

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
June 13, 2024**

The Board of School Trustees of the Griffith Public Schools met in regular session at the Griffith High School LGI Room, 600 N. Wiggs St. on the Thirteenth of June, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board.

Jesse Adduci, President of the Board of School Trustees, called the meeting to order.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, on call of the roll, members were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present:

Jesse Adduci , President  
Jason Jaques, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Kathy Ruesken, Secretary  
Tina Adams

Absent: Emily Conner, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice - President

Others Present:

Leah Dumezich, Superintendent  
Terri Chance, Chief Financial Officer  
Joseph C. Svetanoff, Attorney

**1.2 Moment of Silence:**

**2.1 Baker Tilly Presentation:** Sean McGill with Baker Tilly gave a presentation.

**2.2 Delegations and/or Communications:** One Board member signed up to speak and said a prayer. One audience participant wanted to know if there would be more information added to the strategic plan that is on the website.

**2.3 Superintendent Update:** Mrs. Dumezich wanted to share that Wadsworth is coming around. Mrs. Dumezich shared that they are waiting for lava flooring which connects the old addition to the new addition. The outside exterior that is peach is now being painted green. Mrs. Dumezich shared August 1, 2024 will be the ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Wadsworth. Mrs. Dumezich stated they had their kickoff meeting with PSI regarding the Aquatic Center. Mrs. Dumezich wanted to remind everyone not to park along the tennis courts because the tennis courts are being redone.

**2.4 Panther Spotlight:** Mr. Dumezich wanted to acknowledge Mr. Pickett and the academic team. This is the first time the academic team has been to state since 2010. Mrs. Dumezich also wanted to acknowledge the track coaches Mr. Sojka, Ms. Arras, and Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Dumezich thanked them for all their hard work.

**2.5 Finance:** Ms. Chance presented the finance report for the month of May.

**2.6 Board Reports:** Mrs. Adams reported on the Park Board. Mrs. Adams stated that Tot Park is ahead of schedule. The skateboard project will be completed in July. Woodlawn Park received a bid for new playground equipment. Mrs. Adams stated that they are still working on the Baseball field, they had some issues with the lights on the Babe Ruth field.

**Consent Agenda:** Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Ruesken motioned to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Mr. Jaques sustained due to conflict of interest on the personnel report. Motion passed 3 to 1. The consent agenda contains the following items: Minutes, Agreements/Contracts, and Claims for Payroll 5/24/2024-6/7/2024, Accounts Payable 5/24/2024-6/13/2024, Professional Leave, Donations, and the following personnel report:

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

**June 13, 2024**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Replacing</i>	<i>Effective Date(s)</i>	<i>Pay Rate</i>	<i>Hourly, Daily, Seasonal, Yearly Contract</i>
	<b><i>Certified</i></b>				
Christine Castro	Behavior Therapist District Wide	New Position	2024-2025 School Year	\$67,000.00	Contract
Rebecca Gutierrez	Spanish Teacher Beiriger	New Position	2024-2025 School Year	\$48,000.00	Contract
Nicholas Sanchez	Music Teacher District Wide	New Position	2024-2025 School Year	\$48,000.00	Contract
Kelly Koval-Petterson	Case Manager 3rd-8th Grade	Celia Padilla	2024-2025 School Year	\$68,500.00	Contract
Jenna Golfis	8th Grade English Middle School	Julia Gryzwana	2024-2025 School Year	\$51,500.00	Contract
	<b><i>Non-Certified</i></b>				
Anissa Rivera	Custodian Wadsworth	Replacing Armida Alvarez Anissa Will Be A 10 Month Custodian.	8/5/24	\$16.00	Hourly
Charles Szo	Maintenance District	N/A	6/17/24	\$28.00	Hourly
Holly Kwiatkowski	K-2 SEL Para Wadsworth	New Position	2024-2025 School Year	\$16.00	Hourly
	<b><i>Clubs</i></b>				
Lyndsay Kleffman	Best Buddies Co-Sponsor Beiriger	Dana Luyster	8/19/24	\$762.50	Contract
Amor-Cielo Monjes	Best Buddies Co-Sponsor Beiriger	Tessa Trueblood	8/19/24	\$762.50	Contract
	<b><i>Separations</i></b>				
Tessa Trueblood	Best Buddies Co-Sponsor Beiriger	Resignation	2024-2025 School Year	\$762.50	Contract
Jaime Mattel	7th Grade Team Leader - Middle School	Resignation	6/3/24	\$1,800 + Two Days	Contract
Rebecca Kruit	Team Leader Wadsworth	Resignation	2024-2025 School Year	\$1,800 + Two Days	Contract
Celia Padilla	Case Manager Grades 3rd - 8th	Resignation	5/28/24	\$72,200.00	Contract
Diane Zurawski	Cafeteria High School	Retiring	5/30/24	\$18.00	Hourly
	<b><i>Other</i></b>				

