

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2018

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Grant Community High School District 124, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Thursday, October 18, 2018 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake. All those in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call, the following Members were found to be present:

Steve Hill, President
Ken Mark, Vice President
Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary
Paul LaRoche, Member
Jim Loris, Member
John Jared, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent: None

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Mr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal
Mr. Thomas Ross, Athletic Director
Mr. Blair Schoell, Divisional Administrator

AUDIENCE

Angelica Hernandez, Cheryl Wakefield, Zyla Waters, Alexandria Zelen, Julie Brua, Ed. D., Francis Fabian, Debie Jimenez-Fabian, Reggie Fabian, Stephanie Lesperance, Tracy Highley, Nannette Kiesgen, Kathy Kusiak, Henry Kusiak, Mark Linden, Andy Flaker, A.J. Havenga

President Steve Hill recognized Dr. Julia Brua, Superintendent and Mark Lindem, Business Manager of Gavin School District #37. They began their presentation regarding their referendum question on the November 6, 2018 ballot. The referendum asks to issue bonds in the amount of \$6 million for repairs, alterations, and upgrades to Gavin Central School and Gavin South Middle School. They also provided handouts to those in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held September 13, 2018

October Bills Payable

September Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from April 20, 2017

Quarterly list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers, and brokers

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik invited Henry Kusiak to the Board table to introduce him, in the presence of his mom, Kathy, as the October Student of the Month. She detailed some of his accomplishments including induction into the National Honor Society during sophomore year, his 4.894 GPA, Academic All-Conference for baseball and basketball each year, 1450 SAT score and he has taken 6 AP classes so far. His extracurriculars include Student Council, FBLA, Principal's Advisory Council, baseball and basketball where he earned numerous awards. He has participated in many community service opportunities, works at Bella's Bouncies and at Royal Melbourne Country Club. Attended iLead-Illinois Leadership Seminar and NLCC Leadership Conference, and was nominated for Boys State. He plans to attend the Air Force Academy to study Management or Biology and hopes to play baseball. She presented Henry with a certificate to commemorate the honor and the Board and audience congratulated him.

Dr. Sefcik asked Principal Schmidt to introduce Francis Fabian, in the presence of his family, to be recognized as Commended Student in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Mr. Schmidt provided some information on the NMSQT test. Over 1.6 million students took the test nationwide and only 34,000 high performers qualified as Commended Students. There were 450 Grant seniors that tested and Francis was the only Grant student to earn this honor this year. Mr. Schmidt presented Francis with a commemorative certificate and the Board and audience applauded his accomplishment.

Requirements for Graduation

Dr. Sefcik explained that Computer Applications/Consumer Education (Com/Con) has been the only course used to fulfill a State of Illinois Consumer Education curriculum requirement. Beginning with the 2019/20 school year, the requirement can be met by any of the following courses:

- Computer Applications/Consumer Education (Com/Con)
- Economics
- AP Macroeconomics
- Life Resource Management
- Personal Finance

This allows students more flexibility for scheduling of their courses, while still meeting the State requirement.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Michniewicz to approve the change to the graduation requirements to allow for the courses outlined to meet the State requirement.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Curriculum Changes for 2019/20

Dr. Sefcik presented a number of curriculum changes for 2019/20 that included revisions, additions, and deletions, along with the explanation of the changes. These changes occur in Band, Choir, courses impacted by Consumer Education changes, Foreign Language, New Courses, and Workshops. She recommended approval of the curriculum changes for 2019/20 as presented.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Mark to approve the changes to the 2019/20 curriculum as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark, Michniewicz

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Empower / Teaching & Learning Committee Discussions

Dr. Sefcik briefly highlighted that grading practices are emphasized in the publication and noted that the Teaching & Learning Committee is studying this area. Dr. Bob Eaker will be discussing this further when he returns on October 24th.

Attendance Week Recognition

Dr. Sefcik was happy to report that Grant placed first among high schools for the Regional Office of Education's 2018 Annual Attendance Week Competition. Our attendance rate was 98.63% for the week of September 10-14. Attendance has been a focus of PBIS and Keeping it R.E.D. initiatives.

Illinois Report Card

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that School Report Cards are due to be released on October 31. She shared the indicators that will be used to determine a district's designation. The designations, which will be based on the school's overall data for all of the accountability indicators as well as individual student groups, will be identified as Exemplary, Commendable, Underperforming, or Lowest-Performing. Preliminary data released to districts was retracted when found to be incorrect. She will provide the District's designation when it becomes available.

