

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

Virtual Meeting– December 14, 2020

MINUTES

President DuFort called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. She led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Interim Superintendent Dave Chapin indicated the presence of **Board Members**: Denise DuFort remotely from the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; Jarrod Smith remotely from Delta Township, Ingham County; Jon Shiflett remotely from the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; Sara Clark Pierson remotely from Bethesda Maryland, Clinton County; Kim Mulvenna remotely from City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County; Patrick McKennon remotely from Oneida Township; Ben Cwayna remotely from City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County. **Central Office Administrators**: Dave Chapin, Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Nancy Rasinske, Sara Holding, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance** Alex Roberts, Alice Mills, Alise Knight, Alyssa Cummings, Alyssa Wirth, Amanda McNew, Amanda Salmon, Amanda Surace, Amber Moody, Amy Heriford, Amy Richburg, Andrea Babbitt, Andrew Reynaert, Andrew Torrey, Ann Manning, Ann Paquette-Lukens, Anna Baryo, Annemarie Reik, Ashleigh Lore, Beth Schuchaskie, Bianca Blackwelder, Bill Albrecht, Bradi Bauer, Brian Flowerday, Briane Dennis, Britney Becht, Caitlin Christenson, Candace Karrer, Cassidy Chandler, Cassie Patterson, Charity McLaren, Chris Groves, Christie Konieczny, Christin Sandell, Christina Powell, Clifford Hurth, D'Anne Golub, Dale Clark, Laura Clark, David Kushman, Dawne Velianoff, Debra McCrumb, Dee Campbell, Devon Detmers, Diane Gernaat, Doug Waldrop, Mike Johnson, Eloise Cleveland, Elyse Fox, Emily Justice, Emily Vsetecka, Emily Williamson, Eric Leopold, Erica Deters, Erica Ledesma, Erik Barnhill, Erin Gallway, Erin Ries, Erin Snyder, Erinn Barnes, Ethan Fox, Frau Firtl, Gail Schafer, Gillian Eisenbraun, Greg Almy, Heather Howland, Heather Sullivan, Hillary Kohn, Jackie Nelson, Jamie Losch, Jamie McKennon, Jamie Viecegli, Jay Bennett, Jeff Davis, Jeff Palacio, Jeff Sewik, Jenna Riekse, Jennifer Haakenson, Jennifer Mead, Jennifer Starlin, Jenny Deja, Jenny Jarrard, Jessica Cornman, Jill Chapman, Jim Gee, Jody Lyon, John Collehon, John Hubbard, Joni Fuller, Julia Rollis, Julie Brunk, Julie Douglas, Julie Renner, Julie Schieding, Karen Bedard, Karen Block Kathy Jennings, Katie Casteel, Katie Dufresne, Katie Fox, Katie Grass, Kelsi Laugal, Kellee Auge, Kelly Lambert, Kelly Nevison, Kelly Smith, Ken Wright, Kim Abed, Kristen Nunham, Krista Hatfield, Kristin Baker, Kristy Merignac, Lara Hubbard, Laticia Janes, Laura Clark, Laurea Maren, Laura Schroeder, LeeAnn Dayton, Leesha Lee, Lesley Simon, Lindsey Fender, Lindsey Grostefon, Lucinda Shier, Marcelino Bedolla, Margo Susnjar, Maria Capra, Maris Baldwin Lay, Marlene Promer, Mary Hankins, Matt Junak, Megan Weber, Meghan Joseph, Melissa Hinojosa, Melissa Mazzola, Meredith Meeder, Michelle Martin, Michelle Mead, Michelle Stabley, Mindy Clark, Misty Reiber, Morgan Cross, Nancy Lonberger, Nancy

