

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

Regular Voting Meeting

May 13, 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 7:01 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	Mrs. Karen Hazy Bishop
Mr. Ryan Thomas	Dr. Constance Nichols
Mr. Randy Arnold	Dr. Jeffrey Tedford
Dr. Erik Bardy (Remotely)	Ms. Patty Wilson

Mr. August Hurst was absent.

Others present were: Atty. Evankovich, Dr. Finch, Dr. Weaver, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Winger, Mr. Breitenbach (remotely), 15 guests in person and 10 guests remotely.

There was no executive session scheduled.

EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

There was no Board recognition.

BOARD  
RECOGNITIONS

Mr. John Butch – Subject of Commentary

- Expressed concern over the proposed changes to the wrestling room and weight room in the High School Project and the impact it is creating in the community.

PUBLIC  
COMMENTS

Mrs. Sandy Phipps – Subject of Commentary

- Expressed concern over the wrestling room changes and the impact it would have on the wrestling program as well as questioned the timeframe for additional discussions concerning any changes.

Mr. Michael Jackson – Subject of Commentary

- Discussed Policy 121 regarding student trips and the impact this policy would have on academic student participation.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2024 Voting Meeting, the April 22, 2024 Special Work Session/Voting Meeting and the May 6, 2024 Work Session.

VOTING MEETING/  
WORK SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
APPROVED

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

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

**President's Report:**

- There was nothing to report.

PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT

**Superintendent's Report:**

- Dr. Finch introduced 4 members of the student advisory council, who spoke on what the council has been discussing this school year. They discussed meeting over the summer and stated they are excited to continue to grow as a group next school year.

SUPER-  
INTENDENT'S  
REPORT

**Solicitor's Report:**

- There was nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S  
REPORT

**MCCC and MIU4 Report:**

- Ms. Wilson spoke about projected enrollment at Mercer County Career Center next school year as well as programs of interest.
- Ms. Wilson advised that she has been reelected to the Board of Directors for the Intermediate Unit IV and discussed various programs offered by the IU4 for underprivileged students as well as families.

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. Thomas.

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Financial Statement for April 2024.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Bills Payable for May 2024.

FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT  
APPROVED

LIST OF BILLS  
PAYABLE  
APPROVED

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Budget Transfers for May 2024.

BUDGET  
TRANSFERS  
APPROVED

4. It is recommended that the Board approve Budget Transfers for May 2024 from the budgetary reserve.

BUDGETARY  
RESERVE  
TRANSFERS  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve Dr. Jeffrey Tedford as treasurer for the 2024-25 school year.

2024-25  
SCHOOL  
TREASURER  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the 2024-25 Depositories:

2024-25  
DEPOSITORIES  
APPROVED

- General Fund: PLGIT, PNC Bank, PSDLAF and First National Bank
- Student Activities: NexTier Bank
- Cafeteria Account: PLGIT and First National Bank
- Capital Reserve Account: PLGIT

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve Dr. Thomas Lah as the school dentist for the 2024-25 school year at a cost of \$1,000.

2024-25  
SCHOOL DENTIST  
DR. LAH  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve offering Voluntary Student Accident Insurance, effective 7/1/24 through 6/30/25, at no cost to the District.

2024-25  
VOLUNTARY  
STUDENT  
INSURANCE  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve athletic trainer services, not to exceed \$40,000 for the 2024-25 school year.

2024-25  
ATHLETIC  
TRAINER  
SERVICES  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2024-25 Proposed Final Budget.

2024-25  
PROPOSED  
FINAL BUDGET  
APPROVED

The motion carried; 7 ayes, 1 nay, with roll call voting as follows:

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

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the settlement of the Ching Yuan Chung, et al. Vacant Land, Leesburg Grove City Road tax parcel designated as: 29-217-032-003 for a fair market value of \$494,850 to be used to calculate new assessed values in both 2024 and 2025.

SETTLEMENT OF  
VACANT LAND  
PARCEL  
APPROVED

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

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

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

- Six High School special education students and 2 chaperones to travel to the Commonwealth Technical Institute (CTI) at the Hiram G. Andrews Center, Johnstown, PA on May 22, 2024 at a District cost of \$145.

STUDENT  
TRAVEL  
REQUEST  
APPROVED

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

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

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

- Megan Penman – The Reading Roadmap (Science Reading) Workshop, virtually on April 28 – May 25, 2024 at a District cost of \$297.

