

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Board of Education*

Regular Meeting – November 14, 2022

MINUTES

President Shiflett 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**: Jon Shiflett, Jarrod Smith, Sara Clark, Denise DuFort, Ben Cwayna and Toni Glasscoe. **Members Absent**: Nicole Shannon. **Central Office Administrators**: Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Julie Waterbury, Wendy Seida, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine, Martez Warren and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance**: John Piper, Savannah Hopper, Sarah Hopper, Marisol Macias, Gwenn Ketola, Emily Price, Crystal Quintanilla-Howard, Isabella Parker, Brandon Lawler, Melissa Mazzola, Ken Wright, Allyson McCann, Sean McCann, Heather Neely, Austin Neely, Kris Dykstra, Ava Parker, Tim Totten, Brendan Marsh, Jacob Irwin Ashley Kuykendoll, Marlene Promer, Lana Gallagher, Jon Wise, Mary Moore and Kim Manning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the November 14, 2022 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the November 14, 2022 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda was the October 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

A. Capitol Connections Report

Dr. Glasscoe noted that now that we have gotten past the vote, it is even more important to reach out to your Representatives and Senators, especially those not familiar with K-12 education. It is important for them to understand what is important to public schools. Grand Ledge has so much to share and this presents a great opportunity to send out invitations to those that serve us. She noted that not a whole lot of business will take place in the legislature between now and January but there are a few key pieces of legislation that she will be tracking.

B. Eaton RESA Report

Mrs. DuFort noted the RESA Board has not met since her last report, but they did have the County Area School Board (CASBA) meeting that bring all the local districts under the Eaton RESA together. They discussed special education funding and how it impacts local districts and social and emotional learning. In closing she shared the RESA provided the district will approximately \$4.2M in funding.

C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation

No Report.

D. Bond Update

Bond Supervisor John Piper provided the board with an update on the status of the current construction projects at the high school fine arts project and Delta Center.

E. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Barnes noted his excitement in a presentation for the board tonight from some of our Grand Ledge High Schools students commenting this is why we are here, working for our students. He thanked Grand Ledge High School Principal Dr. Wright and teacher Melissa Mazzola for helping to coordinate this presentation remarking we have hundreds of kids doing really cool things and this is just a sampling.

The Board received a presentation from GLHS students on the Yearbook, Career Prep Center, Newspaper, LINKS, Student Council, Mama Mia and School News.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Smith read the rules for addressing the board.

Stacy Erwin Oakes addressed the board regarding her concerns for her son's safety and Beagle Middle School and noting she has lost confidence in the district's ability to keep her child safe. She questioned if Comet Pride Officer Chris Chester worked for the district or the Grand Ledge Police Department. She noted she submitted a FOIA request to the district that produced nothing from the Grand Ledge Police Department. In closing she asked the board to consider a letter of support for the biometric prohibition legislation that has been introduced.

OLD BUSINESS

A. SAFETY, SECURITY & MENTAL HEALTH

Superintendent Barnes provided an overview of recent safety measures the district has undertaken along with safety and security grants available and the district's planning for each of the grants available. He further shared current mental health supports throughout the district and grants available to support to support mental health and the district's planning for those available grants.

A detailed discussion among the members addressed ensuring funding or basing it on one-time funding, using a strategic approach across all the buildings, Eaton RESA supporting the mental health piece, the need to keep reminding our staff to ensure building doors are not propped open, ensuring vendors used are experts in school facilities, working in conjunction with the Grand Ledge Police Department and our Eaton County Emergency Manager, questioning if the conversation is more about prevention or reactive advising the board that emergency planning is "what do we do if" (training), but the other part of the conversation is how we prevent things, being fortunate to have a counselor at each building, but question how much one counselor can do in a school that has upward of 500 students and noting that PBIS is more geared toward building practice but does provide students with information on who go to if they have concerns, and sharing that Capturing Kid Heart training has kicked back off to ensure all teaching and administrative staff are trained in this practice. In closing, Dr. Barnes shared the plan is to have some data reports in the Spring.

Mr. Cwayna left the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF BOND PROJECT PRIORITIES

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Ms. Clark for Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Bond Project Priorities, as presented.

Superintendent Barnes reviewed the bond priorities based on recent meetings with GMB and Clark based on the bond dollars remaining and the discussion among the member during the October 24, 2022 meeting. He provided background information on the priority projects, projects if dollars allow and the fact the Dave & Betty Morris building may require additional funding.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Clark for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of a Sinking Fund Invoice to Stonecreek Interior Systems in the amount of \$4,249.50, as presented.

Mr. Smith noted all invoices being brought forward were reviewed by the Board Bond Advisory Committee prior to being brought for the full board's consideration. This invoice is for a bench at Beagle.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS INVOICES

Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of a Capital Funds Invoice to Vander Hyde Mechanical in the amount of \$36,501.30, as presented.

Mr. Smith noted this addresses work for the Fine Arts.

The motion carried unanimously with member Sara Clark abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.

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

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$599,079.80, as presented.

Mr. Smith noted this is for work at Delta Center.

The motion carried unanimously with member Sara Clark abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.

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

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$80,270.73, as presented.

Mr. Smith noted this represents closeout expenses for the High School pool.

The motion carried unanimously with member Sara Clark abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.

E. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Smith, 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 \$368,320.03, as presented.

Mr. Smith noted this represents work on the Fine Arts at the High School.

The motion carried unanimously with member Sara Clark abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.

F. APPROVAL OF 2022-2023 STUDENT HANDBOOK REVISIONS

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Ms. Clark for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the revisions to the 2022-2023 Student Handbooks, as presented.

Dr. Barnes noted the revisions ensure all the lists of protected classes reflect the list found in Board Policy EIR 602 – Non-Discrimination, updating to the new Strategic Plan Vision and Mission, updating the list of central office staff and providing the most current school calendar.

The motion carried unanimously.

G. APPROVAL OF DISTANCE LEARNING COURSE OFFERINGS

Motion by Ms. Clark, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the course offerings, Find Your Future and Human Body Systems, for students enrolled in the district's Distance Learning Program, as presented.

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services noted this is for elective offerings to our 8th and 9th grade distance learning students.

The motion carried unanimously.

H. APPROVAL OF BUS PURCHASE

Motion by Ms. Clark, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the purchase of three conventional, 77-passenger school buses from Midwest Transit in the amount of \$121,769.92 per bus for a total purchase approval of \$365,309.76 using bond dollars.

Dr. Barnes noted this will put the district on a path for cyclical replacement of the bus fleet noting that CFO Julie Waterbury is building the expense of bus purchases into the general fund going forward.

The motion carried unanimously.

I. Operations Policy OM203 – 1st Reading

Motion by Ms. Clark, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to waive the 1st reading of Operations Policy OM203.

Dr. Barnes noted our district nurse brought to light that the current board Operations Policy OM203 was very narrow and needed to be broadened to encompass the full scope of the district's Medical Management & Emergency Response.

The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ms. Clark, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to waive the second reading of Operations Policy OM203 and implement the proposed revisions effective immediately.

Ms. Clark explained in accordance with Governance Policy 206, the Board of Education may adopt a proposed policy at first reading at any lawful board meeting with the Board finds that the immediate adoption of a proposed policy is necessitated by the imminent threat to the health, safety and welfare of the district. As this policy addresses the delivery of emergency medical intervention it merits immediate effect.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Executive Director of Technology Mark Deschaine shared the installation of the new board room equipment is scheduled to start on December 13 and will be ready for the Organizational Meeting in January.

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel thanked the high school students for their presentation noting it makes him miss being a high school principal. He congratulated Dr. Glasscoe, Mrs. DuFort and Mrs. Kuykendoll on their recent election to the Board of Education noting he looks forward to working together.

Dr. Glasscoe expressed her thanks to the community for their vote of confidence noting she is humbled by the support. She remarked she takes this roll seriously and looks forward to continuing to serve. She expressed she recently attending the MASB training for the Superintendent's Annual Review and noted how impressed she was by the process and the thoughtfulness that went into it. She noted she will be sharing the model with LCC as they are looking for a new evaluation system.

Mrs. DuFort congratulated the football team on a great season, commended the most recent production of Mama Mia, and shared she had an opportunity to attend a Quiz Bowl competition which is just another opportunity for our students to engage. She thanked the team for all the work, especially on the budget piece and looking at prioritizing the bond projects.

Ms. Clark shared history on the superintendent evaluation noting that former board member Linda Wacyk was very committed to the process and that Mrs. DuFort and former board member Patrick McKennon mad some real contributions to how we do our evaluation of the superintendent and noting she has high regard for the thought behind it. She did mention the initial process can be a little quirky for this board as the evaluation is slated to soon after the hiring, but remarking this is just the circumstances of the last years and believes things will even out.

Mr. Smith seconded that it will be great to keep a superintendent for more than one year.

CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. DuFort 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, Public Act 267 of 1976.

Roll Call Vote:

Mrs. DuFort YES
Ms. Clark YES
Mr. Cwayna ABSENT

Dr. Glasscoe YES
President Shiflett YES
Mr. Smith YES

The motion carried at 7:44 p.m.

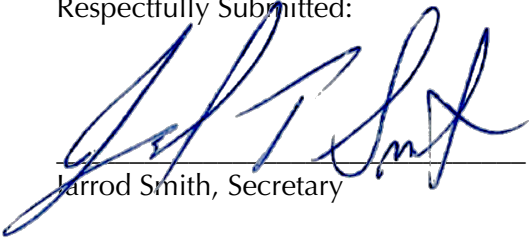
RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:12 p.m.

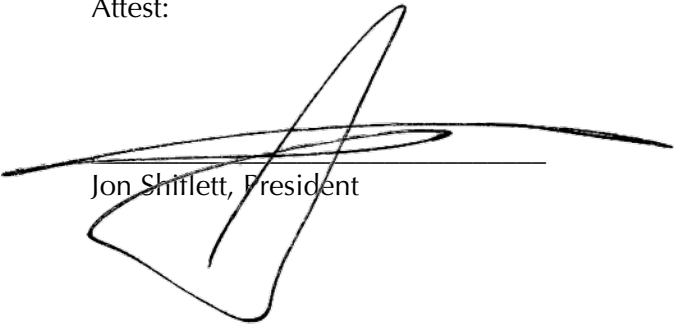
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Jarrod Smith, Secretary

Attest:


Jon Shiflett, President