

GROVE CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
GROVE CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Regular Voting Meeting

February 12, 2024

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, prior to the meeting being called to order by the President, Mr. Douglas Gerwick, at 7:03 p.m. in the board room. Board members and the public participated either in person or remotely.

The following members were present:

Mr. Douglas Gerwick	Mr. August Hurst
Mr. Ryan Thomas	Dr. Constance Nichols
Mr. Randy Arnold	Dr. Jeffrey Tedford
Mrs. Karen Hazy Bishop	Ms. Patty Wilson

Dr. Erik Bardy was absent.

Others present were: Atty. Evankovich, Dr. Finch, Dr. Weaver, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Winger, Mrs. Dennis (remotely), 3 guests in person and 1 guest remotely.

An executive session was held prior to the voting meeting at 6:30 to discuss a special education student settlement.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

There was no Board recognition.

BOARD
RECOGNITIONS

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2024 Voting Meeting and the February 5, 2024 Work Session.

VOTING MEETING/
WORK SESSION
MEETING MINUTES
APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

President's Report:

- Mr. Gerwick commented that Dr. Bardy had been in contact and was aware of items on the agenda and will be in contact again for updates after tonight's meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. Finch passed out copies of the High School Project plans from Draw Collective in preparation of soliciting bids.

SUPER-INTENDENT'S REPORT

Solicitor's Report:

- There was nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

MCCC and MIU4 Report:

- Ms. Wilson advised there will be a Mercer County Business and Industry Career Fair coming up on April 4, 2024 at the Park Inn by Radisson.
- Ms. Wilson spoke about various programs being added to the Mercer County Career Center.

MCCC & MIU4 REPORT

Dr. Tedford made the motion, in consideration of related discussions in our previous public work session meeting, the Finance committee recommends, and I move that action items #1, #2 #3 and #4 be approved by the Board. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hurst.

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Financial Statement for January 2024.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Bills Payable for February 2024.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Budget Transfers for February 2024.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve Budget Transfers for February 2024 from the budgetary reserve.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT APPROVED

LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE APPROVED

BUDGET TRANSFERS APPROVED

BUDGETARY RESERVE TRANSFERS APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the following resolution for 2023-24.

2023-24
TAX
EXONERATION
RESOLUTION
APPROVED

WHEREAS, Matthew Fischer, Grove City Borough; Starla Lindey, Liberty Township; Elizabeth Mattocks, Pine Township; Christi Cratty, Springfield Township; and Amanda McGhee, Wolf Creek Township; Collectors of School Taxes, have requested exoneration for the collection of all unpaid real estate and per capita taxes, and therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Matthew Fischer, Grove City Borough; Starla Lindey, Liberty Township; Elizabeth Mattocks, Pine Township; Christi Cratty, Springfield Township; and Amanda McGhee, Wolf Creek Township, Real Estate Tax Collectors for School Taxes have filed unpaid real estate taxes with the Mercer County Courthouse by January 31, 2024, and they are hereby exonerated and released from the collection of all unpaid 2023 real estate taxes.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Matthew Fischer, Starla Lindey, Elizabeth Mattocks, Christi Cratty, Amanda McGhee, Per Capita Tax Collectors of School Taxes have filed unpaid per capita taxes with Sharp Collection by January 31, 2024, and they are hereby exonerated and released from the collection of all unpaid 2023 per capita taxes.

PROVIDING, however, that the responsibility of the taxables for the payment of said taxes shall be in no manner affected by this action, it is being for the purpose and intention of the School Board that said taxables shall not be charged against them under the duplicates for said year 2023.

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the additional 2023-24 Krise Transportation, Inc. driver – subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

- Herbert Bowser

2023-24
ADDITIONAL
KRISER TRANS., INC
DRIVER
APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the following student travel requests:

- High School Thespians (Drama Club), 9 students and 1 chaperone to travel to Cleveland, Ohio for a professional theater performance on February 16, 2024 at a District cost of \$108.
- High School Choral Member and one chaperone to travel to Mars High School for Region Chorus on March 6-7, 2024 at a District cost not to exceed \$20.