STAFF  
CONFERENCE  
REQUEST  
APPROVED

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

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

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

- Alyssa Schafer – temporary professional high school Spanish teacher – effective August 1, 2024 at a salary contingent upon contract approval (B-1).
- Abigail Gorczyca – temporary professional elementary special education teacher – effective August 1, 2024 at a salary contingent upon contract approval (B-1)

A. SCHAFER  
A. GORCZYCA  
HIRED

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

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

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

- Richard Strong – Full-time custodian to voluntary temporary part-time custodian – at an hourly rate of \$12.00 hourly – effective May 14, 2024

CHANGE IN STATUS APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the following additional substitutes: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

- Emma Uber – Pre-graduate 20 days
- Sydney Wise – Pre-graduate 20 days

ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Tedford to approve hiring the following 2024 Summer Help at an hourly rate of \$12.00 per hour: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

- Clayton Gould – high school student for maintenance
- Thomas McCoy – high school student for maintenance
- Elsea Moeller – high school student for technology

2024 SUMMER HELP APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Nichols approve the additional 2024 Hillview summer school workers:

- Michelle Dosch (LPN)
- Sydney Wise (Teacher)
- Ted Scherer (Teacher)
- Nicki Amos (Teacher)
- Heather Hake (Teacher)
- Megan Jones (Instructional Aide)
- Susyn Klingler (Teacher)
- Sophia Martin (Instructional Aide)
- Alexa Nemec (Instructional Aide)
- Robin Hanna (Instructional Aide)

2024  
ADDITIONAL  
SUMMER SCHOOL  
STAFF  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the increase in the teacher substitute rate beginning the 2024-25 school year.

INCREASE IN  
TEACHER  
SUBSTITUTE RATE  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve a sabbatical leave for Debra Wagner for the 2024-25 school year.

D. WAGNER  
SABBATICAL  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve Kayla Ward's request for child rearing leave for the 2024-25 school year at no cost to the district.

K. WARD  
CHILD REARING  
LEAVE  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Tedford to approve a sabbatical leave for Tom Wise for the 2025 Spring Semester through the 2025 Fall Semester.

T. WISE  
SABBATICAL  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Tedford to approve 2024-25 Fall Coaches (salaries are contingent upon contract approval) - subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

2024-25  
FALL COACHES  
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the new five (5) year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Grove City Area Education Association for the period August 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029.

EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION  
CONTRACT  
APPROVED

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

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

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

DISTRICT  
RESIGNATIONS  
APPROVED

- Kirstie Stich – Hillview Autistic Support Teacher – resignation effective May 30, 2024
- Sara Newton/McCullough – High School Special Education Teacher – resignation effective May 30, 2024

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Tedford to approve the Johnson Controls contract for \$25,991.00 effective 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025 (contingent upon review and approval of the district solicitor).

2024-25  
JOHNSON  
CONTROLS  
CONTRACT  
APPROVED

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

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

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

- 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students
- 918 – Title I Parent and Family Engagement

POLICY 202  
POLICY 918  
FIRST READING  
APPROVED

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

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

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

- 121 – Student Trips
- 360 – Employee Damage to Personal Property

POLICY 121  
POLICY 360  
FINAL READING  
APPROVED

The motion carried; 7 ayes, 1 nay, with voting as follows:

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

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Dr. Tedford to appoint Ryan Thomas and Douglas Gerwick as PSBA Voting delegates for the 2024 Delegate Assembly.

2024  
PSBA  
VOTING  
DELEGATES  
APPOINTED

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

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

Mr. Thomas – Subject of Commentary

- Thanked the students from the Student Advisory Council for attending the meeting to update the Board on their progress.

MOMENT  
FOR MISSION

Dr. Nichols – Subject of Commentary

- In light of National Teacher Appreciation Week, commented on her appreciation for the community of educators within our district and their commitment to our students.

Dr. Finch – Subject of Commentary

- Congratulated Heather Fry and the students who attended the Komatsu Fluid Power Action Challenge recently for the many awards they earned.

Mr. Thomas – Subject of Commentary

- Thanked the community members attending the meeting for sharing their concerns with the Board.

Future scheduled business meetings:

- Educational Services and Personnel Committee Meetings – Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 8:15 a.m.
- Work Session Meeting – Monday, June 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- Voting Meeting – Monday, June 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Harris  
Board Secretary

djw