
GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Regular Meeting – June 24, 2019

MINUTES

President McKennon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Metcalf indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Jarrod Smith, Jon Shiflett, Kim Mulvenna, Sara Clark Pierson, Denise DuFort and Patrick McKennon. **Central Office Administrators**: Brian Metcalf, Steve Gabriel, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance**: Teresa Dyer, Kara Davis, Dave Logel, Josephine Oren, Allison Zakerski, Kimberly Nalezty, Greg Almy and Kim Manning

TRUTH IN TAXATION / TRUTH IN BUDGETING HEARING

Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to OPEN the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

President McKennon	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>

The motion carried unanimously at 6:05 p.m.

Chief Financial Officer Nancy Rasinske led the board in the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing reviewing the district's millage rates noting non-homestead at 18 mills, commercial personal property at 6 mills and the State Education Tax at 6 mills, the district's tax collection schedule and fund accounting rules for the General, Debt and Capital Improvement Funds. She further review the Debt Fund noting two successful bond proposals, a total outstanding debt of \$88.5M, total taxable value of \$1.53B, principal and interest payments of \$8.43 and the millage rate calculated for bond payments of 5.63Mills. She provided the history of the district's debt millage showing the district has maintained its debt millage at 4.19 for three years and with the passage of the bond proposals it has increased to 5.63. She provided an overview of comparative millage rates for Central Michigan School Districts noting Grand Ledge Public Schools still has the second lowest debt rate, even after passing both bond proposals. She reviewed the Capital Improvement Fund noting this is a .8 millage that was approved by the voters for 10 years, noting a Headlee reduction has taken the millage rate down to .7968 and is set to expire at the end of 2021. She advised there would be no change in tax rates for non-homestead or capital improvement but the debt service had an increase of 1.44 mills. She went on to advise the district ended the 2019 fiscal year with a fund balance of \$6,630,858, which equals 12.1% of the district's total expenditures. She further reviewed the revenues the district receives noting the district anticipates

an increase in the pupil foundation grant of \$140 per student, however the State Budget has NOT been approved by the legislature at this time, so this number could change. She further noted the district is projecting a decrease of 25 in the student population. In closing, she noted the district's total adopted revenue for 2019-2020 is \$55,365,745, which shows revenues increase of \$241,088 over 2018-2019 revenues. District expenditures for 2019-2020 are anticipated to be \$55,288,552 noting an estimated ending undesignated fund balance of 12.1%.

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to CLOSE the Truth in Taxation / Truth in Budgeting Hearing at 6:26 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the June 24, 2019, 2018 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Ms. Clark Pierson, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the June 24, 2019 Consent Agenda Item, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the meeting minutes of the May 9, 2019 Governance Meeting, the meeting minutes of the May 13, 2019 Regular Meeting, the meeting minutes of the June 10, 2019 Work Session, the approval of Administrative Contract Renewals, the administrative hiring of William Albrecht and Teresa Dyer and the teacher hirings of Katie Casteel, Meredith Meeder, Alice Mills, Kara Davis, Kimberly Nalezty, Shayna Green, Britney Becht, Carlie Koets, Stephanie Taylor, Alise Knight, Jennifer Mead, Allison Zakerski, Josephine Oren and Laura Schroder.

The motion carried unanimously.

New Administrator Teresa Dyer introduced herself to the members and thanked them for the opportunity. In addition, new teacher hires Kara Davis, Allison Zakerski, Josephine Oren and Kimberly Nalezty also introduced themselves to members and thanked them for the opportunity to join the Comet family.

REPORTS

- A. Capitol Connections Report** - Mr. Smith provided information to the members regarding current legislation including the status of the final budget and the uncertainty of knowing when it will be finalized. He then provided updates on House Bills 4162, 4342, 4367, 4377, 4540-4542 and Senate Bills 267 and 268.
- B. Eaton RESA Report** – Mrs. DuFort advised she does not have a report but she is ready to take over as a member of the Board July 1.
- C. Grand Ledge Education Foundation Report** – Mrs. DuFort advised the Annual Comet Chase was held in conjunction with Yankee Doodle Days and the race garnered about the same number of participants as in the past. They are now working to get the funds from the race sort so no overall dollar amount on what was raised.

- D. Governance Committee** – President McKennon advised the committee has been working with the Superintendent on reviewing board policies. It is anticipated the policies that have been reviewed will be brought to the full board for review, feedback and discussion at the August Work Session.
- E. Bond Update** – Superintendent Metcalf advised the Bond Steering Committee continues to meet and review projects. The committee was given the page turn last week noting the initial stage is about 99% complete. According to Clark Construction we are coming in under budget on this project. We are about 75% complete on the Beagle project. He further advised that just this morning, he along with Dr. Gabriel and Maintenance Supervisor John Piper met with MDOT to discuss the Saginaw Highway entrance, noting it was a good conversation and they have all but signed off on the project but we need to provide them with a little more information. We want to make sure this is done right because we really need this road. In closing he advised we are on target to do ground breaking in November and wrapping up Beagle and Holbrook classroom sections for the start of the 2020 school year ***BARRING ANY MAJOR CONSTRUCTION ROADBLOCKS.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

High School teacher Dave Logel who serves as the staff advisor to Student Counsel advised student council participated in the State of Michigan Safe Driving Project, S4SD, noting the district team took 4th place in the state. It is important to note this is entirely student driven. Several people took notice of this campaign and they were asked to present at the Spring Traffic Summit of the State of Michigan's Office of Highway Safety Planning. In May students got to visit the Ford Proving Ground and drive some of the new Ford Models. In addition, with the 4th place, they received a monetary award that they used to purchase a set of goggles that replicate the effects of drowsiness, cannabis, opioids, ecstasy/mollies. He then provided the members with the opportunity to try out the different goggles. In closing he advised that he will be working with the Office of Highway Safety and Planning to help write curriculum on safe driving and working as a spokes teacher with the Ford Fund. He thanked the Administration and Board for their support.

GLEA President and district employee Greg Almy thanked Nancy Rasinske for a great report. He questioned the increase in operating costs noting the district did take the initiative to reduce those costs but it appears they are going bac up. He also asked about the decrease in student population noting he believes his building is expecting a large increase in student population so is that district-wide? He then asked about the wage increase and if that factors in the number of retirements and new teacher hires. He also asked if there was any indication of moving up the ground breaking at Wacousta and if there would be a chance for teacher input on the building.

Chief Financial Officer Nancy Rasinske advised the wage increase is based on current employees, current teachers and those who are due a step and/or lane increase. Everyone who leaves / retires is replaced by a placeholder until that position can be filled. She noted every position vacated is being filled with an additional counselor and reading teacher being added to the staff. For the placeholders, the district assumes the salaries of those incoming teachers to be middle of the educational scale.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the Final 2018-2019 Budget Amendment Resolution**
Motion by Mrs. DuFort, seconded by Ms. Clark Pierson for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Final 2018-2019 Budget Amendment Resolution, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	President McKennon	<u>YES</u>

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Approval of the 2019-2020 Debt Service & General Fund Budget Resolution**
Motion by Ms. Clark Pierson, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2019-2020 Debt Service, Food Service, Community Education, School Store, Athletics, Adventure Club, Capital Improvement, Technology Replacement and General Fund Budget Resolution, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	President McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Smith	<u>YES</u>

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of 2019-2020 MHSAA Membership Resolution**
Motion by Ms. Clark Pierson, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2019-2020 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership Resolution, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>	President McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mrs. Mulvenna questioned why we still maintain a budget for an adult education program when we no longer operate an adult education program due to state funding cuts. CFO Nancy Rasinske advised we still have to pay employment costs for those employees who were employed when the program was eliminated. Mrs. Mulvenna then asked if the Community Education program included the Parks & Recreation programs to which she was advised part of it. She then asked about the general fund budget and the federal revenue experienced quite a jump to which she was advise this covers the IDEA off set. In closing her comments, Mrs. Mulvenna thanks Mr. Logel.

Mrs. DuFort also thanked Nancy and Mr. Logel.

Dr. Gabriel thanked Mr. Logel, welcomed all the new hires and noted it has been a busy spring and summer working to ensure his transition to Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Operations is smooth following Dr. Johnson's retirement.

Superintendent Metcalf echoed everyone's comments and included that Nancy and her team in the business office work to ensure the fiscal vitality of our district. He commented we have confidence in our staff and that it makes him feel good, it makes this district run well and it allows this board to make firm decisions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Ben Cwayna, Secretary


Patrick McKennon, President