

## GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Board of Education*

Committee of the Whole / Work Session – August 14, 2023

### MINUTES

President Smith 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 Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Ashley Kuykendoll, Denise DuFort, Jon Shiflett, Nicole Shannon, Toni Glasscoe and Jarrod Smith. **Board Members Absent:** Ben Cwayna **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Julie Waterbury, Kelly Jones, Martez Warren, Mark Deschaine, and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Samuel DiMaggio, Melissa Mazzola, Jan M. Seeger, Tim Totten and Kim Manning

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Secretary Shannon provided an overview for making public comment to the board.

Sam DiMaggio addressed the board regarding Okemos & East Lansing – GL middle of the pack type of school. Mtg with superintendent, asked him the question, felt disrespected. Looks to me that GL has fallen to the middle of the pack. Deal with the cards you are dealt. Put together a report, where they came from, where they are, where we will be in 5 years. Like to see a day GL has more Harvard, Yale graduates.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### **A. Superintendent Evaluation Update – Business & Finance**

Superintendent Barnes provided his update with focus on Business & Finance, Section D of the Superintendent's Evaluation Rubric. He provided the established goal and the current initiatives established under each of the goals including Budget Development and Management, Budget Reports, Financial Controls, Facilities Management, and Resource Allocation.

##### **B. Strategic Plan Update**

Superintendent Barnes provided an update on the status of the Strategic Plan Smart Goals noting the smart goals were not approved and implemented until January of 2023. He provided updated on each of the smart goals established for 2022-2023 and where the district was in respect to each of the goals established. He reviewed the 2023-2024 goals have already been established and any goal that was not met in 2022-2023 will be carried over into 2023-2024. He further shared feedback from end of year surveys and from the Parent School Improvement Team.

#### ACTION ITEMS

##### **A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 10, 2023 MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION**

**Motion by Mrs. DuFort seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the July 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**B. 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF NEOLA BOARD POLICIES – 5000 STUDENTS**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to Waive the first reading of NEOLA Board Policies 5000 – students. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Shannon led the group in reviewing the proposed changes suggested by the Governance Committee.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Capital Funds Invoices in the amount of \$248,750.46, as presented.**

Mr. DuFort noted this represents invoices for allowable expenses at the High School Fine Arts renovation.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

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

**Motion by Mrs. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$91,844.42, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted this represents work related to the Pole Barn, carpet in new classrooms at Sawdon and roof scanning.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**E. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF DELTA CENTER LIFE SAFETY INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mrs. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Delta Center Life Safety Invoices in the amount of \$189,780.01, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted these invoices represent work for the fire suppression system at Delta Center.

**F. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$1,111,127.83, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted this represents bond work at Delta Center and Wacousta.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**G. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 3 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$7,183.34, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted this represents bond work at the High School.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**H. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 1 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$30,414.14, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted this represents work at the Beagle pool.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**I. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**

**Motion by Mrs. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$386,048.72, as presented.**

Mrs. DuFort noted this is for bond work on the Fine Arts addition.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD**

Dr. Barnes addressed public comment made tonight noting that there are multiple sites that have all sorts of public school rankings and we simply can't track what every site says. He recommends seeking data from My School Data (link provided on our webpage) as this is the site that has our test scores. In closing he thanked the board for their feedback on his presentations.

Mrs. Kuykendoll commended the Wacousta ground breaking ceremony. She went on to share concerns regarding holding open houses the night before the first day of school, getting access to teacher specific supply lists, teacher assignments and of course bus routes. She asked everyone to be mindful that this is a stressful time for some people asking people to be kind and gracious. She expressed she is grateful to our staff and administration and looks forward to another very successful school year.

Mrs. DuFort expressed her appreciation to the Governance Committee members for their work in reviewing the NEOLA policies. She shared she has heard a lot of great things regarding the upcoming school year and she is very excited that Delta Center is ready to go. She thanked Bond Supervisor John Piper who has been instrumental in ensuring things stay on track. In closing she expressed she feels we are starting stronger than we have in quite a while and she attributes that to our staff and our leadership.

Ms. Shannon shared she just received a message that bus schedules will be out on August 19<sup>th</sup>. She commented the Wacousta ground breaking was great, noted it appears we are in a good position with having enough bus drivers for all of our routes, shared her 4<sup>th</sup> graders request for a hydration station at Delta Center and in closing, wish Dr. Barnes a Happy Anniversary noting it has been one year since he took over as Superintendent and thanking him for his leadership.

Dr. Glasscoe noted she attended the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion remarking it felt like family; the Wacousta ground breaking, felt like family, and commenting this is what we are creating. She remarked it is so refreshing. She noted it is interesting where we are today; she feels included, she feels welcomed. She went on to note that she is happy we have data because the data shows quite a bump in math scores of the 2022 graduates. She expressed the district is doing well, but there is always room for improvement.

President. Smith remarked on the Wacousta ground breaking. He went on to note that he hasn't found a lot of students who say they are ready to come back but pointed out that many of our students are already back; there is high school soccer scrimmage tonight, the band students are back, so many students are already putting in the hours and already competing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Nicole Shannon, Secretary

Attest:



Jarrod Smith, President