Calendar 2019/20 –Draft Only

Dr. Sefcik provided a draft of the 2019/20 calendar for information purposes only. This calendar follows the Regional Office of Education's recommendations for winter and spring break holidays and has been shared with our feeder districts. The ISBE calendar is currently under revision and is unavailable to modify. The final calendar will be presented at the November Board meeting for review and approval.

2018 IASB Resolutions Committee Report

Dr. Sefcik asked the Board to consider if there were any resolutions that should be discussed as a group prior to the Joint Conference IASB Delegate Assembly on Saturday, November 17 at 10:30 am.

Homecoming 2019/20 BOE Date Change

Dr. Sefcik reported that Homecoming 2019 has been set for Friday, September 13, 2019. As the Hall of Fame inductees are formally inducted and participate in the homecoming activities throughout the week, she requested to change the date of our regular September meeting to Thursday, September 12, 2019.

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Loris to change the Board of Education meeting schedule date from September 19 to September 12, 2019.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik presented three overnight travel requests. The varsity baseball team to travel to Marion, Illinois, March 24-28. The varsity softball team to travel to Pidgeon Forge, Tennessee, March 23-27. The varsity wrestling team to travel to Rochester, Minnesota, January 3 – 5.

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the overnight travel of varsity baseball, varsity softball, and varsity wrestling as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Winter Coaches

Dr. Sefcik requested approval of the list of the winter coaching staff as presented.

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Michniewicz, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the list of winter coaches as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Yanik, Hill, Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris, Jared

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Barry Sessoms, Technology Support Specialist, \$37,000, starting 10/11/2018
- Roberta Presny, Kitchen Utility, \$10/hr., starting 9/17/2018
- Justin Strebel, Assistant Academic Team Sponsor
- John Christian, Head Boys' Lacrosse Coach

Accepting the resignation letters from:

- Melissa Ball, Food Services, effective October 5, 2018
- Maria Lopez, Food Services, effective October 12, 2018
- Tina Shea, Food Services, effective October 15, 2018
- Josh Christian, Instructional Lacrosse Club Sponsor
- Walter Alvarenga, Wrestling Coach, effective immediately

Approval of the FMLA Requests from:

- Stacy Petrovich, from October 31 through November 20, 2018.
- Stephanie Lesperance, from January 30 through May 3, 2019

** A motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the personnel recommendations as presented

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Hill, Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Homecoming, Student Mental Health Awareness and Screening, September 28th Institute Day, Illinois High School Association, and Student Non-Compliance with Health Records and Immunizations Requirement.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

2018 Tentative Tax Levy

Mrs. Reich provided the tentative 2018 Certificate of Tax Levy. The county is predicting that the District's equalized assessed value will increase from \$816,200,173 in 2017 to \$886,914,632. This is an 8.66% increase from the previous year. She informed the Board that she will bring the recommendation for approval of the final 2018 tax levy to the November Board meeting.

Audit 2017/18

Mrs. Reich stated that the 2017/18 audit was recently completed by Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs & Co. LLP. The district is overall fiscally stable and debt free. She indicated that page 16 of the report provides a brief summary. The audit shows a small balance in the Debt Service Fund that will be moved to another fund by resolution at a later meeting.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Loris to approve the 2017/18 audit as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

Summer 2019 Construction

Mrs. Reich said that the Site and Facility Committee met on October 11th to go over schematic designs for construction during summer of 2019. She provided the Board a revised classroom plan. Included for summer, 2019 construction are modifications to various building bathrooms, complete remodel of green hall bathrooms, roof over the psychology/social worker offices, and classrooms in the computer lab hallway that will accommodate the new 2019/20 courses Project Lead the Way and the Tech Support Internship.

OTHER BUSINESS

The District received and fulfilled a Freedom of Information Act request from: (2) from HBO Real Sports, and (1) from SmartProcure.

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 8:04 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Loris to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2); Security procedures, school building safety and security 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8); and Pending Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11). Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Michniewicz, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:20 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. Mark to end closed session and return to open session.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark, Michniewicz

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Mark to authorize Mrs. Reich, Business Manager, to negotiate a settlement of up to \$67,000 for tax objections.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Loris, Jared, Yanik, Hill, Mark, Michniewicz, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent:

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

- ** At 8:24 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. LaRoche to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary