

Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education



AUGUST 12, 2024

WORK SESSION

**SAWDON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
BOARD ROOM
6:00 P.M.**

Grand Ledge Public Schools

Work Session of the Board of Education

Please take notice that the Board of Education will hold a Work Session on:

Date: Monday, August 12, 2024

Place: Sawdon Administration Building
Board Room
220 Lamson Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

***Once the meeting begins, it will be Live Streamed
at: [youtube.com/@GLPS21](https://www.youtube.com/@GLPS21) (click on Live)***

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Purpose: General Business

Phone: (517) 925-5400

Board minutes are located at the Board of Education office, 220 Lamson Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837



William A. Barnes, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

cc: Buildings
Board Members
Lansing State Journal
Melissa Mazzola, President, GLEA
Ashleigh Lore, Vice-President, GLEA
Sarah Hopper, President, MEA/NEA Unit I, Secretarial /Clerical
Denise Truman, President, MEA/NEA Unit III, Food Service
Allyson McCann, President, MEA/NEA Unit IV, TA/HC/Bus Assistants & Adv. Club
Danis Peck, President, IUOE Local 547, A, B, C, E & H AFL-CIO, Bus Drivers
Sarra Ruiz, President, Custodial Association

Date of Posting: August 7, 2024

NOTE: *Individuals may address the Board for up to three (3) minutes in the Public Comment segment of the meeting. Any person with a disability needing accommodations to attend a Board of Education meeting should contact Kim Manning at 925-5401 at least three (3) days prior to the date of the meeting he/she plans to attend*

**Grand Ledge Public Schools
Board of Education
MEETING AGENDA
Monday, August 12, 2024
6:00 pm**

- I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance.....Nicole Shannon, President
- II. Roll Call.....Dr. Bill Barnes, Superintendent
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Action Items
 - A. Approval of Board Policy po 2264 – Title IX
 - B. Approval of July 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes
 - C. Approval of Teacher Leaves of Absence
 - a. Marcelina Bedolla – Counselor – Hayes Intermediate School
 - b. Tara Barnhill – Teacher – Delta Center Elementary School
 - D. Approval of Teacher Hirings

Name	Bldg	Position	Name	Bldg	Position
Kenneth Bedwell	Bgl/HS	Choral Director	Michelle Oppenheim	District	Instr. Coach
Tanya Cisneros	Beagle	Talent Tog. App.	Amanda Van Vliet	Delta Ctr	4 th Gr.
Chelsi Hillard	HS	Health	Angela Vereecke	Delta Ctr	4 th Gr.
Rachelle Jagger	Beagle	Talent Tog. App			
 - E. Approval of Administrative Hiring
 - a. Kathryn Farr – Principal – Holbrook Elementary School
 - b. Abbie Burmeister – Instructional Supervisor - District
 - F. Approval of the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices
 - G. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices
 - H. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices
 - I. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices
- V. Comments from Staff and Board
- VI. Future Topics
 - A. Board Meeting - Monday, August 26, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Board Room
- VII. Adjournment

NOTE: Individuals may address the Board for up to three (3) minutes in the Public Comment segments of the meeting. If any person with a disability needs accommodations at the Board of Education meeting, please contact Kim Manning at 925-5401 at least three (3) days prior to the date of the meeting he/she plans to attend.



**CALL TO ORDER &
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Nicole Shannon

"I pledge allegiance
to the Flag
of the United States of America,
and to the republic
for which it stands,
one Nation under God,
indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all."



ROLL CALL

Superintendent William Barnes



PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons may address the board for up to three (3) minutes in the Public Comment segment of the meeting by providing your name and jurisdiction (City, Township / County) on one of the Public Comment forms provided at the sign in table and turning it in to the Superintendent's Assistant.

The meeting chair will use the Public Comment forms submitted to invite persons to come forward to make their public comment at the appropriate time.

Board Meetings are constructed to conduct necessary business of the board, while allowing time for the public to express concerns and opinions.

