

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Regular Meeting – March 13, 2023

MINUTES

President Smith called the meeting to order at 6:01 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**: Jarrod Smith, Toni Glasscoe, Nicole Shannon, Jon Shiflett, Denise DuFort, Ben Cwayna and Ashley Kuykendoll. **Board Members Absent**: None. **Central Office Administrators**: Bill Barnes, Julie Waterbury, Wendy Seida, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine, and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance**: Jim Gee, Greg Almy, Michael Patrick, Lauren Patrick, Colton Doyle, Sally Jo Nelton, Ryan Johnson, Harper Johnson, Xean Johnson, Sheree Richie, Tiffany Organek, Melissa Fannon, Erin Snyder, Bryon Wetherwax, Leesha Lee, Julie Douglas, Marlene Promer, Katie Grass, Kim Laforet, Paige Fleischer, Stacey Austin and Kim Manning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mrs. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the March 13, 2023 Agenda Items, as presented.

Mr. Shiflett motioned for a friendly amendment to remove New Business Item F, Bid Award, Delta Center Life Safety Issues.

Mr. Shiflett noted the Board Bond Advisory Committee needs more time before recommending the bid award but anticipates bringing this matter back to the board in the near future.

The motion was accepted by Ms. Shannon. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the March 13, 2023 Agenda Items, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the March 13, 2023 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the February 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes and the hiring of Bryan Wetherwax as a Social Studies teacher at Beagle Middle School.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

A. Capitol Connections Report

Dr. Glasscoe shared information on House Bill 4042 that would suspend the use of data from the 2020-2021 MSTEP testing. She noted in her personal opinion, she believes this

bill would benefit all districts taking into account the impact of the pandemic on students during this time. She will continue to follow the bill and keep the board informed. She further noted that she is unable to attend the upcoming Advocacy Day with MCAN (Michigan College Access Network) and asked if anyone from the district would be attending.

Dr. Barnes advised he did not plan on attending but assured that he has been in communication with the Executive Directors of MCAN and CAPCAN (Capital Area College Access Network) and feels we are all on the same page.

B. Eaton RESA Report

Mrs. DuFort shared the Board met on February 15th and received a presentation from the Career & Tech Ed students. The board approve travel requests for the DECA Business Group and for a student trip to the Education Policy Fellowship Program in DC. At a special meeting On February 1st, the board conducted the Superintendent's Evaluation for Dr. Sean William. Dr. Williams received a highly effective noting he has done great work and was an integral part in securing the grant that will bring the Health Clinic to Grand Ledge Public Schools.

C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report

Ms. Shannon noted the group continues to meet regularly in preparation of their upcoming fundraiser: the 19th Annual Josh Spalsbury Memorial 5K Race taking place on Yankee Doodle Saturday, June 17th. She noted the Board recently selected Erica Ledesma as the new President of the Foundation.

D. Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Report

Ms. Kuykendoll noted the Committee has not met recently but is scheduled to meet in April so she will have a report next month.

E. Governance Committee Report

Ms. Shannon shared the Committee met last Monday to review the policies that are part of tonight's agenda.

F. Bond Update

Superintendent Barnes provided an update with regard to bond construction projects at Delta Center and the High School Fine Arts and Athletic addition. Wacousta is the next building up.

G. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Barnes introduced Willow Ridge Principal Jim Gee kicked off with a presentation.

Principal Gee shared a presentation and discussed some of the great things going on at Willow Ridge including the school being named a Reward School based on their 2021-2022 MSTEP scores, their HEROes Acronym (Honesty, Encouragement, Respect, Ownership), having kindergarten back in the building, the good work of Willow Ridge Counselor Sarah Simons, facility dog Alfie, the supportive PTA, Big Buddy/Little Buddy, one school, one book for March is Reading Month, connecting with the community and ESL Teacher Gina Edick who helps us celebrating our differences.

