

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 9, 2023**

The Board of School Trustees of the Griffith Public Schools met in regular session at the Griffith High School LGI Room, 600 N. Wiggs St. on the ninth of March, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board. Paused the regular board meeting to go into the Board of Finance meeting.

Emily Conner, President of the Board of School Trustees, called the meeting to order. After the Pledge of Allegiance, on call of the roll, members were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Emily Conner, President
Jason Jaques, 1st Vice-President
Kathy Ruesken, Secretary
Tina Adams, 2nd Vice-President
Jennifer Gooldy, Assistant Secretary

Absent:

Others Present: Leah Dumezich, Superintendent
Tracy Whitman, Director of Curriculum and HR.
Terri Chance, Chief Financial Officer
Joseph C. Svetanoff, Attorney

Moment Of Silence:

Delegations and/or Communications: Audience participant Robert Keene who is the Swimming head coach with the Griffith Public Schools wanted to share how important the Bond money is that we are getting to renovate the swimming pool. He stressed what a necessity it is to improve the swimming pool. One audience participant questioned one of the High School announcements. Mrs. Conner expressed that parents should go over manners with students.

Superintendent Update: Mrs. Dumezich wanted to share the news of the passing of Mr. Cope. He was the High School Interim principal for a few years. Mrs. Dumezich mentioned that March is disability awareness month and to remember the act of Kindness. Mrs. Dumezich stated that summer school for 5th graders will be held in the Jr./Sr. High school, so that the 5th grades can get use to the building for when they transition into 6th grade. Mrs. Dumezich stated that the Jump Start program will be board approved in April. This will allow Kindergarteners to get acquainted with the car line, get to know teachers, and get familiar to bus riding. Mrs. Dumezich stated students will have to be five by August 1st to attend Kindergarten. Mrs. Dumezich will consider any student that is five before October 1st. She will have a team that will evaluate Kindergarten students and she will then sign off to accept any student who is five by Oct 1st that is ready to start school.

Director of Curriculum Update: Mrs. Whitman gave a Curriculum presentation at the Study Session before the regular board meeting.

Panther Spotlight: Mrs. Dumezich wanted to recognize Mrs. Natalie Stork Director of Special Ed. Mrs. Stork presented a presentation regarding disability awareness.

Finance Report: Mrs. Chance gave a financial update.

Board Reports: Mrs. Ruesken is the legislative liaison for the district. Mrs. Ruesken stated the State house has bills from the Senate and House that focus on education. Mrs. Ruesken stated that training for evaluations will be handled differently. Mrs. Adam reported on the Redevelopment Committee. Mrs. Adams shared that Menards bought the old Kmart building. The Dollar Tree will be moving between Popeys and Jeddis. Mrs. Adams stated that a Solar Farm will be located on the old Golf Course, and they are waiting on permits. Mrs. Conner reported on the Park Board. Mrs. Conner shared that construction started at Tot park and that they were approved to purchase new vehicles. Mrs. Conner also stated they approved of planting flowers. Mrs. Conner also stated they are looking for volunteers.

Consent Agenda: Mrs. Conner requested a motion to remove item 3.1 Minutes from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Jaques motioned to remove item 3.1 Minutes from the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Conner requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Jaques motioned to accept the consent agenda. Ms. Gooldy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The consent agenda contains the following items: Accounts Payable from 2/10/2023-3/9/2023, Agreements/Contracts, Fundraisers, Grants, Overnight Trip request and the following personnel report:

PERSONNEL REPORT					
March 9, 2023					
<i>Name</i>	<i>Certified</i>	<i>Replacing</i>	<i>Effective Date(s)</i>	<i>Pay Rate</i>	<i>Hourly, Daily, Seasonal, Yearly Contract</i>
Nicole Sarver	Assistant Director of Technology	New Position	7/1/23	\$90,000.00	Contract
Non Certified					
Alice Pietrucha	Long Term Sub Jr./Sr. High School	Stefanee Parks-Asche FMLA	1/30/23	\$110.00	Daily
Linda Zaborowski	Deputy Treasurer Central Office	New Position	3/27/23	\$55,000.00	Yearly
Lisa Crafton	Cafeteria Sub District	N/A	3/1/23	\$14.00	Hourly
Hayley Minor	Permanent Sub Wadsworth	Samantha Boehle	3/6/23	\$110.00	Hourly
Armida Alvarez	Substitute Custodian	Filling in for Patty Lamb	3/27/23	\$15.50	Hourly
Extra-Curricular/Athletics					
Jon Vasilak	Girls Varsity Head Soccer Coach	Mitch Prunty	3/7/23	\$6,490.00	Seasonal
Mark Harnew	Girls Varsity Tennis Coach	Carole Williams	3/13/23	\$4,965.00	Seasonal
Megan McGee	Assistant Girls Tennis Coach	N/A	3/13/23	\$2,290.00	Seasonal
George Tucker III	Varsity Assistant Boys Track Coach	N/A	3/13/23	\$4,580.00	Seasonal
Marilyn Brunk	High School Academic Competition. Math Coach	Christine Chidichimo	8/9/23	\$3,625.00	Contract
Marilyn Brunk	High School Academic Competition Coordinator	Donald Whitmore-No longer with the district	8/9/23	\$3,820.00	Contract
Clubs					
Separations					
Jon Vasilak	Girls Assistant Soccer Coach	N/A	2/10/23	N/A	Seasonal
Ken Anderson	Girls Varsity Basketball High School Coach	Resignation	2/21/23	\$10,310.00	Seasonal
Janine Diaz	High School Spanish/PE Middle School Teacher	Resignation	2/22/23	\$46,000.00	Contract
Michelle Masny	Playground Supervisor Wadsworth	Resignation	2/27/23	\$15.00	Hourly
Samantha Boehle	Permanent Sub Wadsworth	Resignation	2/2/23	\$110.00	Hourly
Gabe Vazquez	10 Month Custodian Wadsworth	Resignation	3/8/23	\$15.50	Hourly
Other					
Tiffany Palmer	Homebound	N/A	2/27/23	\$28.00	Hourly
Shane Cooper	Homebound	N/A	3/7/23	\$28.00	Hourly

