

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Board of Education*

Work Session – October 8, 2018

MINUTES

President Jon Shiflett 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:** Ben Cwayna, Denise DuFort, Beverly Winstanley, Kim Mulvenna, Patrick McKennon, Sara Clark Pierson and Jon Shiflett. **Central Office Administrators:** Steve Gabriel, Mike Johnson, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Sutherland, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Sheila Bell and Kim Manning.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF SINKING FUND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mrs. Winstanley for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$22,155, as presented.

Mrs. Mulvenna advised this total is the result of two invoices covering the removal and replacement of the water softener a Willow Ridge Elementary School and carpet installation at Sawdon. All invoices were reviewed by the Board Bond Advisory Committee prior to being brought to the full board.

The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

- A. Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services Steve Gabriel provided the board with background information on creating the district Literacy Coach and Math Coach positions and the credential Sheila Bell brings to the position.

Mrs. Bell then provided the board with a detailed look at what has taken place over the last three years including working with teachers to develop a deeper understanding of Everyday Math, bringing teachers together to improve the implementation of DIGITS, facilitating a K-12 Math Leaders group, which rewrote the Begindergarten through 6th grade report cards, and supporting teachers during Foundations of Math Training. In addition, she led math-coaching sessions that provided a deeper understanding of the spiral in EDM, key standards for each grade level, worked with teachers to ensure an

understanding of the curriculum, introduced Number Talks, demonstrated the correlation of Delta Math/CCSS/EDM standards and worked with 6th grade to revisit the pacing of DIGITS and supplement program. Mrs. Bell further explained she worked to align the trimester assessments for BK-3 with the new report card standards, wrote Number Talks lesson progression for BK – 6 and modeled lessons in the classroom, supported Delta Math Interventionists by meeting each trimester and providing tools and training on best practices, and Administered diagnostic assessments to struggling students. In closing, she reviewed the goals of this third year including to support the development of number sense, especially in grades K-2, providing tools and training for teachers for support of CRA, providing after school professional development on best practices, leading a student of Standards of Mathematical Practice with math leaders, continuing to lead coaching sessions, supporting the implementation of Delta Math and supporting the teachers in the Foundations of Math training and Math Recovery training.

DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Resolution in Support of GLPS Bond Proposals

Superintendent Metcalf advised this resolution provides further clarification and would show that all members of the Board of Education support the bond proposals being placed on the ballot in November. This came out of discussion with district attorney Chris lamarino.

A detailed discussion among the members and administration noted that there is legal distinctions sharing information and advocating. One thing the board can do is pass a resolution that encourages a yes vote from the population. We, as a district, are not advocating, we are simply providing information. It was noted the district is working hard to ensure the community has the information they need and want. In fact, the district is looking to begin working with King Media, who helps Mason pass their bond.

Further discussion included consensus of the members regarding the resolution, concerns over the reference to the Dave & Betty Morris building noting it needs to clarify it is more than just a vocational building, the community needs to know this is a gift that will continue to give for years to come, can we say it is a vocational building to increase district STEAM programs and then go on to explain STEAM? Dr. Metcalf advised his next article to be included in the Grand Ledge Independent was focused on this building and providing the details behind its inception. He noted Sara Sutherland has been actively involved in the farming community and we are using her guidance along with the fact that Dave Morris was a very respected part of the farming community.

In closing it was noted this resolution shows the board is united in its support of the proposals.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Community Member and district employee Melissa Mazzola expressed her thanks to the board on the discussion of the resolution and noted she feels it is important for the community to know the board is united in this effort.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Mrs. Mulvenna expressed her thanks for the math coach presentation noting it was an excellent presentation and she was happy to have her here and see what she is doing.

Dr. Gabriel noted that not everyone was on board in the first year of developing these coaching positions for reading and math but they have come around. He noted it is his goal to ensure all staff is trained in the Foundations of Math, as we are with staff and Capturing Kids Hearts training.

Mrs. Clark Pierson expressed she is extremely interested in reading and math noting she liked Mr. Shiflett's question to Mrs. Bell about what she would like to see, what resources are needed, what would our teachers like to see. As was reflected in our audit, the district is improving and the board needs to know, "Tell me what you think teachers need – what do they need in their classrooms?" What would be beneficial to help to teach math better, or English? In closing she noted she would like to have this information included in the presentations over the next few months. What is it we, as a district, need to invest in to continue to improve our students' learning.

Mr. McKennon asked if the job of a coach is to teach the teachers, who is training the paraprofessionals that are working with our neediest students?

Mrs. Winstanley agreed with Mr. McKennon asking what training is provided to our paraprofessionals before they begin working with students.

Dr. Johnson advised that many of our paraprofessionals are highly trained and are working as a paraprofessional for the purpose of gathering more experience and knowledge in the classroom.

Mrs. DuFort thanked Mrs. Bell for her presentation noting she is excited to learn about what she is doing and what she has already accomplished and expressed her appreciation for her enthusiasm that she brings into the position. She expressed her support of the Resolution noting she feels it is important to say this board supports the proposals rather than just saying we voted to put them on the ballot. She encouraged the district to have Election Day information shared in newsletters. In closing she supported Mrs. Clark Pierson in her desire to learn more about what is needed by our teaching staff but noted she would like to see it at a district level rather than an individual teacher level.

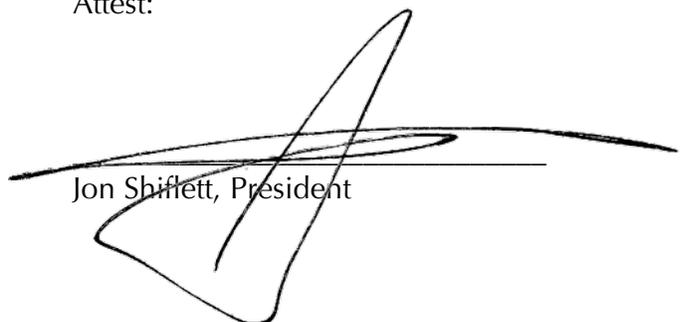
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Patrick McKennon, Secretary


Jon Shiflett, President