STUDENT
TRAVEL
REQUESTS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the following staff conference requests:

- Dr. Weaver – Western PA Assistant Superintendents’ Forum Spring Retreat at Seven Springs Mountain Resort on March 7-8, 2024 at a District cost of \$360.
- Dr. Weaver, Denise Ferguson and Beth Harris – Pennsylvania Association of Federal Program Coordinators Conference at The Westin, Pittsburgh on April 14-17, 2024 at a District cost of \$3,500.
- Dr. Brian Buchan – ADOS-2 (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule) Training on March 6 and 8, 2024, virtually at a District cost of \$400.
- Tiffany Brinkley – Safety Care Initial Training at Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV on February 21-22, 2024 at a District cost of \$130.
- Beth Harris – PASBO Elements of Food Service Virtual Training Series on March 18 through April 14, 2024 at a District cost of \$125.
- Beth Harris – PASBO Elements of Purchasing Virtual Training Series on April 29 through May 26, 2024 at a District cost of \$125.

STAFF
CONFERENCE
REQUESTS
APPROVED

- Hannah Flowers – PEMA (Pennsylvania Music Educators) Annual In-Service Conference 2024 on April 17-20, 2024 at Bayfront Convention Center in Erie, PA at a District cost of \$500.

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2024-25 High School Program of Studies Course Catalog for grades 9-12.

2024-25 HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES CATALOG APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the settlement agreement and release for student #280092.

STUDENT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve hiring the following: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

S. MORAN HIRED

- Sarah Moran -- Part-time Aide – at a salary of \$13.71 hourly, plus 94¢ per hour advanced education rate (Dept. B-II – Step 1 – Year 1) – effective February 20, 2024

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the change in status for the following:

CHANGE IN STATUS APPROVED

- Tammy Cook – from Dept. B – Class II Part-time Aide to Dept. B – Class II Full-time Aide – retroactive to February 1, 2024

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mrs. Hazy Bishop to approve the following additional substitutes: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES APPROVED

- Madalyn Mote – Pre-graduate 20 day
- Emma Sankey – Pre-graduate 20 day
- Jason Updegraph – Emergency Substitute
- Jalyn Shoer – Pre-graduate 20 day and aide and cafeteria
- Hannah Lewonka – Pre-graduate 20 day

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the additional 2023-24 Supplemental – subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

2023-24 ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROVED

- Tanner McKnight – Boys Head Soccer Coach

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the following resignations/retirements as well as any necessary documentation as to terms and conditions to finalize the employees' separation from the District employment.

DISTRICT
RESIGNATIONS/
RETIREMENTS
APPROVED

- Lenore Sowers – 1st grade Teacher – retirement effective May 30, 2024
- Chrissy Burtch – 2nd grade Teacher – retirement effective May 30, 2024
- Andrew Prentice – Maintenance Carpenter/Plumber – resignation effective February 16, 2024
- Kelly Finley – HV/MS LPN – resignation effective February 16, 2024

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the final reading of the following policy:

POLICY 815
FINAL READING
APPROVED

- 815 – Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources (recommended updates from PSBA)

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

Dr. Nichols – Subject of Commentary

MOMENT
FOR MISSION

- In reference to last week's National Girls and Women in Sports Day, Dr. Nichols expressed gratitude for all the opportunities and support the district's female athletes are provided.

Ms. Wilson – Subject of Commentary

- In reference to last week's National School Counseling Week, Ms. Wilson expressed appreciation for the district's school counselors and the wonderful support they provide to all students.

Future scheduled business meetings:

- Educational Services and Personnel Committee Meetings – Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 8:15 a.m.
- Work Session Meeting – Monday, March 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- Voting Meeting – Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Harris
Board Secretary

djw