

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

JULY 18, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING – 2024/25 Budget

A public hearing was convened at 6:45 p.m. by President Pro Tem, Kathy Kusiak. The following Board members were in attendance by roll call, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik. Public comment was solicited and none was given.

** At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the public hearing.

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Grant Community High School District 124, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Thursday, June 18, 2024 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

On Roll Call, the following Members were found to be present:

Mrs. Kathy Kusiak, Vice President
Mr. John Jared, Secretary
Mrs. Shelly Booth, Member
Mrs. Ivy Fleming, Member
Mr. Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent: Mr. Ed Lescher, Member

Administration present: Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Dr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal

Student Representative: Ms. Casey McCleery

AUDIENCE

Eric Weinmann, Evan Weisheit, Jill Weisheit

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held June 20, 2024
July Bills Payable
June Treasurer's Report
Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from January 19, 2023
Quarterly list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers, and brokers

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Reorganization of the Board

Elect President of the Board of Education

Mrs. Kusiak asked for nominations for the office of President and Mr. Jared nominated Kathy Kusiak for the office of President. No other nominations were received.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to elect Kathy Kusiak as Board President.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Elect Vice-President of the Board of Education

Mrs. Kusiak asked for nominations for the office of Vice President and Mrs. Kusiak nominated John Jared for the office of Vice President. No other nominations were received.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Fleming to elect John Jared as Board Vice President.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Elect Secretary of the Board of Education

Mrs. Kusiak asked for nominations for the office of Secretary and Mr. Jared nominated Shelly Booth for the office of Secretary. No other nominations were received.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Fleming to elect Shelly Booth as Board Secretary.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Recognition and Informational Items

Excellence in Education Award – 4th Quarter

Dr. Sefcik asked the Principal, Dr. Jeremy Schmidt, to introduce the winner of the Excellence in Education award for the 4th quarter, Eric Weinmann, Math Teacher. Dr. Schmidt read the submission from his peers that stated why he was deserving of the honor. Mr. Weinmann told the Board that he values his time at Grant. He feels very supported and enjoys his students and coworkers. The Board and audience applauded Eric Weinmann for being named as the 4th Quarter Excellence in Education award winner.

Educator of the Year Award

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that Christi Flaker was unable to attend so we will schedule her for the August meeting.

State Assessment Change from SAT to ACT

Dr. Sefcik reported that the Illinois State Board of Education will be switching from the SAT to the ACT for the state's high school accountability assessment. They claim the decision to switch was a financial one. With high schools utilizing the SAT for the past decade, this will be a significant undertaking. She provided the FAQ from ISBE that states the support they will provide through the transition. The dates of the fall and spring tests are unknown and we will update the calendar as soon as dates are confirmed.

Policy Changes – First Reading

Dr. Sefcik presented two School Board policies for revision as a first reading. 4:70-*Resource Conservation* and 4:80-*Accounting and Audits*. The changes are very minor and will be presented for a second reading and potential action at the August meeting.

Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL) – Petition to Withdraw from Mundelein Elementary District 75 and Mundelein High School District 120

Dr. Sefcik provided information on the intent of Mundelein Elementary District 75 and Mundelein High School District 120 to withdraw from SEDOL. The SEDOL Articles of Joint Agreement require member districts to consider withdrawal petitions and take action to approve or not approve. In order to be approved, all member districts must vote in support of the withdrawal. If it is not unanimous, they may appeal to the Regional Board of School Trustees.

Principal's Report

Dr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on RED Zone, Summer Operations, Website Update, Back-to-School Planning: Material Pickup Days, Freshman Orientation, New Teacher Orientation, and Freshman Five.

Student Representative's Report

Casey McCleery was in attendance for the beginning of her term, but due to being on summer break, no report is expected this month. She will provide her first report at the August meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Action Items

Chicago Bears Donation – Girls' Flag Football

Dr. Sefcik noted that following the May 2024 School Board approval of a pilot club activity for Girls' Flag Football, we have been in communication with the Chicago Bears organization. The Bears have supported high school efforts across the state to develop girls' flag football teams. Grant applied for a donation and we received news that we are recipients of \$2,500 from the Chicago Bears charitable arm. The donation will be used for items necessary to start up our pilot Girls' Flag Football such as footballs, flags, field markers, and uniforms.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Jared to accept the donation of \$2,500 from the Chicago Bears organization.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Overnight Travel

Dr. Sefcik presented information on the overnight travel request of the Cross-Country Team to travel to Peoria from September 13 to 14 for the *First to the Finish* Cross-Country Invitational. Approximately 35-50 student-athletes will attend with 2 coaches and one adult chaperone. The cost of the trip is approximately \$2,000, and will be paid with student activity funds, with students responsible for the cost of one meal.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the overnight travel request from the Cross-Country Team, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Holly Ascencio, Special Education Teacher, BA Step 1, 2024/25 school year
- Jaclyn Schneider, English Teacher, MA Step 9, 2024/25 school year
- Noah Gunsaulus, Paraprofessional, \$18.90/hr., 2024/25 school year
- Jamie Fohlmeister, Main Office/Departments Admin. Asst., \$18.87/hr., 2024/25 school year
- Cameron Barnes, Part-time Barista, \$15.00/hr., starting 8/12/2024
- Andrew Hrnar, Summer Buildings and Grounds, \$16.00/hr., starting 6/11/2024

Recommend accepting the resignation from the following:

- Lemar Wilson, Girls' Basketball Coach, effective 6/28/2024

** A motion was made by Mrs. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the personnel recommendations, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Final 2024/25 Budget

Mrs. Reich provided the final 2024/25 budget. She noted that it was updated from the tentative budget with recent hires, increased the grants per the allocations from the state, and trimmed expenses. The budget has been on display for the statutory 30 days.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the 2024/25 Budget, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

Treasurer's Bond

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that a treasurer is required to be bonded for 10% of the amount of monies they have custody of. The bond must be approved by the Board of Education and filed with the Regional Office of Education. A renewal of the bond was secured and is for \$4,000,000, which is at a cost of \$3,800. This is the same rate as last year.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Jared to approve the treasurer's bond, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported that one Freedom of Information Act request was received and fulfilled, the Spring Activity report was provided, and Daniel Dennis declined his induction into the Hall of Fame this year due to his coaching responsibilities. He may be available for induction next year.

CLOSED SESSION

** At 7:41 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

** At 7:57 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Fleming to end closed session and return to open session.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the position of Director of Safety and Security from a 10-month to a 12-month position.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Jared to approve the starting compensation of security staff with law enforcement experience and/or a related degree to \$22.00/hr.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the employment and salary recommendation for Jamie Martin as Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent beginning with the 2025/26 school year and a 2024/25 transition stipend, as presented.

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the 2024/25 transition stipend for Dr. Schmidt, as presented.

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

- ** At 7:59 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mrs. Booth to adjourn the meeting.

Kathy Kusiak, President

Shelly Booth, Secretary