

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

Regular Voting Meeting

October 11, 2023

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 7:02 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. Lee McCracken
Mr. Ryan Thomas	Dr. Constance Nichols
Mr. Randy Arnold	Dr. Jeffrey Tedford
Mr. August Hurst	Ms. Patty Wilson

Dr. Armando Sciullo was absent.

Others present were: Atty. Evankovich, Dr. Finch, Dr. Weaver, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Winger, Mr. Breitenbach (remotely), 2 guests in person and approximately 2 guests remotely.

There was no Executive Session held.

EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

There was no Board recognition.

BOARD  
RECOGNITION

Mrs. Heather Baker – Subject of Commentary

- Thanked the District and the Science teachers, who volunteered to help with Mr. Christie's Saturday Science program. It was a fun day and a wonderful public turnout.

PUBLIC  
COMMENTS

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2023 Voting Meeting and the October 2, 2023 Work Session Meeting.

VOTING MEETING/  
WORK SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye



**President's Report:**

- There was nothing to report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Superintendent's Report:**

- Dr. Finch discussed an upcoming summit in Harrisburg on November 13, 2023, hosted by the PA Needs Teachers' Coalition, where GCASD has been chosen as one of two districts to present.

SUPER-INTENDENT'S REPORT

**Solicitor's Report:**

- There was nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

**MCCC and MIU4 Report:**

- Mercer County Career Center is celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at a reception on November 15, 2023.

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 Dr. Nichols.

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Financial Statement for September 2023.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Bills Payable for October 2023.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Budget Transfers for October 2023.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve the Budget Transfers for October 2023 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. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

\*Mr. Gerwick voted with exception to the payment of his reimbursement check.



A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve \$400 petty cash for the Middle School Fall Play.

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
FALL PLAY  
PETTY CASH  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Hurst that the Board accept the cancellation of the Wise Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine contract, effective August 29, 2023.

CANCELLATION  
OF WISE  
PHYSICAL  
THERAPY &  
SPORTS MEDICINE  
CONTRACT  
ACCEPTED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

2023-24  
ADDITIONAL  
KRIS TRAN., INC  
DRIVERS &  
MONITOR  
APPROVED

- Steven Gladd - Driver
- Tim Krise - Driver
- Jayme Brown – Monitor
- Chad Sutton - Driver

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye



A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas that the Board approve the hiring of the law firm Dillon McCandless King Coulter & Graham L.L.P. to serve as Special Counsel and to authorize Special Counsel, in conjunction with the Butler Area School District, to initially prepare an appropriate legal action on behalf of the Grove City Area School District and the Butler Area School District related to non-resident students in non-educational institutional placements within the school districts. The firm will invoice the Butler Area School District at an hourly rate of \$195.00 and the Grove City Area School District will reimburse the Butler Area School District fifty percent (50%) of the legal fees and costs incurred, not to exceed \$5,000 for this initial phase of the case. No legal action will be initiated without the prior approval of the Board of School Directors for both School Districts.

LAW FIRM  
DILLON  
MCCANDLESS  
KING COULTER &  
GRAHAM, L.L.P.  
HIRED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

- High School Gifted students and 1 chaperone, to the Model UN in Erie, PA, on November 3 and 4, 2023 at a district cost of \$2,897.

STUDENT TRAVEL  
REQUEST  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

- Alyssa Gargasz – Safety Care Initial Training at MIU IV on October 26, 2023 at a District cost of \$130.
- Rebecca Trinchese, Erin Persch, Michelle Albertini, Stephanie Sumner and Kate Siekkinen – Regional School Counseling Women’s Workshop at Slippery Rock, PA on October 23, 2023 at a District cost of \$1,150.
- Kate Siekkinen – Boys in Crisis Workshop, on!ine on November 1, 2023 at a District cost of \$199.

STAFF  
CONFERENCE  
REQUESTS  
APPROVED





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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve an affiliation agreement with Grove City College (contingent upon review and approval of the District solicitor).

AFFILIATION  
AGREEMENT  
WITH GROVE  
CITY COLLEGE  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	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.

