

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

Regular Meeting – February 24, 2025

MINUTES

Vice President 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 Bill Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Coban Holmes, Matt Oppenheim, Kali Stevens, Toni Glasscoe, Nicole Shannon, Ashley Kuykendoll. **Board Members Absent:** Denise DuFort. **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Adrienne Barna, Wendy Seida, Bill Albrecht, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** John Piper, Dave Paz, John VanHoesen, Julie Noel Yeakey, Ashlee Paz, Jenny David, Tim Totten, Sally Jo Nelton, Ashleigh Lore, Allyson S. McCann and Kim Manning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the February 24, 2025 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the February 24, 2025 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the February 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

A. CAPITOL CONNECTIONS

Dr. Glasscoe shared information regarding the early release of the Governor’s 304 page budget. She encouraged everyone to listen to the Governor’s State of the State address on Wednesday but reminded everyone this process is just starting and in no way reflects the final budget that will be adopted.

Ms. Stevens shared that on Thursday MASB will provide a recap of the Governor’s speech.

Mr. Holmes shared the “hard cap” bill and eight others did not go to the Governor and there are legal proceedings trying to get those bills to her. He noted he understands the minimum wage and sick time bills were signed.

Superintendent Barnes noted the sick time bill does impact the district but Adrienne Barna and Kelly Jones are working to ensure we are in compliance through updates from Neola and district legal counsel.

B. EATON RESA

Mr. Holmes shared that at the County Wide School Board Meeting at Eaton RESA they received information from the MASB's Director of Government Relations noting most importantly that the MIPSER reimbursement funds should be coming soon, the school aid fund ended with a higher than estimated fund balance and while enrollment at the state level continues to drop that is not the case for Grand Ledge Public Schools as our enrollment continues to grow.

Dr. Glasscoe mentioned the 50 year celebration that LCC is a sponsoring.

C. GRAND LEDGE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Ms. Shannon shared registration has opened for Foundation's 5K Comet Chase. The race is scheduled for June 21st which coincides with Yankee Doodle Day. She shared that every board member has signed up to participate or pledged support and thanked them for leading by example. To sign up, visit GLEF.net.

D. DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Ms. Stevens noted during their meeting they spent time recapping last year's roles and establishing a direction for the committee for this year.

E. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Holmes noted during their meeting they also spent time recapping the committee's work from last year and the establishment and adoption of the new policies through Neola. This year the committee will continue the review process of changes and updates from Neola as well as working to establish the administrative guidelines.

F. BOND UPDATE

Bond Supervisor John Piper provided updates on construction work at Neff, High School, Hayes, Operations, Willow Ridge. He noted that all projects are on schedule and on budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Barnes welcomed Hayes Principal Eric Leopold and Assistant Principal Scott Millbrook to present to the board.

a. Hayes Intermediate School

Hayes Intermediate School Principal Eric Leopold and Assistant Principal Scott Millbrook along with several Hayes students provided the board with an overview of their recent Future City program and Salmon in the Classroom Program. Mr. Leopold shared the five MICIP Goals at Hayes this year. And shared growth and achievement data in Math and Reading through NWEA

scores and how they are tracking their Social Studies and Science goals without a given test to track. Mr. Millbrook shared information on their goal of having 95% of their students who have a positive connection here at school and shared how they are working to achieve this goal. In closing, Mr. Leopold shared how the building is working to increase fun building-wide events to bring families into the school including Trunk or Treat, Family Game Night, Dane Party, Trivia at Lunch, more frequent Field trips, all the school read. Each of the board members and COLT members were provided a copy of the all school read book: Booked by Kwame Alexander.

b. Superintendent's Performance Update – Governance & Board Relations

Superintendent Barnes provided the board with an update regarding Policy Involvement, Goal Development, Information, Materials and Background, Board Questions and Board Development reviewing the goal for each of the areas and providing current initiatives and data sets that support the progress for each goal area.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Probationary to Tenure Status

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to award Tenure Status to Chad Little, Annette Trudeau, Gillian Eisenbraun, Jamie Pung, Allison Shumate and Lindsey Fender, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD

Deputy Superintendent Steve Gabriel shared events from Friday's Basketball Game noting that Grand Ledge Public Schools Alum, Al Horford, who plays for the Boston Celtics, was in town for the retirement of his jersey. He also noted that the [Comet Athletic Hall of Fame](#), Class of 2025 was announced as well, noting you can visit the website to review the bios of this year's inductees.

Executive Director of Technology Mark reminded everyone to get their tickets for the upcoming musical, Descendents.

Superintendent Barnes thanked Hayes for their presentation and his COLT team for all they do. He remarked you can never celebrate all the good things happening throughout the district too often and expressed his appreciation to the board.

Mr. Holmes also encouraged everyone to get their tickets for Descendents and encouraged everyone to show up and support all the hard work that goes into the production. He remarked he was aware of the Salmon in the Classroom Program noting it is incredible to see that level of conservation work. In closing he shared that he was in attendance to support all those who took the Polar Plunge and stating he will join the event next year and take the plunge.

Mr. Oppenheim remarked he will not be participating in the Polar Plunge. He went on to noted that Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up and expressing his appreciation to the teachers for having those kinds of honest conversations with parents.

Ms. Stevens noted she has her tickets for Descendents and that she has signed her entire family up for the 5K Comet Chase.

Dr. Glasscoe noted she signed up for the 5K Comet Chase following Ms. Shannon's challenge to the board and extended the challenge to the board members encouraging them to invite 25 people, each, to join the race. She thanked the administration for their work with the Phi-Beta Sigma event noting Mr. Castillo did a wonderful job. In closing she noted that as board members, when we hear something or see something, it is the member's responsibility to share that to ensure matters are addressed. She expressed her appreciation for the leadership team's follow-through.

Ms. Shannon noted she too has her tickets for Descendents. She thanked the board for their support of the Comet Chase. She remarked the district is always striving to do better and be better and when something happens, it is addressed and she expressed her appreciation for the response she has seen. In closing she commented the Standards Based Achievement has made it so much easier for a parent to understand and expressed her appreciation for the implementation.

Vice President Kuykendoll seconded all the comments of her colleagues and gave shout outs to recent community recreation achievements. She thanked everyone for the work they are doing.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Nicole Shannon, Secretary



Denise DuFort, President