Wireman, Nat Moore, Nick Crofut, Nicole Shannon, Nola Cockroft, Rachel Vandeven, Ryleigh Scott, Sara Ostertag, Sarae Dolan, Sarah Felsing, Shannon Bauer, Shelby Logel, Shelly Wiggins, Stacey Dohm, Stacy Nelson, Susan Borgman, Susan Sowle, Tara Barnhill, Taylor Brush, Teresa Dyer, Theresa Abed, Tiffany Organek, Tim Marsh, Toni Simmons, Tonya Rice, Traci Gentilozzi, Tracy Smith, Trisha Warner and Kim Manning

RECOGNITION OF KIM MULVENNA

Board President DuFort took a moment to highlight some of the many attributes of Mrs. Mulvenna 19½ year tenure on the Grand Ledge Board of Education noting Mrs. Mulvenna was appointed to the Board of Education on July 9, 2001. She has successfully won re-election since that appointment in 2001. Mrs. Mulvenna has decided to step down after 19 and a half years of dedicated service to the students, staff and community of Grand Ledge Public Schools. She recognized Mrs. Mulvenna has held the position of trustee, Vice President and President during her tenure. She has also served as the board representative on the Grand Ledge Parks and Recreation Committee, and has been a member of the Board Audit Committee, the Board Governance Committee and has served as a member of the Board Bond Advisory Committee since its inception in July 2007. She has attended many Staff Opening Day events, as well as watched many of the district's students walk across the graduation stage to receive their diploma. She also noted Mrs. Mulvenna was instrumental in building the Grand Ledge Education Foundation which still provides grants to teachers each year that provides opportunities for the students which otherwise would not be offered. In closing she noted this is just a sampling of everything Mrs. Mulvenna has given to the district. Her vast knowledge will be greatly missed, but we wish her all the best in whatever comes her way in the future.

Ms. Pierson noted she considers Mrs. Mulvenna one of her dearest friends and she will miss her. She advised the two of them have lived through so many things together that this district has been through. She noted Mrs. Mulvenna was instrumental in the reopening of Greenwood and Holbrook. She recognized the vast amount of knowledge Mrs. Mulvenna has with regard to the district. In closing she reminisced of her and Mrs. Mulvenna raising their children and living through their young adult years together, which sometimes was not an easy task, but all of their children has grown up to fine people. She expressed "we will all miss you, but I think I will miss you the most."

Mrs. Mulvenna showed the plaque President DuFort dropped off to her home earlier in the afternoon and President DuFort noted the plaque reads:

Kim Mulvenna
July 2001 - December 2020

In recognition of and
with deep appreciation for your
19 1/2 years of service and dedication
to the students, staff and community of
Grand Ledge Public Schools

Mrs. Mulvenna thanked everyone and expressed she believes Nicole Shannon will do a great job moving the district forward.

Vice President Smith noted as one of the newest members of the board he also wanted to thank Mrs. Mulvenna noting very rarely did he not learn something based on her knowledge. He noted this will be missed, but he has her cell number.

Mr. McKennon noted four years ago Mrs. Mulvenna reached out to him and they met at Tim Hortons. He expressed he felt more at ease going into his first board meeting after that meeting with Mrs. Mulvenna. He noted it may have been a small gesture to her, but it meant a lot.

Mr. Shiflett thanked Mrs. Mulvenna for always forcing him to grow in the board and not observe from the sidelines.

Mr. Cwayna thanked Mrs. Mulvenna for her longstanding knowledge of the board and district.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the December 14, 2020 Agenda Items, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. McKennon, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the December 14, 2020 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the Meeting Minutes of the November 16, 2020 Virtual Meeting and the Hiring of Raelynne Kinsora to teach 4th grade at Delta Center and Deanna Mitchell to serve as a district-wide substitute teacher.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

A. Capitol Connections Report

Mr. Smith referenced Senate Bill 1246 to allow the board to continue to meet virtually has not been acted on as of yet, but he is hopeful it will still be passed, with immediate effect, before the end of the year. He further advised there is a proposed extension to the Critical Shortage Law to July 1, 2025. This is the law that allows districts to hire retired teachers as substitutes while allowing them to maintain their pensions. In closing he noted everyone in the district continues to watch information coming from the Department of Health and Human Services with regard to the pandemic.

