

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2017

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, November 16, 2017 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:

Ken Mark, Vice President
Paul LaRoche, Member
Jim Loris, Member
John Jared, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

Steve Hill, President
Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Mr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal

Ken Mark served as President Pro Tem in the absence of President, Steve Hill
Paul LaRoche served as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of Secretary, Ruth Michniewicz

AUDIENCE

John, Cheryl, & Erin Bengston, Michael Lescher, Jimmy Lee, Bridget Russo, Chris & Kristina Robinson, Lori Lev, Jeri Barr, Patti Wright, and Sandy Schlaf

Mr. Mark recognized Mr. Lescher, local real estate agent, to speak as he filled out a request to address the Board. Mr. Lescher commented on the District reserves and acknowledged that the District is in a healthy financial position due to wise financial moves and commented that he feels the tax burden on the community is high and would like to ask the District to drop the levy or offer an abatement to relieve the tax burden. The Board thanked him for his thoughts.

Fox Lake Police Chief, Jimmy Lee, said he wanted to stop by and remind the District and Board if they were in need of anything, to feel free to contact him. He also wanted to let the Board know that Trustee, Greg Murrey passed away and that arrangements would be forthcoming.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held October 19, 2017

Minutes of closed meeting held October 19, 2017

November Bills Payable

October Treasurer's Report

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

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

Aye: Mark, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik invited Erin Bengston, in the presence of her parents, to the Board table to be recognized for being named the November Student of the Month. Erin's accomplishments include induction into National Honor Society, Honor Roll and Scholars' List, Scholar Athlete awards, her 4.42 GPA, and scoring 1300 on her SAT. In softball, she served as Captain, earned many individual accolades and Team honors. She is dedicated to her community and church through her volunteerism and in her spare time loves outdoor activities and traveling with her family. She will be attending College of the Holy Cross in MA and will play collegiate softball and earn a major in psychology. Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate the honor. The Board and audience congratulated Erin on her successes.

Teacher Recognition

Dr. Sefcik invited Mr. Schmidt and Chris Robinson, in the presence of his wife and baby, to the Board table. Chris is the first recipient of Excellence in Education award for this school year. Mr. Schmidt read the reason why Mr. Robinson was chosen as described by peers who nominated him; leading by example and his engagement with students as the keys to his influence. Chris also impacts students as Head Football Coach. The Board thanked him for his service.

Food Service Recognition

Dr. Sefcik reported to the Board that one of Grant's meals was chosen to be recognized as "Meal of the Month" in the monthly publication, *The Outlook*, published by the Illinois State Board of Education, Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division. Our Food Services Director, Patti Wright and her assistant, Sandy Schlaf, were in attendance to be recognized for their efforts to make healthy, appealing, and fulfilling meals for our students. Ms. Wright provided some insight on how she and her staff make the most of the commodities and food sources that are provided. She enjoys providing students with sample items they are working on and considering for their input. The Board congratulated them for their honor and hard work.

Illinois Association of School Business Officials Article

Dr. Sefcik shared the Illinois Association of School Business Officials *Update* Magazine that includes an article that our Business Manager, Beth Reich, contributed. It details the challenges and accomplishments within Human Resources.

Board of Education Member Recognition

Dr. Sefcik said that November 15th has been designated as School Board Member Day in Illinois. She thanked the Board on behalf of the students, staff, and administration for the leadership they have provided to improve the educational experience at Grant. Cake would be enjoyed between open and closed session to celebrate the day.

Foundation Gala Update

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that the 23rd Annual Gala was held on Saturday, November 4 and was a fun and successful evening. There were 225 attendees for dinner, silent/live auctions, and dancing. Over \$36,000 was raised that evening that will go directly to support students in need, provide scholarship opportunities, and purchase instructional technology. She thanked the Board members that were able to attend.

College of Lake County High School Feedback Report

Dr. Sefcik shared the annual High School Feedback Report from the College of Lake County. This report is a profile of our students enrolled and college readiness in reading/writing and math. Our students displayed readiness well above the county average, and has increased each of the past three years.

Spring Growth Summary Report

Dr. Sefcik presented for review, the Spring Growth Summary 2016/17 from ECRA and includes the *Quick Guide* to show how the growth scores are computed. Grant continues to see academic gains. She detailed highlights from the report in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Reading.

School Report Card

Dr. Sefcik provided a copy of the Illinois School Report Card that was released on October 31st. She included a letter to parents to clarify the testing data transition and items in the report. She highlighted some exciting student academic progress from the 2017 report.

New Course Proposal 2019/20

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of AP Environmental Science to be included in the 2019/20 school year.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the new AP Environmental Science course for 2019/20.

