

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

Regular Voting Meeting

January 13, 2020

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Carson Baker, a second grader at Hillview, prior to the meeting being called to order by the President, Mr. Lee McCracken, at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room.

The following members were present:

Mrs. Heather Baker	Dr. Armando Sciullo
Mr. Lee McCracken	Mr. Douglas Gerwick
Dr. Constance Nichols	Ms. Patty Wilson
Mr. Ryan Thomas	Mr. Ray Abplanalp
Mr. Scott Somora	

Others present were: Atty. Evankovich, Dr. Finch, Dr. Weaver, Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Harris, and approximately five guests.

An executive session was held on January 7, 2020 during the Facilities and School Safety Committee meeting to discuss potential litigation with the construction project.

ANNOUNCEMENT
OF EXECUTIVE
SESSION

There was no board recognition.

BOARD
RECOGNITION

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

ADDITIONS/
DELETIONS
TO THE AGENDA

Mrs. Esther Falcetta – Subject of Commentary

- Questioned if the Board would be discussing the concerns of the public regarding the perceived violations of the Sunshine Act specific to the new committee meeting structure
- Questioned when the Board approved the Budget Transfers from June 30, 2019
- Requested that the Right-to-Know Request Log be changed from a summarization of her last request to instead include all information she requested

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

Mr. McCracken asked for the approval of the minutes from the December 4, 2019 Reorganization and Board Voting Meeting and the January 7, 2020 Standing Committees/Work Session Meeting.

VOTING MEETING/
WORK SESSION
MINUTES
APPROVED

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the minutes.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciuillo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

President's Report:

- There was no President's Report.

PRESIDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent's Report:

- There was no Superintendent's Report.

SUPER-
INTENDENT'S
REPORT

Solicitor's Report:

- There was no Solicitor's Report.

SOLICITOR'S
REPORT

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve setting the time for the School Board Voting Meetings to be at 7:00 p.m. on the following 2020 dates:

2020 MEETING
DATES APPROVED

February 10	August 10
March 9	September 14
April 15 (Wed.)	October 12
May 11	November 9
June 8	December 2 (Wed)
July – TBD	(Reorganization and Voting Mtg)

And the standing committees/work session meetings to be at 7:00 p.m. on the following 2020 dates:

February 3	July – TBD
March 2	August 3
April 6	September 9 (Wed.)
May 4	October 5
June 1	November 2

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

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

- Rebecca Moore – PDE Data Summit in Hershey, PA on March 15-18, 2020 at a District cost of \$980.00
- Anthony Molinaro – Dalcroze Society of America National Conference in Miami, Florida on January 17-20, 2020 at a District Cost of \$500.00
- Rebecca Limberg – Creative Interventions for Kids with Trauma, Anxiety, ADHD and more training in Pittsburgh, PA on February 27, 2020 at a District cost of \$250.00
- Judy Dennis, Melissa Krenzer, Kathryn Stewart, Dr. Joshua Weaver, Corrie Timko and Nicole Butler – PETE & C Conference in Pittsburgh, PA on February 23 – 26, 2020 at a District cost of \$1,108.00
- Dr. Joshua Weaver – Deeper Learning Conference in San Diego, CA on March 25-27, 2020 at no cost to the District

STAFF
CONFERENCE
REQUESTS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the MOU with Allegheny Intermediate Unit for Translation Services.

MOU WITH AIU
FOR
TRANSLATION
SERVICES
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve scheduling and advertising for a public hearing regarding the closing of Highland Primary Center.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

SCHEDULING/
ADVERTISING FOR
PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING THE
CLOSING OF
HIGHLAND
APPROVED

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve, beginning the 2020-21 school year, changing schools at George Junior Republic names to the following:

NAME CHANGE
FOR GEORGE
JUNIOR SCHOOLS
APPROVED

George Junior Republic Elementary to Grove City Area George Junior Elementary School

George Junior Republic Middle School to Grove City Area George Junior Middle School

George Junior Republic High School to Grove City Area George Junior High School

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve, beginning the 2020-21 school year, changing the name of Hillview Intermediate Center to Hillview Elementary School.

NAME CHANGE
FOR HILLVIEW
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve, beginning the 2020-21 school year, moving half and full-day Kindergarten and First grade students to Hillview Elementary School.

MOVING KINDER-
GARTEN AND
FIRST GRADE TO
HILLVIEW
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Financial Statement for December 2019.

