

**GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
*Board of Education***

Meeting - January 13, 2025

MINUTES

President DuFort called the meeting to order at 6:31p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Coban Holmes, Matt Oppenheim, Kali Stevens, Toni Glasscoe, Ashley Kuykendoll, Denise DuFort, and Nicole Shannon **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Adrienne Barna, Bill Albrecht, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Amy Hirshman, Karen Almcrantz, Rachel Parish, Stacy Kruse, Christina Holmes, Melissa Mazzola, Sean Stevens, Tim Totten, Brian Diller, Ashleigh Lore, Kristy Ford, Tessa Arbour, Lindsey Boots, Allyson Prince, Nicole Conner, Chris Chester and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION

January is School Board Recognition Month in Michigan. Dr. Barnes took a moment to recognize the dedication and commitment of our Board of Education members and presented them with a small token of appreciation. He thanked them for their service to the community noting he understands it can sometimes be a thankless job but he appreciates working with all the members and appreciates the work they do. He thanked Ms. Shannon for her year as President and working together.

DISCUSSION & PRESENTATION ITEMS

A. Holbrook Elementary School

Holbrook Elementary School Principal Kat Farr shared her building's 24-25 social and emotional learning goal, why it was chosen, the impact of the goal and where they are at in accomplishing their goal.

B. Student Safety Supervisor

Student Safety Supervisor Chris Chester provided the board with an overview of his responsibilities in ensuring safety measures throughout the district.

ACTION ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Meeting Minutes, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

President DuFort noted this includes the meeting minutes of the December 12, 2022 Regular Meeting and Closed Session and the minutes.

B. APPROVAL OF PROBATIONARY TO TENURE STATUS

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Holmes for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to award Tenure Status to Erin Fredericks, Amanda Gabriel, Josephine Oren, Ryleigh Scott, Jenna Rieske and Jason Wester-Hall, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

C. APPROVAL OF TEACHER HIRING

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Hiring of Annemarie Reik, Kaylie Cano, and Emily Wenzlick, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, 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 \$19,940, as presented.

Mrs. DuFort noted this is for the boiler at Delta Mills.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Stevens for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$5,000, as presented.

Mrs. DuFort noted this is for landscape work at Wacousta.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$561,741.78, as presented.

Mrs. DuFort noted this includes fees for Clark Construction and GMB Architects & Engineer as well as Audio Visual work at the High School and Furniture for the High School store.

The motion carried unanimously.

G. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 4 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$515,172.30, as presented.

Mrs. DuFort noted this includes fees for Clark Construction and GMB Architects & Engineers as well as trades work.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD

Executive Director of Technology Mark Deschaine thanked the board for their service.

Superintendent Barnes explained that while last year the Central Office Leadership Team (COLT) provided the board with information on the work their respective departments do, this year, the district supervisor will present on the work they are doing within the district. He shared this is a means to provide the board, and community, with an understanding of the work done by the administration of the district.

Mr. Holmes expressed his thanks for the opportunity to serve the district and community as well as his appreciation for those people who came before him. He noted they set a great example and made his decision to run for the Board of Education easy. In closing he commented he is excited for the next six-years as this is a great district that is doing awesome stuff.

Mr. Oppenheim thanked everyone for welcoming him to the board and expressed his appreciation for the community's support and the support of his family. He shared he looks forward to the opportunity and challenges ahead recognition the positive scope the district has accomplished and that he is looking forward to continuing the positivity going forward.

Ms. Stevens thanked the community for their support of her in the election. She commented this is a great district that is only getting better. She recognized Ms. Farr for her Holbrook presentation noting she has a student at Holbrook and it has been a wonderful year with Ms. Farr leading the building. She thanked Mr. Chester for the safety information he shared and expressed her appreciation.

Dr. Glasscoe welcomed her new colleagues and commented she looks forward to working together. She shared information about a conversation with a teacher and their excitement about getting to work within the district and noted the importance of people feeling comfortable talking with the board members. In closing she thanked Dr. Barnes for the way he has implemented the departments sharing information in a manner that allows the members and community to understand.

Ms. Shannon welcomed her new colleagues commenting they don't feel new because they have been very engaged. She thanked Ms. Farr and Mr. Chester for their presentation.

Ms. Kuykendoll welcome the new board members expressing her excitement in having them here. She wished everyone a Happy New Year. She thanked Mr. Farr for her presentation commenting on the student committee and expressing she loves to see her taking their voices into consideration. She thanked Mr. Chester for what he does and commented it shows that he does not take his position lightly. She thanked Mr. Deschaine for the new iPads for the board members, the communication entire Central Office Leadership Team expressing her appreciation for the way the team stays on top of everything. In closing she thanked everyone for the manner in which they handled the challenge of the Wacousta issue prior to break and ensuring the kids would be able to return after the winter break and thanked our community for the outpouring of books to replace those damaged at Wacousta.

President DuFort echoed Ms. Kuykendoll's sentiment on the Wacousta situation noting it is another wonderful example of how everyone in this community jumps in and pulls together. She thanked Ms. Farr for her leadership at Holbrook and creating an environment where people feel welcome. She recognized Mr. Chester noting we are fortunate to have someone with his experience in his position as Student Safety Supervisor. In closing she welcomed the new board members and thanked her colleagues for their confidence in selecting her to serve as the Board President this year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Nicole Shannon, Secretary

Denise DuFort, President