C. BARNES  
C. PARISH  
HIRED

- Cindy Barnes – Full-time Custodian – at a salary of \$14.00 hourly - effective October 12, 2023.
- Carla Parish – Part-time Cafeteria Production Worker – at a salary of \$12.50 hourly, (Dept. C-II) – effective October 12, 2023.

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

2023-24  
ADDITIONAL  
BUILDING  
LEVEL SUB  
APPROVED

- Tammy Shaw – Hillview building substitute

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye



A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the following temporary part-time custodial positions at \$12.00 hourly - subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

- Daniel Gerwick
- Madisyn Fisher

TEMPORARY  
PART-TIME  
CUSTODIANS  
APPROVED

The motion carried; 7 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	abstained	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

- Tracy Jackson – English 7-12
- Kassi Turner – cafeteria

ADDITIONAL  
SUBSTITUTES  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

- Brandon Jones – Unified Bocce Coach – \$407.50 (1/2 position)
- Greg Mulato – Unified Bocce Coach - \$407.50 (1/2 position)

2023-24  
ADDITIONAL FALL  
SPORTS  
SUPPLEMENTALS  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye



A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Professional Development Committee.

PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Wendell August Forge Proposal: 3-Year Program for GCASD Service Awards.

WENDELL  
AUGUST FORGE  
PROPOSAL  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2023-24 Hillview after school extension of learning staff:

2023-24  
HILLVIEW AFTER  
SCHOOL STAFF  
APPROVED

- Tracy Barr – Teacher
- Michelle Beck – Teacher
- Amber Fusco – Teacher
- Brenda Gander – Aide
- Emily Guarnieri – Teacher
- Sheri Koprivnak – Teacher
- Cheryl Magee – Aide
- Rebecca Mertz – Teacher
- Megan Penman – Teacher
- Abigail Reddick – Teacher
- Brian Regis – Teacher
- Julie Reichard – Teacher
- Kathryn Stewart – Teacher
- Tiffany Thompson – Teacher
- Neelie Torok – Teacher
- Rebecca Trinchese – Teacher
- Lori Verba – Teacher
- Tammy Shaw - Teacher



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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

- Jason Dunn – Middle School Theater Director/2- \$2,633
- Jason Dunn – Middle School Theater Sets - \$688

2023-24  
ADDITIONAL  
SUPPLEMENTALS  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the sabbatical leave for Tiffany Brinkley for the 2024-25 school year.

2024-25  
T. BRINKLEY  
SABBATICAL  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Tedford to approve Stefanie Bazan’s request for one year of child rearing leave at no cost to the district.

S. BAZAN  
CHILD REARING  
LEAVE  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

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

2023-24  
WINTER SPORTS  
SUPPLEMENTALS  
APPROVED





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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the following resignation as well as any necessary documentation as to terms and conditions to finalize the employee's separation from the District employment.

DISTRICT  
RESIGNATION  
APPROVED

- Erin Buchanan – part-time cafeteria worker – resignation effective October 5, 2023

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Dr. Tedford to authorize Administration to proceed with the formal bid process for middle school HVAC unit repairs, unless there is an applicable cooperative purchasing contract for these repairs.

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
HVAC REPAIRS  
BID PROCESS  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Hurst to authorize Administration to proceed with necessary repairs to the middle school HVAC units through a cooperative purchasing contract, if available, with costs not to exceed \$57,000.

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
HVAC REPAIRS  
COOPERATIVE  
PURCHASING  
CONTACT  
APPROVED

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

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. McCracken	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Mr. Hurst	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye



Dr. Finch – Subject of Commentary

- Thanked Ty Kohler from the Allied News, for his positive article in the Allied concerning the Peterson triplets, whose published book, “Awake”, is set to be released on October 17, 2023.

Dr. Nichols – Subject of Commentary

- Expressed her appreciation to the Board for supporting her attendance at the upcoming PSBA conference. She noted that she will be sharing the information she receives at the conference with the other Board members.

Mr. McCracken – Subject of Commentary

- Noted that the Middle School wrestling program has had an overwhelming interest from students signing up to participate this school year.

Future scheduled business meetings:

- Educational Services and Personnel Committee Meetings – Tuesday, October 31, 2023 at 8:15 a.m.
- Standing Committees and Work Session Meetings – Monday, November 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- Board Voting Meeting – Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Harris  
Board Secretary

djw

