

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Board of Education*

Virtual Special Meeting – May 3, 2021

MINUTES

President Sara Clark Pierson called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Jon Shiflett led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Board President Sara Clark Pierson indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Sara Clark Pierson, remotely from Bethesda, Marilyn, Jarrod Smith remotely from Delta Township, Ingham County; Nicole Shannon, remotely from Oneida Township, Eaton County; Jon Shiflett remotely from the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; Denise DuFort remotely from City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; Patrick McKennon remotely from Oneida Township, Eaton County; Ben Cwayna remotely from City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County. **Others in Attendance** Aaron Yusten, Alfred Gabriel, Alyson Hayden, Amanda Gabriel, Amanda Garza, Amber Baker, Amber Swint, Amy Bowers, Amy Ellsworth, Amy Kruppe, Ann Paquette-Lukens, Bethany Deschaine, Bill Albrecht, Bill Barnes, Brandy Johnson, Bri Dennis, Brian Flowerday, Carly Waldrop, Cassie Graven-Watts, Cathy Fox, Chelsey Martinez, Cindy Anderson, Cindy Zerbe, Colleen Price, D'Anne Golub, Dan Stafford, Dan Cwayna, Dawne Velianoff, Denise Clarity, Doug Waldrop, Erica Ledesma, Erika Conley, Erin Ries, Erin Snyder, Fred Hutchinson, Greg Almy, Heather Vanderlaan, Jamie McKennon, Jenny Broadbent, Jenny Deja, Jenny Waybright, Jeremy Babcock, Jill Rycus, Jim Gee, John Ellsworth, John Hubbard, Jon Horford, Julie Brunk, Kassandra Davis, Katie Casteel, Katie Dufresne, Kaytie Palmiter, Kellee Auge, Kelly Smith, Ken Wright, Kim Abed, Kristen Nunham, Krissy Delaney, Lara Hubbard, Laura Konen, Lucinda Shier, Marcus Davenport, Margo Susnjar, Megan Bouwens, Megan Spedoske, Melissa Mazzola, Nancy Rasinske, Nate Moore, Nola Cockroft, Nora Quinn, Pat St. George, Rachel Kuntzsch, Rhonda Lawrence, Richard Hughes, Robert Hovenkamp, Sara Holding, Sara Taylor, Sarah Felsing, Sarah Hopper, Scott Millbrook, Sean Williams, Shawn Bronson, Stacy Nelson, Steve Baker, Steve Delaney, Steve Gabriel, Susan Sowle, Tammy Sue Fletcher, Taylor Brush Teresa Dyer, Teresa Miller, Theresa Abed, Tish Hanes, Traci Gentilozzi, Venessa Keesler, Whitney Craig, Mark Deschaine, and Kim Manning

President Clark Pierson provided an overview of the interview process advising a link is provided in the chat to provide feedback to the board. She went on to explain the process for the second-round interviews noting the board and the candidates will meet in person, while live streaming the interviews to anyone interested. At the conclusion of the last interview on the 11th, she will recess the meeting until the next evening, May 12th at 6:00 p.m. where she will reconvene the meeting to take public comment and allow for board deliberations and a selection of the next Superintendent of Grand Ledge Public Schools.

SUPERINTENDENT CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

- A. Marcus Davenport was interviewed at 6:10 p.m.
- B. Richard Hughes was interviewed at 7:00 p.m.
- C. Venessa Keesler was interviewed at 7:50 p.m.
- D. Steve Gabriel was interviewed at 8:40 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Delaney addressed the board in support of Steve Gabriel being selected as the next superintendent of Grand Ledge Public Schools.

Cindy Zerbe addressed the board in support of Steve Gabriel being selected as the next superintendent of Grand Ledge Public Schools.

Amber Swint addressed the board asking for the feedback forms to be left open longer, asking for the immediate resignation of all the board members except Ben Cwayna, and in support of Richard Hughes being selected as the next superintendent of Grand Ledge Public Schools.

Lara Hubbard addressed the board echoing Ms. Swint and noting there needs to be more focus on parents and the kids should be number one.

Fred Hutchinson addressed the board in support of Steve Gabriel being selected as the next superintendent of Grand Ledge Public Schools.

President Clark Pierson advised she will look into keeping the feedback forms open longer and seeing if there is a way to reopen the ones from tonight.

John Hubbard addressed the board echoing his wife and Ms. Swint.

Amanda Gabriel addressed the board giving insight to what it was like growing up with Steve Gabriel as her father and what he instilled in his children noting she is a better person both professional and personally from his guidance.

President Clark Pierson noted there will be three more interviews tomorrow night. She will look into having the feedback forms open as long as possible. In closing she reiterated the process for the second-round interviews scheduled for May 11th and May 12th.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Nicole Shannon, Secretary



Sara Clark Pierson, President