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

Aye: LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Mark

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Calendar 2018/19

Dr. Sefcik presented the 2018/19 school calendar for approval. The first day of school is August 13, 2018 and the last day, May 22, 2019, with graduation on May 19, 2019. Holiday breaks are aligned with feeder schools.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the 2018/19 school calendar as presented.

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

Aye: Loris, Jared, Yanik, Mark, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Focused Monitoring Review

Dr. Sefcik reported that the Illinois State Board of Education has concluded their Focused Monitoring review of Performance Indicator 5 of the State Performance Plan. The District increased their percentage of students with disabilities serving 80% or more of their time in the general education setting. The required benchmark was 39.4% and we achieved 43.97%.

Speech Team – Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik requested approval for overnight travel for the Speech Team to Downers Grove on January 19, 2018 to compete in the IHSA sectional tournament. The majority of the cost will be paid from the Team's activity fund, with competitors responsible for some meal costs.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the overnight travel of the Speech Team as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Yanik, Mark, LaRoche, Loris

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik requested approval of the revised personnel report:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Rita Pousson, Winter Guard Coach
- Judith Lawn, Attendance, \$14/hr., beginning November 13
- Payton Jordan, Teacher Aide, \$16.65/hr., beginning November 27
- Cheryl Becker, Transportation, \$19.37, beginning November 13

Recommend accepting the resignation letters from the following individuals:

- Tim Kloss, Custodian, effective November 3, 2017
- Natalie Selvig, Food Service, effective October 19, 2017
- Jennifer Smith, Food Service, effective November 14, 2017
- Darlene Zobrist, Bus Driver, effective October 20, 2017
- Randy Mathis, Bus Driver, effective December 1, 2017
- Walter Alvarenga, Science Club Sponsor, effective immediately
- Jeremy Anderson, Black Student Union Sponsor, effective immediately

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

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

Aye: Yanik, Mark, LaRoche, Loris, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on: Parent University: *Screenagers Growing up in the Digital Age*, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 11th Grade Registration Meetings, Parent University: Advanced Placement Night, Chris Herren Presentation, Fall Play, and Feeder School Articulation.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

2017 Final Tax Levy

Mrs. Reich presented the 2017 Certificate of Tax Levy, which she brought to the Board for review at last month's meeting. She went over the levy, explaining the 20.84% drop to the levy over last year due to district bonds now being paid in full. In addition, she provided the Resolution to Spread a Tax Levy for Year 2017, the Resolution to Levy Certain Special Taxes for Special Education District IMRF Purposes, and the Resolution for Levying for Working Cash Fund Purposes for the Year 2017.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Loris to approve the 2017 Certificate of Tax Levy, Resolution to Spread a Tax Levy for Year 2017, Resolution to Levy Certain Special Taxes for Special Education District IMRF Purposes, and the Resolution for Levying for Working Cash Fund Purposes for the Year 2017.

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

Aye: Mark, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Grant Comm. HS Dist. 124 Facility Usage & Acceptance of Terms Agreement

Mrs. Reich recommended an update to the facility usage form to add an additional class: Class 1.5 – to cover Internal Revenue Code-approved 501(c)(3-6) organizations where 95% of the participants live within the school district boundaries, and whose purposes, in some degree, parallel those of the schools. This class represents groups such as the Lions Club, Fox Lake Chamber of Commerce, and the Rotary Club.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Jared to approve the addition of Class 1.5 to the Facility Usage & Acceptance of Terms Agreement form.

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

Aye: LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik, Mark

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Facilities Update

Mrs. Reich provided information on the architect and electrical engineers and HVAC that are reviewing several areas for updating: front entry, band room, locker rooms, green hall, and the block house washrooms. They will offer options on each in the next couple of weeks.

Mrs. Reich also informed the Board that the Attorney General is investigating the company that installed our turf field in 2009. They requested correspondence between the District and Field Turf. She indicated that the field has always tested safe, but there have been cosmetic issues such as threads failing and wrinkles.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik said that information for the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Conference in Chicago has been placed in their envelope.

Dr. Sefcik would inform the Board when she is made aware of the funeral service plans for Fox Lake Trustee, Greg Murrey.

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 8:00 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. Jared 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).

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

Aye: Loris, Jared, Yanik, Mark, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:30 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. Jared to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: Jared, Yanik, Mark, LaRoche, Loris

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Loris to approve the placement of student referred to in closed session minutes as #2017-18/01 at Regional Office of Education Safe School.

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

Aye: Yanik, Mark, LaRoche, Loris, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Loris to approve the *Notice to Remedy* for Justin Strebel as presented.

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

Aye: Mark, LaRoche, Loris, Jared, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

- ** At 8:40 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the meeting.

Ken Mark, President Pro Tem

Paul LaRoche, Secretary Pro Tem