Out of respect for board members, students and staff, you will be interrupted if you:

- Personally attack a board member or district employee on issues unrelated to their job performance.
- Mention a student's name when discussing behavior or other incidents.
- Engage in discussion with other members of the audience.

You will be reminded when you are approaching the end of your three-minute limit so you can conclude with your strongest points.

The board will not respond to questions or comments during public comment but the Superintendent will do his best to answer questions at the end of the meeting. If immediate answers are not available, arrangements will be made to provide you with the information requested.



ACTION ITEM A

A. Approval of Board Policy PO 2264 - Title IX

The Board will need to use Proposed Motion 1 to approve the new Title IX policy with only one reading. Then, Proposed Motion 2 will need to be made before the review of the Governance Committee's suggested revisions followed by the vote.

PROPOSED MOTION 1: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education recognize there is a compelling reason to adopt a new Title IX policy that addresses recent revisions to the Title IX regulations after one reading under Bylaw 0131.1 to ensure the Board's policies comply with 2024 Title IX regulations effective August 1, 2024.

PROPOSED MOTION 2: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve Board Policy PO 2264, Title IX - June 2024 New Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, as presented.





ACTION ITEM B

B. Approval of July 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the July 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes, as presented,

GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education

July 8, 2024

MINUTES

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

ROLL CALL

Roll Call by Superintendent Barnes indicated the presence of **Board Members:** Nicole Shannon, Ashley Kuykendoll, Ben Cwayna and Toni Glasscoe. **Members Absent:** Denise DuFort, Jarrod Smith, Jon Shiflett. **Central Office Administrators:** Bill Barnes, Steve Gabriel, Julie Waterbury, Wendy Seida, Bill Albrecht, Kelly Jones, Mark Deschaine and John Ellsworth. **Others in Attendance:** Matt Oppenheim, Coban Holmes, Delaney Miller, Kali Stevens, Melissa Mazzola, Sally Jo Nelton, John Piper and Kim Manning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the July 8, 2024 Agenda Items, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the July 8, 2024 Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Included on the Consent Agenda were the June 24, 2024 Meeting Minutes and Closed Session Minutes and the Teacher Hiring of Tessa Arbour, Darbi Carter and Delaney Miller

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- A. **Capitol Connections** – Dr. Glasscoe commented her focus remains on the K-12 budget.
- B. **Eaton RESA** – There was no report is Mrs. DuFort's absence.
- C. **Grand Ledge Education Foundation** – Ms. Shannon advised the Foundation Board has not met so there is nothing new to report.
- D. **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee** – Ms. Kuykendoll advised the committee has not met so there is nothing to report.

- E. Governance Committee** – Ms. Shannon advised the committee has not met so there is nothing to report.
- F. Bond** – President Shannon noted there was not a Board Bond Advisory Committee meeting tonight due to absences but to ensure the payment of invoices in a timely fashion, Bond Supervisor John Piper will provide an overview of the invoices as would have been discussed with the Committee.

Bond Supervisor John Piper began by providing the board with an update on the current bond projects including the new Wacousta build status, Neff Early Childhood Center, Grand Ledge High School, Willow Ridge, Hayes and the Transportation building.

Mr. Piper then reviewed the invoices, in detail, for the Sinking Fund, Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond, Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond and Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond that the board will consider later in the agenda.

G. Superintendent –

a. Facilities Management Plan Review

Dr. Barnes presented the board with the newly established Facilities Management Plan, reviewed the document and explained how the document will be used going forward. He thanked everyone who was involved in creating the document noting the document will be helpful in understanding what needs to be done, budget planning, and will help guide us as we go forward with priority being based on alignment with our Strategic Plan and necessary funding sources.

A detailed discussion among the members covered having an accurate inventory, consistency in conveying the information, continuing the conversation about what happens if we don't get as much funding as we were anticipating and with grant dollars and one-time money going away, the need to maintain historical documentation of the document instead of just writing over the current document, making the document interactive to allow sorting, having at least annual updates on the plan presented to the board, and creating a means to track resale value of equipment so the district, and community, can see funds coming back in as well as how fees are used to maintain the program or program needs.

In closing, Dr. Barnes again thanked those involved in the creation of the Facilities Management Plan and thanked the board for their feedback.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2024-2025 MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION**
Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Ms. Kuykendoll for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the 2024-2025 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership Resolution, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ms. Kuykendoll	<u>YES</u>	Dr. Glasscoe	<u>YES</u>
Mrs. DuFort	<u>YES</u>	Mr. Cwayna	<u>YES</u>
President Shannon	<u>YES</u>		

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION**
Motion by Mr. Cwayna, seconded by Dr. Glasscoe for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve a 1.7% increase on the top of the scale for two Central Office Leadership team members who were on the top step of the Central Office scale for the 2023-2024 school year, and approve a 2.5% increase on the top of the scale for three Adventure Club Caregivers who were on the top step of the Adventure Club Caregiver scale for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. SINKING FUND INVOICES**
Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$23,431.68, as presented.

President Shannon noted this represents work at Delta Center, Neff and the Health Center.

The motion carried unanimously.

- D. PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 2 BOND INVOICES**
Motion by Dr. Glasscoe, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$672,915.89, as presented.

President Shannon noted this represents work at Wacousta.

The motion carried unanimously.

E. PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 3 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Mr. CWayna, 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 \$1,045,922.89, as presented.

President Shannon noted this represents work at the High School.

The motion carried unanimously.

F. PROPOSAL 1, SERIES 4 BOND INVOICES

Motion by Ms. Kuykendoll, seconded by Mr. Cwayna for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education to approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$585.00, as presented.

President Shannon noted this represents the final payment for the traffic study.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD

Superintendent Barnes noted that for the August 12, 2024 board meeting the board will meet starting at 6:00 to conduct official business and then will convene a special meeting for the Board to receive the required training on the new Superintendent's Evaluation and Rating tool. In closing, he welcomed Dr. Albrecht to the table.

President Shannon asked members to notify Dr. Barnes if they are unable to attend the August 12th meeting to ensure arrangements can be made to ensure all members receive the required training prior to evaluating Dr. Barnes.

Dr. Glasscoe and Mr. Cwayna both expressed the great work put into the Facilities Management Plan.

President Shannon acknowledged the budget confusion following the State's released budget and thanked Dr. Barnes, Mrs. Waterbury and the team noting the district will find a way through this. She thanked everyone who was involved in the creation of the Facilities Management Plan.

Ms. Kuykendoll asked about another bond tour for the board member and Dr. Barnes advised he is working to find a date.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Ashley Kuykendoll, Secretary

Nicole Shannon, President



ACTION ITEM C

C. Approval of Teacher Leaves of Absence

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the Teacher Leaves of Absence for Marcelina Bedolla and Tara Barnhill, as presented.



August 7, 2024

Re: Leave of Absence Request – Marcelina Bedolla

This letter serves as a recommendation of support to grant Marcelina Bedolla a medical leave of absence until June 30th, 2025 from counseling at Grand Ledge Public Schools. Marcelina Bedolla is a Counselor at Hayes Intermediate School and began working for Grand Ledge in October 2020.

Mr. Bedolla understands that if he chooses to return for the 2025-2026 school year that he is not guaranteed his previous position and that we will make an earnest effort to transition him back into the district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kelly J. Jones'.