Mr. Shiflett advised every two years at this time, the legislature tries to “shenaniganize” the planet to the best of their ability and asked that everyone keep an eye on our representatives in the House and Senate and encourage them to make schools and our kids a priority because right now they will be cutting deals and moving legislation to end the term.

B. Eaton RESA Report

President DuFort advised the RESA board received a presentation from Jennifer Varney from Relevant Academy on how they have been operating under a hybrid model which has helped with the next piece which is instructional services / school improvement through the implementation of the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) which shifted the school improvement model starting with district data and then moving to building plans. She noted Eaton RESA and Grand Ledge Public Schools have been early launch partners in getting this started. She advised they received information on virtual professional development for English Language Arts and early literacy and received information on virtual tutorials being offered for Delta Math. She noted the support being provided by the RESA has shifted to support the Return to Learn Plans of each district. They also heard from Shelly Wiggins, who works with Grand Ledge on behavioral and mental health supports including developing and getting information out to staff on social and emotional screening, having criteria for intervention, working with staff and parents, a wellness survey, traumatic stress screeners, working with the legal team to develop consent forms, as well to develop professional development for parent and family support. The data and instructional tech team has been working with local districts during the NWEA testing dates. Staff have been providing support to local districts to bring assistive technology to some of our special needs students. The board reviewed their Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan and began discussion on the Superintendent Evaluation and the timeline for that evaluation. The meeting ended with a Strategic Plan Focus Group Meeting.

C. Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Ms. Clark Pierson advised she was unable to attend so Mr. Cwayna noted the meeting was well attended. He noted they went through some small group to narrow down what are the needs, what are the issues and to kind of streamline what people are

thinking as we move forward. He expressed it was a good group meeting with the intent on bringing things to the forefront to the board for the first six months of 2021 and there established a small committee to review the charter and provide further feedback.

Dr. Chapin expressed he feels the group is functioning well and Dr. Carter will provide great leadership. He noted the substance of the conversation is very rich, focused and deep and noted we have many ready to be active in this conversation.

Ms. Clark Pierson noted while she wasn't there, she knows the board is going to be talking about a vendor to assist with facilitating a Superintendent Search and she would like to have discussion in this committee about some of the questions they would like to ask the candidates, to see what they would like us to look for.

Dr. Chapin confirmed this was a topic of conversation in the group and will lead well to Ms. Clark Pierson's comments.

D. Bond Update

District Bond Supervisor Dr. Mike Johnson provided the board with a detailed update on the bond construction throughout the district noting the district remains on schedule and within budget on all projects. The district construction will not hinder bringing students back to the classrooms at such a time the district deems appropriate and we will be ready for the restructuring to start the 2021 school year. He did note the district send the proposed detour routes to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) that will allow for the construction of the M-43 round-about and we are awaiting their response / approval.

E. GLPS Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Update

Dr. Chapin expressed his appreciation to the principals for joining the meeting tonight. He noted the district has great building leadership across the district, along with a wide range of teacher involvement throughout this process. He noted in the midst of a pandemic, using zoom and email can present varied interpretations that can open itself to misinformation. He noted he is proud of the district's group and the recommendations that will be detailed in this presentation. He noted the presentation will be available on the district website tomorrow.

Dr. Gabriel provided an overview of the district Metric (*Grand Ledge Public Schools COVID-19 Guide to Decision-Making – Safe Return to In-Person Instruction*) noting it has change substantially since the last meeting. He noted information has been gained from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), State of Michigan (SOM) and the Berry Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD). He noted the district also meets bi-weekly with all local superintendents in the area and notes all districts are struggling through this process. He expressed the district firmly believes it is important to open schools back up as quickly as possible for in-person learning, we must adopt and correctly and consistently implement actions to slow the spread of the virus and noted there is no easy answer or single indicator but many variables that must be

considered. He noted all indicators will be considered as decisions are made and will likely vary in value over time given the ever-changing context of the pandemic.