FINANCIAL
STATEMENT
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the List of Bills Payable for December 2019 and January 2020.

LIST OF BILLS
PAYABLE
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick*	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

*Mr. Gerwick voted with exception to all payments to George Junior Republic.

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve the Budget Transfers for January 2020.

BUDGET
TRANSFERS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Budget Transfers for 2018-19.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciullo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

2018-19 BUDGET
TRANSFERS
APPROVED

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Somora to approve using \$1,000.00 from petty cash for the high school spring musical.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciullo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

PETTY CASH
APPROVED FOR
THE HIGH
SCHOOL SPRING
MUSICAL

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Somora to approve using \$500.00 from petty cash for the elementary spring play.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciullo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

PETTY CASH
APPROVED FOR
THE
ELEMENTARY
PLAY

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve closing the PLGIT Forward Purchasing Account and moving the funds to the PLGIT Capital Reserve Account.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciullo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

CLOSING PLGIT
FORWARD
PURCHASING
ACCOUNT
APPROVED

Mr. McCracken noted that the monthly Right to Know Requests report is included in the agenda packet.

MONTHLY RIGHT
TO KNOW
REQUESTS
REPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve hiring the following. Subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork:

T. BORTZ HIRED

- Trevor Bortz – Temporary Professional – GJR Art Teacher – at a pro-rated salary of \$49,165.00 (B-1) – effective January 14, 2020

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve the additional 2019-20 Supplemental Positions. Salary established within the negotiated agreement. Subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork:

2019-20
ADDITIONAL
SUPPLEMENTAL
POSITIONS
APPROVED

- Rebecca Limberg mentor for Trevor Bortz

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve the following substitutes. Subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork:

SUBSTITUTES
APPROVED

- Payton Hostetler - Support
- Jess Boozell – Grades PK-4 and Grades 4-8 (All subject 4-6, English Language Arts and Reading 7-8)

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve Heather Alger as an additional 2019-20 bus driver.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

BUS DRIVER
APPROVED

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

The Board recognized the resignation/retirement of the following:

RESIGNATION/
RETIREMENT
ACCEPTED

- Denise Renick – PT Cafeteria Worker – effective December 13, 2019
- Randy Moore – Custodian – effective October 7, 2020

Mr. McCracken discussed the YMCA letter of interest related the Highland building and noted that the Solicitor will be providing options for consideration in February.

YMCA LETTER OF
INTEREST

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

FIRST READING
OF POLICY 233
APPROVED

- 233 – Suspension and Expulsion (recommended updates from PSBA)

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

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

FINAL READING
OF POLICY 345
APPROVED

- 345 – School Police – Use of Force and Weapons

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve readopting the Principles of Governance and Leadership.

PRINCIPLES OF
GOVERNANCE
AND LEADERSHIP
READOPTED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays with the voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Dr. Sciallo	aye	Mr. Abplanalp	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Baker	aye	Mr. Somora	aye
Mr. McCracken	aye		

Mrs. Baker – Subject of Commentary

- Attended Inventionland at the Middle School and was very impressed with the students' inventions

MOMENT FOR
MISSIONS

Dr. Sciallo – Subject of Commentary

- Announced that as a result of the Grove City Medical Center's recent merger with the Allegheny Health Network the medical staff decided to donate their physician's fund, comprised of physician's dues totaling approximately \$90,000, to the community. The physicians chose to donate \$45,000 to the District to be used in the Life Science program and for fitness and wellness equipment. The other half of the fund was donated to the Grove City YMCA to help with the after school programs and memberships.

Dr. Finch – Subject of Commentary

- Reminded everyone of the free movie night at the Guthrie Theater showing "Intelligent Lives" which will be Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
- Announced that the Grove City United Way received a donation from the Pittsburgh Regional Food Service Directors organization as a result of Jen Reiser, Food Service Director, nominating the United Way's Food for Kids Backpack program.

Dr. Nichols – Subject of Commentary

- Announced that Grove City Area School District received the Si Lyman Award for Mercer County for the third time in four years for the accomplishments of the athletic programs.

Mr. Thomas – Subject of Commentary

- Announced that his sister qualified for Districts over the weekend

Future scheduled business meetings:

- Standing Committees/Work Session – Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
- Board Voting Meeting – Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Buchanan

Kim Buchanan
Board Secretary

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