

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

Regular Voting Meeting

August 10, 2020

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, prior to the meeting being called to order by the President, Mr. Lee McCracken, at 7:14 p.m. with Board members in the Boardroom and the public participating via Zoom.

The following members were present:

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

Mr. Ray Abplanalp and Dr. Armando Sciullo were absent.

Others present were: Atty. Evankovich, Dr. Finch, Dr. Weaver, Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Dennis (remotely), and approximately 33 guests.

An executive session was held prior to this meeting, at 6:00 p.m., to discuss the GJR out-of-state tuition payment agreement, CBA fall supplemental positions, a sabbatical leave request, a gender discrimination complaint against the District, and a multi-state class-action special education lawsuit.

EXECUTIVE
SESSIONS

There was no board recognition.

BOARD
RECOGNITION

Atty. Evankovich recommended a motion be added to the agenda as item 7 under the Personnel section to read as "It is recommended that the Board grant Nicole Butler a sabbatical leave of absence for the first semester of the 2020/2021 school year." Mr. Somora made a motion to add this item to the agenda. Mrs. Baker seconded the motion.

ADDITIONS/
DELETIONS
TO THE AGENDA

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

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

Mr. Gerwick made a motion to add to the agenda, under the Policy and Legislative Affairs section, as item 3, a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 103 – Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students and as item 4, a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 104 – Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff. Mr. Somora seconded the motion.

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

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

Ms. Amy Trezona – Subject of Commentary

- Discussed fall sports and strongly implored the Board to allow fall sports to continue

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

Mr. McCracken asked for the approval of the minutes from the July 20, 2020 Work Session/Voting Meeting and August 3, 2020 Standing Committees/Work Session.

VOTING MEETING/
WORK SESSION
MINUTES
APPROVED

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the minutes.

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

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

President's Report:

- There was no President's Report.

PRESIDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. Finch discussed the survey that was sent to families regarding schooling options for the 2020/21 school year. He encouraged all families who have not yet completed the survey to do so as soon as possible.
- Dr. Finch announced that he was selected by the MIU IV region to be the Superintendents' Legislative Representative through PASA and will represent this region's interest with the State Legislature.

SUPER-
INTENDENT'S
REPORT

Solicitor's Report:

- There was no Solicitor's Report.

SOLICITOR'S
REPORT

Dr. Finch discussed the athletic fall sports season start date and facility access. The District is still operating under the voluntary summer workout program.

FALL SPORTS
UPDATE

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve Expect Respect Middle School Study.

EXPECT RESPECT
MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDY APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the independent services contract with Dr. Levato Myford to serve as the Communications and Grants Service Contractor.

CONTRACT FOR
COMMUNICATION
AND GRANT
SERVICE
CONTRACTOR
FAILED

After much Board discussion, Dr. Nichols made a motion to amend the original motion so that this contract will begin immediately and run for one month which will allow more time for Board analysis before committing to a longer termed contract. Mrs. Baker seconded the amendment to the motion.

The motion to amend carried; 5 ayes, 2 nays with the voting as follows:

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

The Board then voted on the amended motion.

The amended motion failed on a poll vote; 4 ayes, 3 nays with the voting as follows:

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

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 3 Models of Instructional Delivery Framework for Reopening School.

3 MODELS FOR
REOPENING
SCHOOL
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Financial Statement for July 2020.

FINANCIAL
STATEMENT
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the List of Bills Payable for August 2020.

LIST OF BILLS
PAYABLE
APPROVED

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

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

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

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Budget Transfers for July/August 2020.

BUDGET
TRANSFERS
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the agreement and contract with Mercer County Head Start to use Highland and purchase meals.

MERCER COUNTY
HEAD START USE
OF HIGHLAND
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve MIU IV Student Seat License with Get More Math.

GET MORE MATH
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve Fixed Asset Appraisal with Duff and Phelps at a District cost of \$1,250.00.