The district will work with five key mitigation strategies including consistent and correct use of masks, social distancing to the largest extent possible, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, contact tracing in collaboration with the local health department. There are three Core Indicators taken into account: 1) Daily Positive Test Rate – 7 Day Average; 2) Number of Daily Cases per Million; 3) Calculated Risk Factor for Eaton County (equals higher of the risk levels indicated in 1 and 2. He reviewed secondary indicators that are more closely tied to our district and our region pointing out Grand Ledge Public Schools is unique, in that we do not reside just in Eaton County but encompass several counties (Eaton, Clinton and Ionia). He noted the district has heard the frustration when a specific date comes and goes – when we get to a date and we aren't able to do what we have proposed. Moving forward, the district will be using this decision-making guide and we will not establish a specific date. He noted there is always going to be subjectivity and not everyone will be happy but the district feels strongly about the decision-making guide.

Further discussion among the members revealed the “numbers” are reviewed daily, the district meets weekly with the health department and they provide their interpretation of the numbers. The district is building what staff will look like following the parent survey noting we now have teachers completing the process of letting us know if they want to come back to teach in a classroom or if they prefer to stay virtual noting we are working hard to have measures in place to provide a level of comfort to anyone who has a concern. The virtual option for students will remain in place for the remainder of the school year and quite possibly beyond.

Further noted was strong board support for the metric noting it seems very comprehensive, acknowledging we are tracking all the various variables and how we can operate within our district. Concern was expressed over the third indicator noting even though our local daily numbers look good the third indicator could impact us. The metric looks good, the third metric could impact us.

Dr. Gabriel noted the GLPS COVID-19 Guides is available to view on our website at: www.glcomets.net/safereturn

Dr. Barnes reviewed the goals for in-person learning including: 1) creating opportunities for students who are not academically successful in the virtual environment to receive additional support with virtual learning; 2) creating opportunities for students who are struggling with engagement or need additional social and emotional support to receive additional support; 3) create a transition period to move towards all day, every day in-person learning. He went on to review relevant data the district is tracking including interaction rates, meeting social and emotional needs of students, meeting the needs of students with additional support, and the percentage of students, per building, requesting to return to in-person learning. He reviewed the district considerations noting approximately 47% of our students want an in-person experience and 53% want to stay virtual. He noted there

is no overwhelming majority either way. Any plan the district enacts must meet the three goals outlined in our communications and must be flexible enough to account for quarantines and pauses. He went on to explain virtual learning is a requirement of the alternate day plan as students need to be engaged in learning five days per week and there is a possibility that virus spikes may cause pauses to in-person learning. He noted social and emotional support as well as academic support is needed in both virtual and in-person settings noting in-person learning cannot be the only avenue for increasing support. He expressed models that ask teachers to teach students in the classroom and online at the same time is detrimental to one group or the other and is not sustainable for teachers at any level. Dr. Barnes went on to note that elementary and middle school students have an expectation that they will keep their teachers all year noting the district will not enact a plan that diminishes the learning experience of one group of students in order to improve the learning experience of another and we must have enough staff to effectively implement any transitional plan.

Dr. Barnes reviewed considerations and the elementary, middle and high school levels individually and in closing reviewed the district planning timeline.

On behalf of Neff Kindergarten Principal Kelly Smith, Willow Ridge Elementary Principal Jim Gee provided a detailed overview of Kindergarten in-person four half-days a week (Monday – Thursday) schedule at Neff and Wacousta noting students will stay with their current teacher – unless the current teacher is unable to teach in-person. Students will attend half-days Monday – Thursday. Buses will be available for transportation. Students will have both asynchronous and synchronous instruction noting virtual students will have synchronous instruction in the morning and asynchronous in the afternoon and in-person student will have asynchronous instruction in the morning and in-person instruction in the afternoon. Fridays will be full virtual days – synchronous and asynchronous.

Mr. Gee went on to present the first – sixth grade overview for Beagle, Delta Center, Wacousta and Willow Ridge noting student maintain their current homeroom assignment, students will be in-person two full days; either Monday / Wednesday or Tuesday / Thursday noting recess and lunch will be included in the day. Student will be assigned enhanced learning lab places in the buildings. Instruction will remain consistent with current virtual instruction. In-person students will have opportunities throughout the day to work with teachers in small groups. Fridays will be a full virtual day – synchronous and asynchronous.

Hayes Middle School Principal Dave Kushman provided a detailed overview the current virtual context noting all students engage in two “live” session per week, per class. “Live” sessions are assigned by departments. Monday and Wednesday: English, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Choir and Physical Education, Tuesday and Thursday; Math, Science, all STEM electives, Art, Band and Health. All student now attend shortened “live” sessions on Friday for all classes. Mr. Kushman went on to review the Nuts and Bolts of the In Person Return noting teachers, aside from those that meet the criteria to remain virtual, would work from the building on their asynchronous days allowing them to work with their students coming in for in-person

instruction. Approximately 180 students, per cohort; cohorts will be aligned with the high school (A-K cohort 1, L-Z cohort 2) to support families. All students, virtual and in-person, will follow current schedule and daily routine. In-person students would attend their “live” zoom sessions inside a learning lab staffed by Grand Ledge staff.

Mr. Kushman reviewed the in-person daily schedule / routine noting during their assigned time within their daily schedule, students would go and see their assigned teachers during their asynchronous time. He noted students would roughly see 2-4 of their teachers while in-person based on how “live” sessions are broken down by departments. Monday and Wednesday cohort would see their Science, Math, Art, Band and Health teachers. Tuesday and Thursday cohort would see their English, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Choir and PE teachers. He further reviewed and example schedule for Cohort A and Cohort B individually. Mr. Kushman noted this plan provides equity for both virtual and in-person students by providing consistency with the virtual programs, relationships with teachers being maintained, routines established at home are maintained, schedules do not change in most cases.

Grand Ledge High School Principal Ken Wright provided a detailed overview of the options available at the high school. He noted GLHS students and course sections have been divided into Virtual and In-Person Teams noting there is just under 800 in person and just over 800 virtual students). He noted the goal was to have all in-person and virtual students scheduled into requested courses with highly qualified content area instruction prioritizing needed and unique course availability / logistics over preferred instructional format. He noted they did encounter some scheduling constraints but they have tried to avoid the loss of course opportunity for students due to these additional scheduling constraints. He further noted the scheduling process uses student course requests, capacity of course availability and maximization logistically throughout the day. The scheduling of students is currently under way.

Mr. Wright went on to provide an overview of a virtual instruction schedule and an in-person instructional schedule individually. He noted that in-person instruction during the continued virus concerns will see the requirement and enforcement of mask wearing while in schools buildings (non-negotiable), supervision of less structured times (arrival, transition, lunch, departure, etc.), availability of clubs and extracurricular activities, flexibility of courses – potential need for student and/or staff isolation or quarantine (courses will maintain virtual platforms), lunchtime; students will be able to bring their own lunch or have access to lunch provided by GLHS cafeteria staff. A la carte options will not be available – only pre-boxed, full lunches will be available, but a variety of options will be available.

Dr. Barnes expressed his appreciation to the board for their attention during this lengthy presentation. He noted this is a very well thought out, very detailed plan noting that every employee group has had input with this plan and we appreciate that as well. He reiterated that implementing more academic support in the virtual environment and finding a means to provide engaged social and emotional supports for both in person and virtual students are very important. He noted each plan creates

a transition – creates room for growth. We will continue to ramp up each of the plans but this is a start.

Dr. Chapin noted the administration has given the board a lot recognizing this is a big undertaking. He expressed he believe the administration has done quite well in providing information on how the plan was developed and how we landed where we are at. He stressed the administration will continue to listen noting we are not fully ready to implement the in-person learning portion tomorrow, but we are preparing ourselves to bring students back.

Mr. Smith noted he has no concerns about the proposal noting there is a tremendous amount of information. He expressed he looks forward to hear from the public next.

Mr. McKennon noted he is glad to hear this is still, somewhat, of a fluid plan. He expressed he understands the high school is a very complex machine and Mr. Wright is dealing with that. He stressed he would like to see more in-person learning at the lower levels.

Mr. Cwayna expressed his appreciation to everybody for their time and effort recognizing your trying hard. He noted everyone knows where he stands on this issue. He feels the younger students are the ones struggling. He feels the K-6 kids need to be in class with their teachers. He noted he does not agree with this but he does appreciate everyone time and efforts on the plan.

President DuFort noted she feels a little differently than Mr. Cwayna noting there are so many variable. She support the three different plans to support the three different levels. As far as K-6 needing more time in-person, she believes that depends on the child. She noted part of the struggle, while some don't want to admit it, we don't have enough teachers able or willing to be in the classroom full time with a full roster. We don't have the staff to maintain face-to-face and virtual learning at the same time. Our teachers are doing both. That shifts the possibilities. She noted she understands parents are going to have a lot of questions and hopes the district is able to put together an FAQ document or something of that sort to help parents understand. She expressed her thanks for the middle and high school levels keeping the cohorts in line to support our families. Challenging doesn't even begin to cover what this plan is and she appreciates all the time and effort of the administration and all the staff hours that have been put into this plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS TO INCLUDE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE GLPS EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN

Secretary Shiflett read the rules for addressing the board.

District parent and community member Dawn Velianoff questioned when parents would be notified of return dates and disruptions, further asking how disruptions would be handled. She asked to know the percentage of teachers that have made the choice and are willing to

work in the classrooms and how many want to stay virtual, the same with paraprofessional too. She expressed she feels learning labs are pointless.

District parent and community member Andrew Reynaert noted he has two high schoolers and he feels the plan is phenomenal. He noted he has been pretty critical in the past but if a hybrid is what we have, it is pretty great. He noted he would like to see more on the engagement or interaction rates. He further questioned why, if a parent didn't respond to the survey, they automatically went to the virtual option. He also expressed he would like to know how many teachers wanted to come back noting it is his opinion we don't have enough teachers. He noted we don't want one group of kids getting something the other group of kids is not.

GLEA President and district employee Greg Almy noted he will speak to the elementary and middle school plans as that is what he is familiar with noting that it is his understand that the students who are "in-person" will have adult support the entire time they are at the school and that is important. The students need that adult learning, adult support. He did express concerns if a student's teacher is granted to remain virtual due to a high risk, what happens to those students who want to be in-person. They won't have access to that specific teacher. They will continue to have access only through zoom and through buzz, so who is going to provide that small group instruction. He noted this plan appears to be based mainly on the plan that all teachers need to come back for in person learning.

Community member Jay Bennett commented the COVID plans are fantastic. He noted you are never going to make everybody happy, there are still so many unknowns, and believes the district administration is making the best out of a bad situation. He further went on to recognize his former colleague Kim Mulvenna and thanked her for everything she has done noting he thoroughly enjoyed his time on the board with her. He thanked Dr. Chapin for stepping in as Interim-Superintendent expressing he has been doing a fantastic job. In closing, he wished everyone Happy Holidays!

Community member and grandparent LeeAnn Dayton expressed she believes the younger students need more support. She expressed her concerns with the learning labs and asked why the students wouldn't return to the classroom with their teacher. In closing she recognized teacher Ms. Malcolm thanking her for changing her teaching format and noting her granddaughter loves it.

District Parent and community member Kristy Merignac thanked everyone who has been working on this plan. She noted neither learning situation is perfect but doesn't think we should make it more stressful on teachers by asking them to teach virtually and in-person.

District parent and community member Megan Weber noted her child's IEP has not been met since the beginning of the school year and wondered how it will work when they return to school noting if he is only allowed in the building two times per week, when will those services be scheduled. She questions why if there are only eight students coming back why they can't be in the classroom with those teachers.

The board recessed at 9:10 p.m.

The board reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES – GOVERNANCE POLICY 206 – BOARD MEETING AGENDA & GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION 106 – TITLE IX**
Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve Board Policies GP206 – Board Meeting Agenda and GSA106 – Title IX, as presented.

Mr. McKennon advised GP206 changes public comment segments of the agenda to recognize the board will take public comment on agenda items first and public comment on non-agenda items at the end of the meeting.

President DuFort advised GSA106 addresses the new requirements for Title IX.

Ms. Clark Pierson expressed her dislike for the Title IX changes being required by the Department of Education under Betsy DeVos stating she believes it places much more burden on the victim which they now refer to as the complainant. She expressed these are regulations put out by the Department of Education and she feels she has to vote in favor of them but is hopeful these changes will be undone under the next administration as quickly as possible.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. APPROVAL OF GLPS EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN**
Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Shiflett for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the GLPS Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, as presented for elementary, middle school and high school full-day, alternate day programming, or 1/2 day for Kindergarten; and furthermore, approve the “GLPS COVID-19 Guide to Decision-Making – Safe Return to In-Person Instruction” document that will be used to determine the start date for the full-day, alternate day, or 1/2 day for Kindergarten, program. It is also understood the previously-approved virtual instruction program will continue to operate as it has since the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Shiflett noted this vote is in accordance with State Law in addition to approving the Safe Return Guide to Decision Making.

Mr. Smith asked for assurances from the administration that this still provides enough flexibility to be read to go if new guidance is provided from the CDC or other governing agencies.

Dr. Chapin advised this is in accordance with the monthly requirement and provides the district with the necessary means to move forward. If changes are necessary, they will be brought back to the board in January.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Cwayna	<u>NO</u>	Mr. Shiflett	<u>YES</u>
President DuFort	<u>YES</u>	Mrs. Mulvenna	<u>YES</u>
Mr. Smith	<u>YES</u>	Mr. McKennon	<u>YES</u>
Ms. Clark Pierson	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried 6-1.

C. SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

President DuFort advised she has included information from three independent agencies that can provide the district with support in conducting our Superintendent Search. Discussion among the members reviewed three independent proposals received – 50% were served by MLI, and about 50% served by MASB. Hazard, Young Atteya Associates is the third group. President DuFort noted this is very deliberately placed as a discussion noting the board had previously discussed creating Request For Proposal (RFP) language. In looking at the timeline, she was unsure if the RFP was necessary but wanted to get firm direction from the board moving forward.

Following a detailed discussion among the members, and concerns being expressed that the three proposals presented to do not represent the inclusiveness we want to build in the district, but more maintain the status quo, the board requested Dr. Chapin assist in developing RFP language with the assistance of district counsel and help move the process along with the intent of having proposals submitted for review at the January 11, 2021 board meeting and establishing an interview date with those selected in late January, 2021. Dr. Chapin noted he does not want to be too involved in the search process, but is certainly welcome to be a resource and can get the ball rolling in creating the RFP.

NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 1 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the Payment of Proposal 1 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$742,562.61, as presented.

Patrick McKennon advised this represents payment for the bond construction at Beagle and Holbrook. We are on schedule with construction, on budget and on schedule with the restructuring plan of the buildings for 2021-2022 school year.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously with member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.

B. APPROVAL OF THE PAYMENT OF PROPOSAL 2 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Proposal 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$465,018.22 as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously with member Sara Clark Pierson abstaining from the vote in accordance with MCL 380.4203.

C. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE – DISTRICT VOICE SYSTEM UPGRADES

Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve a contract award to Teoma Systems of Troy Michigan in the amount of \$221,139.75, using Bond Infrastructure Funds for District Voice System Upgrades, as presented.

Director of Technology Mark Deschaine provided the board with background information regarding the current phone system noting it has outlived its life cycle advising the district is currently spending approximately \$24,000 per year in licensing and hard ware maintenance. He noted during the spring at the initial shut down of the district, we reached out to our current vendor to add soft phones, put a software on our mobile device, the price came in between \$60,000-\$80,000. We then contracted with Communications By Design to create and RFP for a new district voice system. The district received four responses to the RFP. Teoma Systems came in as the lowest-qualified bidder and then went above and beyond and provided the phones for free, which bring significant savings, extending the warranty, will switch the way we connect to the telephone company and includes the soft phone component in the bid while adding firewall security. Mr. Deschaine noted it is the goal to have the system up and functioning by the end of spring break, noting this new phone system will be virtual so there will not be ongoing hardware costs.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON - AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF AND BOARD

Dr. Chapin acknowledge Mrs. Mulvenna noting he has only known her for six short months, but knows her commitment to the district commending her 19½ years of public service and what this has meant to the district and the community. He remarked to have that kind of stability he would be remiss to not notice and acknowledge that.

Dr. Gabriel noted that Mrs. Mulvenna’s years of service roughly correspond with his time in the district. He expressed he has enjoyed working with Mrs. Mulvenna. He then went on to thank our principals for taking part in the presentation tonight and for their continued support and efforts on behalf of the district students.

Dr. Barnes recognized Mrs. Mulvenna noted while they haven’t worked together very long, he is a life-long community member and thanked her for her years of dedicated service. He went on to express his appreciation for the leadership of our district principal and thanked the board for listening.

Mrs. Mulvenna expressed her appreciation for the investment the district made early in the summer, the professional development provided to our teachers to prepare them for this very strange year. She remarked she hopes we can get the kids back in school, but it must be safe.

President DuFort advised she had failed to mention back in November she and Dr. Chapin were invited to the American Legion for the presentation and rededication of their facility. She noted they have recently built a new outside deck and a new flag pole that was donated by Grand Ledge Public School. She expressed this was a very nice community opportunity and she was glad she could participate. She thanked the “Next Steps” committee noting they have been extremely helpful in developing the Return to Learn Guide and while the group isn’t quite finished, she wanted to recognize their time and efforts. She recognized the staff and administration as well noting it has been quite a journey and the journey isn’t quite over yet noting we must be cognizant of the pieces beyond our control.

Mr. McKennon thanked everyone for their hard work expressing we have the right people in the right spots.

President DuFort thanked everyone for continuing to be engaged for the conversation and wished everyone a safe happy holiday.

CLOSED SESSION – Attorney/Client Privilege (per Section 8(h) of the OMA

Motion by Mrs. Mulvenna, seconded by Mr. Smith for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to move into Closed Session Pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to review Attorney/Client Privilege Information.

Roll Call Vote

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

The motion carried unanimously at 10:17 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvene in Open Session at 11:21 p.m.

BOARD CONSIDERATION OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) APPEALS

Motion by Mr. Shiflett, seconded by Mrs. Mulvenna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve a Resolution addressing three FOIA Appeals submitted by former district Superintendent Brian Metcalf.

Roll Call Vote

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

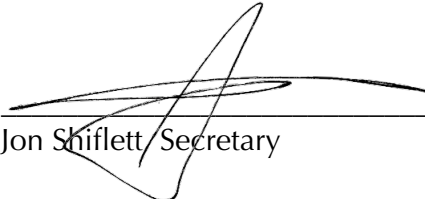
The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Jon Shiflett, Secretary



Denise DuFort, President