Kelly J. Jones
Director of Human Resources

July 17, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to request a medical leave of absence for the 24-25 school year from my position as a school counselor at Hayes Intermediate. Just prior to the 23-24 school year I suffered a stroke that has impacted my ability to work effectively in my role as a school counselor. During the course of the 23-24 school year I took time off under FMLA and worked both parttime and fulltime until it was determined by my doctors that I should stop working effective April 8, 2024. I am in the process of applying for long term disability through the district's insurance plan but have been denied once and am in the appeal process. A decision won't be made on this until between August 9 and September 23. If the long term disability is ultimately denied, that leaves me in a position where I'm being told that I am capable of continuing my work as a school counselor and will need this next year to evaluate the reality of that determination. A medical leave of absence would allow my family to utilize the benefits offered to GLPS as my family and I determine our next steps financially, professionally, and personally.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Bedolla', written in a cursive style.

Marcelino Bedolla



August 7, 2024

Re: Leave of Absence Request – Tara Barnhill

This letter serves as a recommendation of support to grant Tara Barnhill a leave of absence until June 30th, 2025 from teaching at Grand Ledge Public Schools. Tara Barnhill is a Teacher at Delta Center Elementary School and began working for Grand Ledge in August 2020.

Ms. Barnhill understands that if she chooses to return for the 2025-2026 school year that she is not guaranteed her previous position and that we will make an earnest effort to transition her back into the district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'K. Jones'.

Kelly J. Jones
Director of Human Resources



Nichole Thoma <thoman@glcomets.net>

Re: FMLA/Leave of Absence

1 message

Tara Barnhill <barnhillt@glcomets.net>
To: Nichole Thoma <thoman@glcomets.net>

Tue, Jul 16, 2024 at 1:21 PM

Nichole,

Thank you for all of this information! I read the letter attached and just want to clarify. I have to go into Red Rover and put my time off in? So I would start my time off on August 20th and end it on November 14th? Also, I just plan to use up all of my sick leave and PTO, will that just automatically occur even with putting it in under the FMLA code? When should I be putting this into Red Rover? Thanks!

On Tue, Jul 16, 2024 at 9:29 AM Nichole Thoma <thoman@glcomets.net> wrote:
Good Morning Tara.

Attached you will find your designation notice, short term disability paperwork, and approval letter. As of now, I can not provide you with your leave of absence approval letter since it does have to go to the board for final approval.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

On Mon, Jul 8, 2024 at 1:13 PM Kelly Jones <jonesk@glcomets.net> wrote:
Nichole will send you a letter of approval which is just a protocol for our records but this email is a confirmation of my approval for your LOA.

On Mon, Jul 8, 2024 at 11:21 AM Tara Barnhill <barnhillt@glcomets.net> wrote:
No problem, I expected them over the holiday!

Yes, you can use this email as my official request, just let me know what steps I need to take from here to finalize it and make it official. My due date was August 8th but due to some complications (nothing super serious) they are moving my delivery up to July 23rd so I would like to get this all squared away before then!

I will use the FMLA paperwork Nichole gave me and get that turned into the HR department ASAP. Thank you!

On Mon, Jul 8, 2024 at 10:34 AM Kelly Jones <jonesk@glcomets.net> wrote:
Hi Tara,
Sorry for the delayed response. No worries about the return date of the paperwork, please use that same paperwork.

Can I use this email as your official request for a LOA? If so, then Nichole will send you a letter for the approval.

On Wed, Jul 3, 2024 at 7:47 AM Tara Barnhill <barnhillt@glcomets.net> wrote:
Good morning,

I am reaching out because Nichole is out of town and I had asked her some follow-up questions regarding FMLA and leave of absence.

She gave me my FMLA paperwork but there is a return date of June 20th on it and I didn't receive the papers until June 21st and then went out of town, so I was unable to return the paperwork by that time. Do I need to wait for new paperwork with a new date or am I am okay to fill out what she sent me and turn it in?

With the leave of absence, I would like my leave to begin on November 15, 2024 and go through the remainder of the 24-25 school year to be home with my children. I will be coming back for the 25-26 school year. My question is how to I submit this leave? Is an email to you fine or do I need to bring in a printed letter?