4.1 Book Adoption for 2023-2024 school year. Removal of Science chapter page 482 Renewable Energy Resources Fossil Fuel: Mrs. Conner requested a motion to approve the removal of Science chapter 482 Renewable Energy Resources Fossil Fuel. Mrs. Adams motioned to approve the removal of Science chapter page 482 Renewable Energy Resources Fossil Fuel. Mr. Jaques second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Jr./Sr. High School Principal of Middle School: Mrs. Conner requested a motion to approve the posting of the Middle school principal position as presented. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the posting of the Middle school principal. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.3 Additional School Psychologist District Wide: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the additional School Psychologist district wide. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the additional school Psychologist district wide. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.4 Additional Title One Teacher Wadsworth Elementary: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the additional Title One teacher. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the additional Title One teacher. Ms. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.5 Additional LRE Teacher Beiriger Elementary: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the additional LRE teacher at Beiriger Elementary. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the additional LRE teacher at Beiriger elementary. Ms. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.6 RTI/Math Specialist: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the RTI/Math Specialist Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the RTI/Math Specialist. Ms. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.7 K-4 Summer Learning 2023: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the K-4 Summer Learning 202. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the K-4 Summer Learning 2023. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.8 Middle School Grades 5-8 Summer School 2023: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Middle School Grades 5-8 Summer School 2023. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the Middle School Grades 5-8 Summer School 2023. Ms. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.9 High School Grades 9-12 Summer School 2023: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the High School Grades 9-12 Summer School 2023. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the High School Grades 9-12 Summer School 2023. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.10 Insurance benefits for paraprofessionals working 35 or more hours per week beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve Insurance benefits for paraprofessionals working 35 or more hours per week beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve Insurance benefits for paraprofessionals working 35 or more hours per week beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Jaques second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.11 JUUL Settlement: Mr. Sventanoff presented and asked the board to approve the JUUL settlement. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the JUUL settlement. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.12 Teen Safety Matters: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Teen safety Matters. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve Teen Safety Matters. Ms. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.13 What would I do: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve What would I do. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve What would I do. Mr. Jaques second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.14 Too Good for Drugs Pre & Post Test: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Too Good For Drugs Pre & Post Test. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the Too Good for Drugs Pre & Post Test. Mrs. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.15 June Board Meeting date change: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the June Board meeting date change. Ms. Gooldy made a motion to approve the June Board meeting date change. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.16 First Reading New Board Policy Board Personal Background Checks and Residency verification: Mrs. Conner requested a motion to suspend the first reading and rules of item 4.16 First Reading New Board Policy Board Personal Background Checks and Residency verification. Mr. Jaques made a motion to suspend the first reading and rules for item 4.16 First Reading New Board Policy Board Personal Background Checks and Residency verification. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Conner requested a motion to approve item 4.16 First Reading New Board Policy Board Personal Background Checks and Residency verification. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve item 4.16 First Reading New Board Policy Board Personal Background Checks and Residency verification. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.17 First Reading Policy po0142.2 Oath: Mrs. Conner presented the First Reading of Policy po0142.2 Oath,

4.18 Updated 2023-2024 school calendar to reflect three early release dates: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Updated 2023-2024 school calendar to reflect three early release dates. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the updated 2023-2024 school calendar to reflect three early release dates. Ms. Gooldy second the motion. Motion passed 4 to 1 vote.

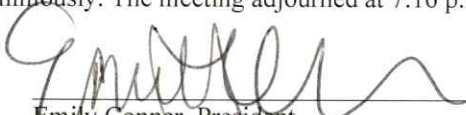
4.19 Authorize the administration to advertise the notice of the public hearing to be held on the 2023 project: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Authorize the administration to advertise the notice of the public hearing be held on the 2023 project. Ms. Gooldy made a motion to approve the administration to advertise the notice of the public hearing to be held on the 2023 project. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.20 Censure of Board Member: Mrs. Conner added item 4.20 and passed the gravel to Mr. Jaques. Mrs. Conner explained as the board president she had to act and Censure Board member Jennifer Gooldy. Jennifer Gooldy failed to follow Board member ethics and bylaws and for filing false police reports against the Superintendent. Mrs. Jaques asked for a motion. Mrs. Conner made a motion to Censure Ms. Gooldy for violation of Board member ethics. Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 5 to 0. Motion passed to Censure Board member Jennifer Gooldy Mrs. Jaques passed the gravel back to Mrs. Conner.

Audience Participation: One audience member questioned what censure meant and if this is the removal of the Board member. Mrs. Svetanoff explained censure and that this does not remove the Board member.

Upcoming Board Meeting: The next Regular School Board meeting will be on April 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.

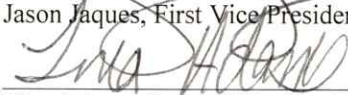
There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr.Jaques motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



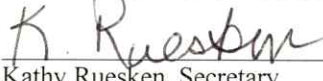
Emily Conner, President



Jason Jaques, First Vice President



Tina Adams, Second Vice President



Kathy Ruesken, Secretary

Jennifer Gooldy, Assistant Secretary