Tony Hemphill	Maintenance District Wide	Tony Will Work Maintenance During The Summer.	7/8/24	\$28.00	Hourly
Sonia Porras	Custodian District	Sonia Will Be Moving To Part Time And Relocating To Wadsworth. Sonia Will Help Out At All Schools When Needed.	8/5/24	\$18.00	Hourly
Christa Siorek	Art Department Leader High School	Jim Graff	8/13/24	\$1,800 Two Days Added To Teaching Contract	Contract
Stephanie Cortez	Summer School Para	N/A	6/10/24	\$17.00 Per Hour. Wrong Pay Amount Of \$50.00 Per Hour Was Board Approved 5/23/2024.	Hourly
Christina Wagman	Summer School Beiriger	Christina Will Work The First Week Of Summer School.	6/10/24	\$50.00	Hourly
Amanda Purkey	Summer School Para HS/MS	N/A	6/10/24	\$16.00 Per Hour. Wrong Pay Amount Of \$50.00 Per Hour Was Board Approved 5/23/2024.	Hourly
Ahsley Reinike	Summer Sub Custodian	Ashley Will Work Mondays & Tuesdays Thru The Month Of June 2024 as a Sub Custodian.	6/17/24	\$16.00	Hourly
* Backgrounds Pending Approval					

**4.1 Best Buddies Chapter Wadsworth:** Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board to approve the Best Buddies Chapter at Wadsworth. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the Best Buddies Chapter at Wadsworth. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**4.2 Second Reading And Adoption Of Policies:** Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of policies. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of policies. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**4.3 Design-Build Contract For The Aquatic Center Renovation And Expansion Project:** Mrs. Dumezich explained that the scoring for the project took place this week. Mr. Sams with PSI thanked the committee for selecting PSI for the project. Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the Design-Build Contract For The Aquatic Center Renovation And Expansion Project. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the Design-Build Contract For The Aquatic Center Renovation And Expansion Project. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**4.4 Administrative Contract Renewals:** Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board to approve the Administrative Contract Renewals. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the Administrative Contract Renewals. Mr. Jaques seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Audience Participation:** One audience participant wanted to know if the renderings for the new aquatic center will be available to view online.

**Good of the Corporation:** Mrs. Dumezich wanted to share that Mrs. Sarver submitted for the AI grant for alternative education. Mrs. Dumezich stated that she also completed the Butler University grant for \$200,000.00 to support our second behavioral therapist. Mrs. Dumezich thank the board for allowing them to hire the second behavioral therapist and that this position will be used for gap counseling meaning when a student is struggling and

is place on a waiting list to receive the help they need the new behavioral therapist will be providing help for the student till they are off the waiting list. Board member Mrs. Ruesken stated that she is amazed with how many administrators or directors work on grants. Mrs. Dumezich also acknowledged that we hired the second band teacher. This new band teacher will work with the high ability students on how to read music.

**Upcoming Board Meeting:** The next Regular School Board meeting will be on July 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.

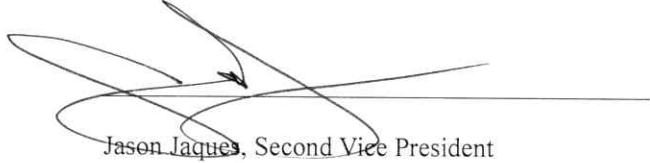
There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Ruesken motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Jaques seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



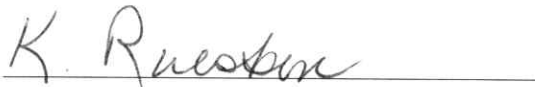
Jesse Adduci, President

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Emily Conner, First Vice President



Jason Jaques, Second Vice President



Kathy Ruesken, Secretary



Tina Adams, Assistant Secretary