Willow Ridge teacher Greg Almy noted the school strives to educate the whole child outside of just teaching reading, writing and arithmetic through Active Bodies, Active Minds. He highlighted the great work of Art Teacher, Mrs. Snyder, Music Teacher Mrs. Burm and sharing information on the Willow Ridge students raising salmon that are then released into the stream behind the Willow Ridge playground.

Willow Ridge Students Piper Johnson, Colton Doyle and Michael Organek each individually shared why they love their Willow Ridge school.

In closing, Mr. Gee thanked the board and administration for their continued support and shared a video presentation of "Making Memories at Willow Ridge."

Dr. Barnes thanked Mr. Gee and everyone from Willow Ridge for being here tonight and sharing some of the great things going on at their school.

He went on to provide the board with more information on the Health Clinic he garnered from an all-day training he, Mrs. Seida and Mr. Ellsworth attended today including next steps, the clinic will only be for students ages 5-21 or up to age 26 with an IEP, creating a parent consent plan, and the timeline for opening noting an expected partial opening in January 2024 with a full opening in April 2024. The first step the district must take is to create a Health Advisory Committee and he will be sending out information to start collecting names of those interested in serving in this capacity. He noted as we move through this process throughout the Spring, he will do a more formal presentation to the board.

In closing he reminded the board as part of his evaluation it was determined he would provide presentation through the board throughout the year around some of the elements included in his evaluation. These presentations will start in April. Lastly, he noted the High School student artists are on display out in the hallway and the showcase.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 1ST READING OF NEOLA BOARD POLICIES – 2000 PROGRAMS

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to waive the first reading of NEOLA Board Policies, 2000 Programs. The motion carried unanimously.

B. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS INVOICES

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Capital Funds Invoices in the amount of \$32,822.34, as presented.

Mr. Shiflett noted these invoices involve construction of the High School Fine Arts.

The motion carried unanimously.

C. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$5,411.25, as presented.

Mrs. DuFort noted these invoices are for construction on the Delta Center connector road and site lighting at the track storage barn.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, 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 \$439,821.90, as presented.

Mr. Shiflett noted these invoices all encompass construction work at Delta Center.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mrs. Kuykendoll, seconded by Mrs. DuFort for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 2, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$516,043.05, as presented.

Mr. Shiflett noted these invoices all encompass construction work at the High School Fine Arts and Athletics addition noting this project is close to completion on the building portion.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Dr. Barnes thanked the Governance Committee for their continued work on the review of the NEOLA Board Policies, advising he will talk with Dr. Gabriel and share information regarding the Health Advisory Board, and expressed his appreciation to Willow Ridge for being here tonight remarking is a great to hear all the good things happening in our schools.

Mrs. Kuykendoll thanked Willow Ridge, recognized several great things happening for our clubs and sports including Quiz Bowl, Gymnastics, Theatre group and the Swim and Dive Coach being named Coach of the Year. She expressed her desire to find a way to elevate and acknowledge our young people and staff for their many outstanding accomplishments. In closing she noted we are only two weeks away from Spring Break and expressed her hope that everyone gets a chance to rest and refresh.

Mr. Cwayna thanked Willow Ridge.

Mrs. DuFort recognized the two state champion gymnasts, commended the student produced and managed Into the Woods play, and asked if the board could receive information on the implementation of Code 2411 noting she believes this would be beneficial to the board and community.

Ms. Shannon noted she got to see Into the Woods and noted it was a wonderful production and the students were fantastic.

Dr. Glasscoe reiterated the comments from her colleagues, commended the leadership team for the work they did to prepare the Board Policies for the board's review and shared information on the Ready for Launch event last Friday at LCC and how proud she was to see Grand Ledge there, recognizing the great work of the Eaton RESA and high school teacher Crystal Quintanilla-Howard.

President Smith thanked Willow Ridge for their presentation tonight and noted it is great to see how everyone has that sense of community and they all believe they are the best school in the district. He remarked it is fantastic to see the enthusiasm.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Nicole Shannon, Secretary



Jarrod Smith, President