommends PFM Asset Management, LLC/MILF based on the fact that PFM/MILAF is the manager of Michigan bond proceeds of nearly \$1B for 69 public/non-profit clients, governed by school district representatives, sponsored by MASB, MASA and MSBO, and is operated as an independent investment advisor.

The motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF 2019-2020 PARTICIPATION IN SECTION 105 & 105(C) SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

Motion by Mr. Shiflett seconded by Ms. Clark Pierson for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the district's participation in Section 105 and 105(c) Schools of Choice for the 2019-2020 school year to include limited options for Kindergarten through 6th grade, unlimited options for grades 7 and 8 and limited options for grades 9 through 12, as presented.

Superintendent Metcalf advised most recently the district has provided unlimited schools of choice options for Kindergarten through 9th grade. However, this year's recommendation takes into consideration the current enrollment and projected class sizes for Kindergarten through 6th grade and 9th through 12th grade. We have much more flexibility in grades 7 and 8 as we are down about 100 students and therefore recommended unlimited options at those grade levels.

After discussion among the board members, Dr. Metcalf advised he likes the unlimited option as it allows us more choice of where students are placed, but with the numbers this year, it was not practical at certain grade levels.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

District employee Colleen Price expressed she is very pleased with the hiring of Joe Brya. She advised she has had the luxury of knowing him through her husband and noted that parents speak very highly of Mr. Brya. She noted that to her, he is an outstanding teacher and the "total package". In closing she asked the board members to pay close attention to the bond funds to ensure things don't get "valued out".

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mrs. Mulvenna expressed her appreciation for the new iPad to conduct school business on. She addressed Mrs. Price's concerns about items being valued out of the bond noting the district has so many more checks and balances in place, in addition to working with a great construction firm and construction management firm.

Ms. Clark Pierson addressed the new school we will be building as part of the generous gift of 100 acres from Dave and Betty Morris and the generous gift from our taxpayers with the approval of the bond proposals. She noted that while the new building is one of the last items on the "to do" list, she believes it is important to get people to start thinking about it. She would like to see community input, focus groups. Do we want to use the whole 100 acres, don't we? Maybe we want to involve MSU in the discussion groups. In closing she noted this is a big thing and we want a lot of people thinking about it – not just parents, educators too. She would like Superintendent Metcalf to come up with a plan on how we can begin this process.

Superintendent Metcalf advised he was at the annual superintendent's conference last week and had conversation with four different superintendents that had worked with Joe Brya. All of them said what a great teacher he is. While we initially identified him as our next varsity football coach and were hoping his teaching skills would be a bonus, but in all the discussion about Joe, it was all about what a great instructional staff member he was going to be for us. In closing he advised that due to the many school closing days, the district is looking at pushing back the start of the 3rd trimester.

CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Shiflett 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(c) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	President McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>

The motion carried unanimously at 6:30 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The board reconvened in Open Session at 7:34 p.m.

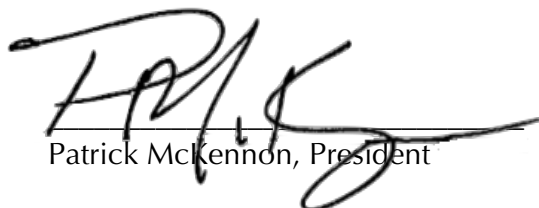
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Ben Cwayna, Secretary


Patrick McKennon, President