

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

June 10, 2024

MINUTES

Secretary Kuykendoll called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Ashley Kuykendoll, Jarrod Smith, Ben Cwayna and Toni Glasscoe. Jon Shiflett joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m. **Members Absent:** Nicole Shannon, Denise DuFort. **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Julie Waterbury, Wendy Seida, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Brenton Bell, Susan Hazen, Lily Anderson, Coban Holmes, Tim Totten, Melanie Wright, Nola Cockroft, Sarah Hopper, SallyJo Nelton, Kali Stevens, Justin Heany, Rickie Kuykendoll and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Smith reviewed the rules for giving public comment.

Brenton Bell addressed the board in support of the employee contracts.

Nola Cockroft & Sarah Hopper addressed the board thanking them for their dedication to the students, families and staff expressing appreciation for their service. They thanked them for the consideration of their contract and expressed their gratitude to the administrative negotiating team noting it was a very collaborative and positive process.

Tim Totten addressed the board to express his concerns regarding a film used in his daughter's math class noting he opted his daughter out of viewing the film and she was provided an alternate assignment.

SUPERINTENDENT PERFORMANCE UPDATE – Staff Relations

Superintendent Barnes noted that under new legislation, the current tool used to evaluate the Superintendent is changing which may change focus areas as well. However, he is moving forward with continuing his Performance Updates based on the current focus areas.

Superintendent Barnes provided his update with a focus on Section C of the Superintendent's Evaluation Rubric, Staff Relations. He provided the established goals and the current initiative established under each of the goals including staff feedback, staff communication, personnel matters, delegation of duties, recruitment, labor relations, and visibility in the district.

Dr. Glasscoe commended Dr. Barnes stating he does an excellent job in being engaged and making every effort to connect. She encouraged him to continue to work on his delegation noting that it is important to rest and have time with family.

Mr. Smith noted the student feedback visits Dr. Barnes has implemented as well. Dr. Barnes explained the Student School Improvement Team meetings noting it provides an opportunity for the students to share their perspectives as well as providing another opportunity to be in the buildings, shared that students are randomly selected out of PowerSchool and it is another way for him to get to know the students, and for them to get to know him.

Secretary Kuykendoll noted Dr. Barnes' presence during emergencies specifically referencing him being on site when the power went out at Wacousta and helping ensure the students knew they were safe. She commended him for making himself available to assist.

Dr. Barnes noted you lead from out front and in those kinds of situations it is an all-hands on deck and he and the leadership team will always make themselves available to assist.

ACTION ITEMS

A. BOARD POLICIES – 1ST READING

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education waive the first reading of revised Board Policies 5330.02 and 7250, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

In President Shannon's absence, Superintendent Barnes reviewed the Governance Committee's proposed changes to each of the policies.

B. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

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

C. APPROVAL OF TEACHER HIRINGS

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Teacher Hirings, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF RATIFYING RESOLUTION – 2024 SCHOOL BUILDING & SITE BONDS, SERIES IV **Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2024 School Building and Site Bonds, Series IV Ratifying Resolution, as presented.**

Mr. Shiflett shared that by creating the bonds in series, the taxpayers have seen a \$1.7M savings over if the district had opted to take all the bonds at once.

Dr. Barnes shared the process of meeting with our financial advisors, receiving bids and noting the rate the district received is due to the financial condition of the district. He commended Chief Financial Officer Julie Waterbury noting she did a lot of the behind the scenes on this process.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

E. PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$128,603.24, as presented.

Mr. Smith advised this was reviewed by the Board Bond Committee and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents work at Neff, Sawdon at the Health Center at the high school.

The motion carried unanimously.

F. PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$748,408.92, as presented.

Mr. Smith advised this was reviewed by the Board Bond Committee and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents regular payments to Clark Construction and trades at Wacousta.

The motion carried unanimously.

G. PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 3 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$527,151.92, as presented.

Mr. Smith advised this was reviewed by the Board Bond Committee and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents regular payments to Clark Construction and GMB Architects and trades work at the Neff and the High School.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD

Director of Human Resources Kelly Jones thanked Ms. Cockroft and Ms. Hopper noting they make up an amazing team to work with and she welcome the new teachers.

Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel welcomed the new teachers and congratulated the Class of 2024 who graduated last Friday.

Superintendent Barnes congratulated the Class of 2024 noting it was a wonderful ceremony, expressed his appreciation to the negotiation teams and noting everyone worked very well together. With regard to public comment regarding the use of films he noted that teachers use film in their class for a variety of reasons. He shared that you can view the Academic Services webpage to see how instructional choices are made. He noted the film in question was rated PG-13 and the district trusts the judgement of the teachers to pick items that are relevant to their class just as we trust parents to make choices for their child, which is why alternate assignments are provided.

Dr. Glasscoe recognized the difficult work of human resources and commended tonight's staff hirings. She recognized the amazing work of Chief Financial Officer Julie Waterbury. She shared she was so proud to see all the students and staff at graduation and expressed she loved seeing Dr. Wright giving high fives to every single student. She remarked that conversations she had in the parking lot after graduation were very rich for her. In closing, she recognized upcoming Juneteenth celebrations and invited everyone to attend LCC's celebration this Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Michigan Room.

Mr. Smith welcomed the teachers. He recognized the upcoming employee contracts and congratulated both sides recognizing the collaboration and working with each other. He noted he understands the IBB takes effort, it is a grind, and was a relatively new concept but recognized several successful contract settlements as a result of it.

Secretary Kuykendoll congratulated the Class of 2024 and thanked everyone for their patience as chaired her first meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Smith 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(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976 and Material Exempt from Disclosure, as Per Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>
Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously at 6:47 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened in open session at 7:20 p.m.

EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Individual Employee Contracts between the Grand Ledge Principals' Educational Association, MEA/NEA Unit I Secretarial / Clerical and Teamsters Local 214 Bus Drivers and the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Ashley Kuykendoll, Secretary



Nicole Shannon, President