

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Work Session – August 11, 2025
MINUTES

President DuFort called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 and Denise DuFort. ***Board Members Absent:*** None. ***Central Office Administrators:*** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Adrienne Barna, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. ***Others in Attendance:*** Julie Yeakey, Jan Seeger, Tim Totten, Sally Jo Nelton and Kim Manning

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION UPDATE – D. BUSINESS & FINANCE

Superintendent Barnes provided the board with an update regarding Business and Finance including Budget Development and Management, Budget Reports, Financial Controls, Facilities Management and Resource Allocation. He reviewed the goal for each of the areas and providing current initiatives and data sets that support the progress for each goal area.

ACTION ITEMS

A. JULY 14, 2025 MINUTES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the July 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

B. TEACHER HIRINGS

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Stevens for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the hiring of Amanda Smith, Christine Savage, Julie Gill, Lily Zuber and Sarah Sherman, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

C. 1ST READING OF REVISED BOARD POLICIES

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to Waive the first reading of Revised Board Policies 2340, Field Trips and Other District Sponsored Trips and 8510, Wellness.

The board reviewed proposed revisions to 2340 and 8510 noting that all of the proposed revisions were discussed, in depth, with the Governance Committee and approved to be brought forward to the full board for consideration and discussion.

These policy revisions will be brought back for approval at the August 25, 2025 Board Meeting.

D. REVISED BOARD POLICIES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve revised Board Policies 0131.1, 1130, 2266, 3110, 3120.08, 4110, 5320, 5330, 5330.01, 5330.02, 5500, 6110, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6325, 6550, 7310, 7440.03, 6450, 6540.09, 8320, 8321, 8500 and rescind Board Policy 2264, as presented.

Mr. Oppenheim offered a friendly amendment to include revised Board Policy 5340 that was inadvertently left out of the motion. The Amendment was accepted by Ms. Shannon and Ms. Kuykendoll.

The motion carried unanimously.

E. DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Holmes for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the continued appointment of the District School Improvement Team (DSIT) and the Caregiver School Improvement Team (CSIT) as District Professional Development Advisory Committees. The motion carried unanimously.

F. BID AWARDS – STADIUM SCOREBOARD

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Bid Awards for the stadium scoreboard to H & R Electrical in the amount of \$33,965 with a \$5,000 contingency for electrical and Eagle Enterprise in the amount of \$19,792.50 and \$15,000, respectively, for steel and foundations with a contingency of \$5,000 for a total bid award of \$78,575.50 using General Capital Projects Funds, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. She shared this is a lower cost than was anticipated initially for the work.

The motion carried unanimously.

G. BOND TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE – DC INTERCOM UPGRADES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Stevens for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the Bond Technology Purchase from RedGuard Fire & Security in the amount of \$11,392.49, for the Delta Center Intercom Upgrades, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration sharing the system is 10 years old and not working well.

The motion carried unanimously.

H. BID AWARD – WACOUSTA ELEMENTARY ADDITIONS

Motion by Mr. Oppenheim, seconded by Mr. Holmes for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the Bond Bid Awards for the Wacousta Elementary Additions to Material Testing Consultants in the amount of \$7,000 for testing and inspections, Functional Consulting Services in the amount of \$3,250 for commissioning, Proline Concrete Construction in the amount of \$179,960 for foundations and flatwork, Complete Enclosures in the amount of \$83,800 for masonry, LJ Trumble Group in the amount of \$310,115 for general trades, Advanced Roofing Services in the amount of \$31,323 for roofing, Brainard Enterprise in the amount of \$37,770 for metal lockers, Eagle Enterprise of Michigan in the amount of \$72,860 for metal wall panels, Lansing Glass Company in the amount of \$26,929 for glass and glazing, William Reichenbach Company in the amount of \$136,270 for walls and ceilings, B&J Painting in the amount of \$13,570 for painting, Superior Floor Covering in the amount of \$47,999 for flooring, Architectural Systems Group in the amount of \$53,600 for manufactured casework, Total Fire Protection in the amount of \$40,679 for fire protection, VanderHyde Mechanical in the amount of \$84,483 for plumbing, T-Mechanical in the amount of \$295,000 for HVAC, Ewing Electric in the amount of \$182,250 for electrical, Verlinde Construction in the amount of \$152,083 for sitework and American Asphalt in the amount of \$23,800 for asphalt paving for a construction trade total of \$1,782,741 with a Construction Contingency in the amount of \$160,446.69 and General Conditions in the amount of \$53,482.23 for a Total Bid Award of \$1,996,669.92, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents the addition of four new classrooms as Wacousta Elementary School.

