

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2024**

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 eighth of February, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board. Followed by the Project Hearing and second preliminary Determination Hearing.

Jessie Adduci, 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: Jesse Adduci, President
 Emily Conner, 1st Vice-President
 Kathy Ruesken, Secretary
 Tina Adams, Assistant Secretary

Absent: Jason Jaques, 2nd Vice President

Others Present: Leah Dumezich, Superintendent
 Terri Chance, Chief Financial Officer
 Joseph C. Svetanoff, Attorney

1.2 Moment of Silence:

2.1 Delegations and/or Communications: None

2.2 Superintendent Update: Mrs. Dumezich wanted to send a personal condolence to the family of Brandon Dickerson. Mrs. Dumezich shared that she took a visit to Crand Canyon University. Mrs. Dumezich shared that they have a program called Discover which will allow students entering their senior year with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher the opportunity to take a two-night all paid visit to the university. Mrs. Dumezich stated that she has ten administrators along with herself to take online classes to earn their Doctoral degree through Crand Canyon. Mrs. Dumezich shared if employees wanted to go back to school, they could receive 25% off tuition. Mrs. Dumezich shared that this year will be the 100th graduating class. Mrs. Dumezich is asking for extra fireworks and stated other things will be planned. Mrs. Dumezich wanted to share the last strategic meeting will be on February 12th at 4:30. Mrs. Dumezich wanted to thank Lake Ridge Schools and Dr. Shirley and the Athletic Director of Lake Ridge School for allowing our swimmers to continue to practice. Mrs. Dumezich wanted to share that the Food Service Director Tiffany Ulman will present information on the Farm to School Sub-grant that she received.

2.3 Panther Spotlight: Mrs. Alana Anderson presented a certificate to Mr. Noel. One January 29th a student approached Mr. Noel in class. The student was choking on a water bottle cap. Mr. Noel performed the Heimlich maneuver on the student and was able to get the water bottle cap to dislodge. Mrs. Anderson thanked Mr. Noel for his quick reaction and said that we are lucky to have Mr. Noel working with Griffith Public Schools.

2.4 Finance: Ms. Chance presented the January finance report.

2.5 Board Reports: None

Consent Agenda: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Ruesken motioned to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The consent agenda contains the following items: Minutes, Agreements/Contracts, Fundraisers, Professional Leave, Donations, Overnight Request, Grants, and the following personnel report:

PERSONNEL REPORT

February 8, 2024

<i>Name</i>	<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Replacing</i>	<i>Effective Date(s)</i>	<i>Pay Rate</i>	<i>Hourly, Daily, Seasonal, Yearly Contract</i>
	<i>Certified</i>				
	<i>Non-Certified</i>				
Brianne Ward	Bus Aide	Denise Crews	1/31/24	\$16.50	Hourly
Madison Lopez	Bus Aide	N/A	2/1/24	\$16.50	Hourly
David Rodriguez	Substitute Maintenance District	N/A	2/26/24	\$19.00	Hourly
	<i>Extra - Curricular/Athletics</i>				
Logan Starks	HS Boys Assistant Varsity Soccer coach	Fermin Lopez	2/12/24	\$4,200.00	Seasonal
Fermin Lopez	HS Boys Varsity Soccer Coach	Joshua Bertossi - Moving from Varsity Assistant to Varsity Head	2/12/24	\$6,490.00	Seasonal
Robert Ince	HS Girls Varsity Tennis Coach	Mark Harnew	2/12/24	\$4,965.00	Seasonal
Anthony Doctor	HS Boys JV Head Soccer Coach	Vacant Position	2/12/24	\$3,820.00	Seasonal
Rolando Aguayo	MS Assistant Wrestling Coach	JR Ford	1/16/24	\$2,670.00	Seasonal
Lauren Januska	MS Theater Hair and Makeup Director	New Position	1/11/24	\$300.00	Seasonal
	<i>Clubs</i>				
	<i>Separations</i>				
James Graff	Art Teacher	Retiring	End Of 2023-2024 School Year	\$77,178.09	Contract
Luke Haney	Paraprofessional - Beiriger	Resignation	2/5/24	\$16.00	Hourly
Mark Ferrino	Cross Country	Resignation	2/6/24	\$1,910.00	Seasonal
Fermin Lopez	Assistant Varsity Boys Soccer Coach	Resignation	2/8/24	\$4,200.00	Seasonal
	<i>Other</i>				
* Backgrounds Pending Approval					