DUFF AND PHELPS
FIXED ASSET
APPRAISAL
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve an expense allowance for Professional Program Development time.

PROFESSIONAL
PROGRAM
DEVELOPMENT
EXPENSE
APPROVED

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

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

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

M. SHOLLER
M. WILSON
HIRED

- Micki Sholler – 5.75 hr. Cafeteria Production Worker – at a pay rate of \$8.75 hourly, (Dept. C – 2) – effective August 25, 2020
- Michele Wilson – 5.5 hr. Aide – at a salary of \$12.19 hourly, plus \$0.94 per hour advanced education rate (Dept. B – Class II – Step 1 – Year 0) – effective August 25, 2020

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

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

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

- Pam Foringer from PT Instructional Aide to FT Instructional Aide – Step 1, plus \$0.94 per hour advanced education rate – effective August 25, 2020
- Lisa Holmes from PT 10 month Secretary to FT 10 month Secretary – Step 1 – effective August 15, 2020
- Lisa Steele from PT Instructional Aide to FT Personal Care Aide – Step 1 – effective August 25, 2020
- Laura Augspurger from PT Instructional Aide to FT Instructional Aide – Step 4, plus \$0.94 per hour advanced education rate – effective August 25, 2020

CHANGE IN
STATUS FOR:
P. FORINGER
L. HOLMES
L. STEELE
L. AUGSPURGER
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2020-21 – 180 day Building Substitutes, subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork at a daily wage rate of \$120.00:

- Kelly Habarka – Elementary building substitute
- Carrie Hemmerlin – Middle School building substitute
- Marie Ellis – High School building substitute

180 DAY
BUILDING
SUBSTITUTES
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve hiring 2020-21 Fall Sports Supplemental positions as volunteers pending a potential MOU with the GCASD Teachers Association regarding payment proration.

FALL SPORTS
SUPPLEMENTALS
APPROVED AS
VOLUNTEERS

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

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve 2020-21 School Bus Drivers.

2020-21 SCHOOL
BUS DRIVERS
APPROVED

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

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

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

ADDITIONAL
SUBSTITUTES
APPROVED

- Sara Shepson – Emergency Substitute

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Somora and seconded by Mr. Thomas to grant Nicole Butler a sabbatical leave of absence for the first semester of the 2020/2021 school year.

N. BUTLER
SABBATICAL
LEAVE OF
ABSENCE
APPROVED

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

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

The Board recognized the retirement of the following:

- Patty Snow – PT Custodian – effective October 30, 2020

RETIREMENT
RECOGNIZED

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the Topsoil/Unsuitable Soils change order for the Hillview Construction Project at a cost of \$50,290.09.

TOPSOIL/
UNSUITABLE
SOILS CHANGE
ORDER APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve the purchase of aluminum jump pit covers for Forker Field.

JUMP PIT COVERS
APPROVED

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

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

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

- 204 - Attendance

FINAL READING
OF POLICY 204
APPROVED

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Somora to approve GCASD Resolution – Alternative Modes of Instruction and Attendance Accounting.

GCASD
RESOLUTION –
ALTERNATIVE
MODES OF
INSTRUCTION
AND
ATTENDANCE
ACCOUNTING
APPROVED

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

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

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

- 103 – Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

FIRST READING
OF POLICY 103
APPROVED

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

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

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

- 104 – Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff

FIRST READING
OF POLICY 104
APPROVED

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

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

Dr. Nichols – Subject of Commentary

- Thanked all of the families who have responded to the Back to School survey

MOMENT FOR
MISSIONS

Dr. Finch – Subject of Commentary

- Congratulated the Administration, Teachers and Staff who are responsible for the District’s special education services for their outstanding effort in receiving a positive result of “no findings” on the most recent Special Education Audit

Future scheduled business meetings:

- Standing Committees/Work Session – Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. – virtually for the public
- Board Voting Meeting – Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. – virtually for the public

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Buchanan
Board Secretary

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