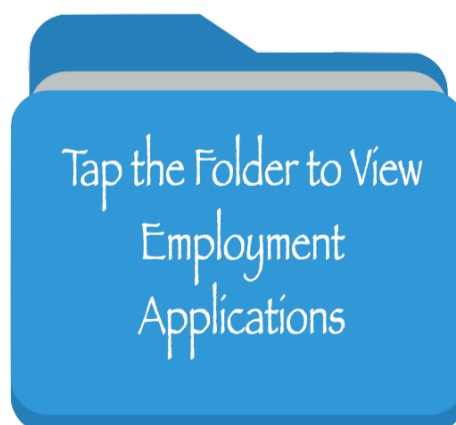
Thank you!



ACTION ITEM D

D. Approval of Teacher Hirings

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the teacher hiring of Kenneth Bedwell, Tanya Cisneros, Chelsi Hillard, Rachelle Jagger, Michelle Oppenheim, Amanda Van Vliet and Angela Vereecke, as presented.





ACTION ITEM E

E. Approval of Administrative Hirings

- a. Kathryn Farr - Principal - Holbrook Elementary School
- b. Abbie Burmeister - Instructional Supervisor - District

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the Administrative Hirings of Kathryn Farr as Principal of Holbrook Elementary School and Abbie Burmeister as the District's Instructional Supervisor, as presented.

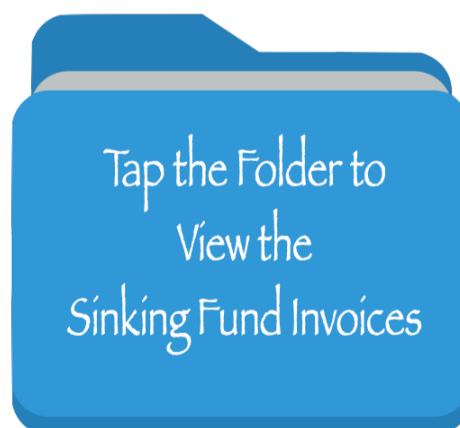




ACTION ITEM F

F. Approval of the Payment of Sinking Fund Invoices

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Sinking Fund Invoices in the amount of \$271,691.47, as presented.





ACTION ITEM G

G. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 2 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$600,384.52, as presented.

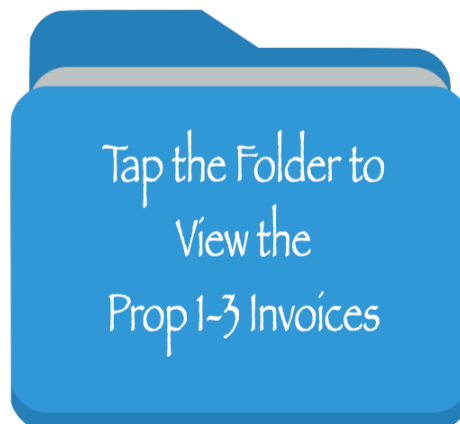




ACTION ITEM H

H. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 3 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$3,904,201.38, as presented.

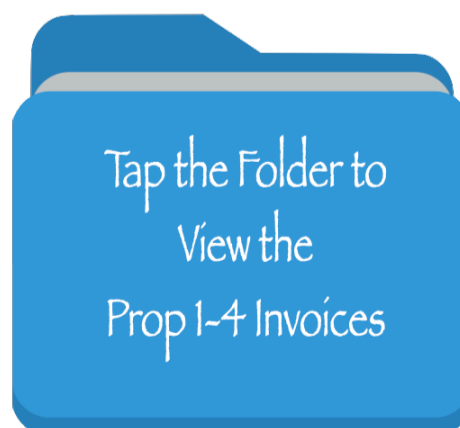




ACTION ITEM I

I. Approval of the Payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices

PROPOSED MOTION: I move the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education approve the payment of Proposal 1, Series 4 Bond Invoices in the amount of \$555.00, as presented.





COMMENTS FROM STAFF & BOARD



FUTURE TOPICS

- Regular Meeting - Monday, August 26, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Board Room



ADJOURNMENT

Time: _____