4.1 Kindergarten Round Up 2024-2025 School Year: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the 2024-2025 Kindergarten Round up. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Kindergarten Round Up. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Threat Assessment: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Threat Assessment. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the Threat Assessment. Mrs. Conner second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.3 Class Action Suit Against Facebook: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the board to approve the Class Action Suit against Facebook. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the Class Action Suit against Facebook. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.4 Approval of First Reading Policy po0142 Election and Eligibility to Serve: Mr. Adduci presented and asked the board to approve the first reading of policy po0142 Election and Eligibility to Serve. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the first reading of policy po0142 Election and Eligibility to Serve. Mr. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.5 Approval of First Reading Policy po0141 NUMBER: Mr. Adduci presented and asked the board to approve the first reading of policy po0141 NUMBER. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve the first reading policy po0141 NUMBER. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.6 Approval of First Reading Policy po142.1 TERM: Mr. Adduci presented and asked the board to approve the first Reading of policy po142.1 TERM. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the First Reading policy po142.1 Term. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.7 Approval of First Reading Policy po144.1 Compensation: Mr. Adduci presented and requested a motion to approve the first reading of policy po144.1 Compensation. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve the first reading of policy po144.1 Compensation. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.8 Approval of First Reading Policy po0144.2 Board Member Ethics: Mr. Adduci presented and requested a motion to approve the First reading of policy po0144.2 Board Member Ethics. Mr. Conner made a motion to approve the First reading of policy po0144.2. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.9 Approval of First Reading Policy po0152 Officers.: Mr. Adduci presented and requested a motion to approve the first reading of policy po0152 Officers. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the first reading of policy po0152 Officers. Mrs. Conner second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.10 Approval of First Reading Policy po1425 Nursing Mothers: Mr. Adduci presented and requested a motion to approve the first reading of policy po1425 Nursing Mothers. Mrs. Adams made a motion to Approve the first reading of policy po1425 Nursing Mothers. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve the first reading of policy po1425 Nursing Mothers. Mrs. Conner second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.11 Approval of First Reading Policy po2410 Audio, Video, And Digital Recording of Meetings.: Mr. Adduci presented and requested a motion to approve the first reading of policy po2410 Audio, Video, And Digital recording of Meetings. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the first reading of policy po2410 Audio, Video, And Digital Recording of Meetings. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

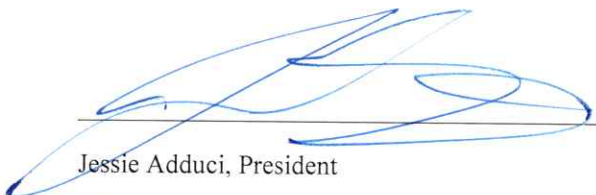
4.12 Approval of First Reading Policy po1615 Tobacco Use Prevention: Mr. Adduci presented and requested a motion to approve the first reading po1615 Tobacco Use Prevention. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the first reading of policy po1615 Tobacco Use Prevention. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Audience Participation: None

Good of the Corporation: Mrs. Dumezich wanted to share that the Griffith/Highland Chamber Easter Bunny Breakfast will be March 16th at the Highland High School Cafeteria. Mrs. Dumezich shared that the Griffith Public Schools along with the YMCA, and Griffith First Christian Church will be hosting an Easter egg hunt for Griffith residents' grades pre-K through 5th grade. The Easter egg hunt will be on the Football field. We will be sending the flyer out next week with more information.

Upcoming Board Meeting: The next Regular School Board meeting will be on March 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Conner motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



Jessie Adduci, President



Emily Conner, First Vice President

Jason Jaques, Second Vice President



Kathy Ruesken, Secretary



Tina Adams, Assistant Secretary