The motion carried unanimously.

I. PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$198,873.85, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents work for asbestos abatement at Hayes and the High School, new AC units for Central Office and progress billing for the secure entrance at Neff.

The motion carried unanimously.

J. PAYMENT OF GENERAL CAPITAL PROJECTS INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Oppenheim for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of General Capital Projects Invoices in the amount of \$79,293.00, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents the down payment for the scoreboard so the order can be placed.

The motion carried unanimously.

K. PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 3 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Ms. Shannon, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$1,162,876.15, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents Clark progress billing, AV consult for the high school, an uninterrupted power supply for Delta Mills and progress billing for bond construction work at the high school.

The motion carried unanimously.

L. PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 4 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Shannon for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Invoices in the amount of \$3,416,810.18, as presented.

Ms. Shannon noted this was reviewed at the Board Bond and Sinking Fund Committee prior to the meeting and approved to be brought forward for the board's consideration. This represents Clark progress billing, furniture for Hayes, AV design and systems and progress billing for work at Willow Ridge, Hayes and the Operations building.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD

Superintendent Barnes shared the building principals and secretaries are back in their building today and next week all staff return on August 20th. There are lots of activities next week with New Teacher Orientation on the 18th and 19th, Kindergarten Launch and building open houses. He noted the next board meeting is the day before we welcome students back. He thanked all the year-round staff who have been busy all summer making sure everything is ready for when our staff and students return. In closing he noted that this coming Sunday is Grand Ledge Day at Lugnuts Stadium and he was invited to throw out the first pitch at the game.

Mr. Holmes noted he is excited for the start of school, shared he drove the new road today commenting it looks fantastic and the signage is great. He remarked the parking lots look fantastic. In closing he noted aside from being hopeful there is a budget and not a government shut-down, that will include the school meal program, he expressed his appreciation to everyone who has put in the work to ensure we are prepared for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Oppenheim noted he is looking forward to the start of the school year expressing he is hopeful to be able to visit classrooms again. He thanked everyone for the work over the summer.

Ms. Stevens noted she has served on the CSIT and encouraged parents to join the team. She noted it is a small group that is very welcoming, very low-key. She noted that with it being a small group, Dr. Barnes is bringing the same feedback and it would be nice to include more parent voice.

Dr. Glasscoe noted it is open house season and remarking she is in the community a lot and parents are very excited about Wacousta. She remarked she believes one of the reasons people try to get into the district, and stay with the district is because of the relationships built and seeing we are people of integrity, honesty and good stewards. In closing she remarked she is excited about the school year.

Ms. Shannon noted she also drove the road today remarking it is great to see all the physical progress. She thanked everyone for their part in ensuring everything is ready. In closing she shared that in talking with friends and colleagues it is nice to talk about how well things are going for the district and how we have tackled some of the hard issues.

Ms. Kuykendoll noted the summer went by so quick, but she is super excited for the start of the year and for the students to be back in their learning environment with their friends, see their new teachers and staff and get things going. She commented “we really live up to the hype” and she is really proud of that and “proud to be a comet”. In closing she thanked Dr. Gabriel for sharing the History of Grand Ledge document he put together.

Dr. Gabriel noted he put the History of Grand Ledge piece together to share with our new hires during New Teacher Orientation next week. It is not just the history of the community, but history of the district as well. It is a mechanism to build pride in our community and our district.

President DuFort commended the summer learning program noting the kids and teachers were both excited to be in that space. She highlighted the upcoming events with open houses and kindergarten launch. She also thanked Dr. Gabriel. She shared she recently attended the MASB

Back to School Legal Issues seminar and shared documents from that training with her fellow board members as she felt the information shared was something they could all benefit from. In closing she remarked she drove the road as well and liked all the signage.

CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Holmes , seconded by Ms. Shannon 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.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

President DuFort	<u>YES</u>	Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Holmes	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Shannon	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Oppenheim	<u>YES</u>	Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Stevens	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously at 7:08 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened in open session at 8:24 p.m.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT #11

Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve Letter of Agreement #11 between Grand Ledge Public Schools and the Grand Ledge Education Association, as presented. The motion carried unanimously with Ms. Stevens and Mr. Oppenheim abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL380.4203.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Nicole Shannon, Secretary



Denise DuFort, President