

GBE approved 9/26/2024

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, September 12th, 2024, in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mary Beth Malin, Griswold Board of Education Chair.

PRESENT

Mary Beth Malin, Griswold BOE Chair; Yvonne Palasky, Griswold BOE Vice-Chair, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Griswold BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, Jennifer Norman and Cathy Waselik, Griswold BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT

Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Art Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Patricia Feeney, GPS Director of Instructional Improvement – Learner Diversity; and Jessica Gillespie, GPS Director of Learner Diversity – Innovation.

ABSENT

Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; and Jacqueline Love, GES Assistant Principal.

2. Pledge of Allegiance -The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Regular Meeting—August 22nd, 2024

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To approve the regular meeting minutes of August 22nd, 2024, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications
 - A. August 26, 2024, Annual Policy Notifications letter dispatched to the GPS School Community
 - B. August 28th, 2024, Letter to First Selectwoman Tina Falck, on BOE Appointments to School Building Committee
 - C. September 4th, 2024, Letter to First Selectwoman Tina Falck, on 4th Quarter Financial Report for Fiscal Year, 2024
 - D. September 4th, 2024, Letter to Scott Davis, Chairman, Town of Griswold Board of Finance, on 4th Quarter Financial Report for Fiscal Year, 2024
 - E. Invitation to September 17th, 2024, “Ribbon Cutting Ceremony” for Griswold Soule Street Academy
 - F. List of DPAC (District Partnership Advisory Council) meetings for the 2024-2025 School Year
 - G. List of Sending/Tuition Town Partner Meetings
 - H. Position Statement and Policy Guidance on Cellphones, State Board of Education

The Board received a copy of all communications above, items 3 A-H.

5. Recognitions

- A. GPS Teacher of the Year, Jenna Motta
- B. Para-educator of the Year, Pam Smith
- C. Griswold *Forward* Recipients:
 - 1. Jennifer Kinsall, Teacher, Griswold High School
 - 2. Kayla Hedman, Community Relations & Special Projects Coordinator

The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members recognized Jenna Motta as Griswold's choice for *Teacher of the Year* for 2025, and Pamela Smith as Griswold's choice for *Paraeducator of the Year* for the 2023/2024 school year. Congratulations!

The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members recognized Jennifer Kinsall and Kayla Hedman as Griswold's choices for the honor of *Griswold Forward* recipients for the month of September 2024.

6. Student Representative Reports

- A. GES Student Representatives: Briseis Carignan & Angel Nieves
- B. GMS Student Representatives: Samiah Vincent & Delilah Munoz
- C. GHS Student Representatives: Andrew Hardin

The students listed above provided their first update to the Board on student activities happening in each school building for the 2024/2025 school year.

The Board took a short recess at 6:22 PM.

The Board re-convened the meeting at 6:40 PM.

7. Public Comments – There were no requests for public comment this evening.

8. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the GHS Music Department Field Trip to Virginia Beach, April 2nd, 2025 – April 6, 2025

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To approve the GHS Music Field Trip to Virginia Beach for April 2nd - April 6th, 2025, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Waive the Second Readings for the Following Title IX Policies and Regulations, due to the New Title IX Regulations that went into effect in August, 2024:

- 1. Revised Policy 4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX
- 2. Revised Regulations 4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX
- 3. New Policy 5145.44—Students—Sexual Harassment/Title IX
- 4. New Regulations 5145.44—Students—Harassment/Title IX

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To waive the second readings for the following Title IX policies and regulations, due to the new Title IX regulations that went into effect in August of 2024: Policy 4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX; Revised Regulations 4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX; New Policy 5145.44—Students—Sexual Harassment/Title IX; and New Regulations 5145.44—Students—Harassment/Title IX.
Motion unanimously carried.

- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Revised Policy 4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX—Proposed First Reading Only

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve revised policy #4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Regulation 4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX—Proposed First Reading Only

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve revised regulation #4000.1/4200.1—Personnel—Certified/Non-Certified—Sexual Harassment/Title IX, as proposed.
Motion unanimously carried.

- E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 5145.44—Students—Sexual Harassment/Title IX—Proposed First Reading Only

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve new policy #5145.44 – Students – Sexual Harassment/Title IX, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- F. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Regulations 5145.44—Students—Sexual Harassment/Title IX—Proposed First Reading Only

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve New Regulation 5145.44—Students—Sexual
Harassment/Title IX, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- G. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 4118.232/4218.232—Personnel Certified/Non-Certified—Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco—Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace—First reading - No action was taken on new policy #4118.232/4218.232 as this was a first reading this evening.
- H. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 3542.41—Business/Non-Instructional Operations—Food Service—School Lunch Service—Professional Standards for Food Service Personnel—First Reading – No action was taken on new policy #3542.41 as this was a first reading.
- I. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Regulation 3542.41—Business/Non-Instructional Operations—Food Service—School Lunch Service—Professional Standards for Food Service Personnel—First Reading – No action was taken on new regulation #3542.41 as this was a first reading this evening.
- J. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve New Semester Course, “Introduction to Drone Technology”

MOTION

By Jennifer Norman
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To approve new semester course, “Introduction to Drone Technology.
Motion unanimously carried.

- K. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Job Title and Job Duties Revisions to the Community Relations and Special Projects Coordinator

MOTION

By Jennifer Norman
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To approve the job title and job duty revisions to the Community Relations
& Special Projects Coordinator.
Motion unanimously carried.

9. Old Business

- A. Review and Discussion on Non-Lapsing Account Draft Policy – The Board reviewed the non-lapsing account draft policy but no further action was taken at this time.

10. Administrator's Reports

A. Review and Discussion on Presentation of School Building Aligned Goals for the 2024-2025 School Year—Building Administration

1. GES: Principal Joe Bordeau & Assistant Principal Jackie Love
2. GMS: Principal Louis Zubek
3. GHS: Principal Erin Palonen & Associate Principal Art Howe

Building administrators for each school presented their school building aligned goals for the 2024/2025 school year.

B. Review and Discussion on Teaching, Learning and Innovation Department Updates—Pat Feeney, Director of Instructional Improvement—Learner Diversity & Jessica Gillespie, Director of Instructional Improvement—Innovation – Patricia Feeney and Jessica Gillespie, who work as directors in the TLI Department, provided updates to the Board on the work of the TLI Department.

C. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. Professional Development Schedule - Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent of Schools, provided an update to the Board on the recent professional development days schedule for August 26, 27 and 28.
2. School/District Climate Survey Results - Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent, provided information on the results of a recent school/district wide climate survey that took place.

11. Superintendent's Report

A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received a list of vacancies, appointments, resignations, and retirements.

B. Superintendent's Timely Updates

1. Review of New Staff—Presentation
2. Title IX District Implementation & Training
3. DPAC—October 9th, 2024—Cellphone in Schools Presentation
4. GES Gaga Ball Pit
5. Presentation Proposal Accepted by AASA for March, 2025 Conference
6. GMS Staffing & Updates

The Board received an update from the Superintendent on topics above – 11B, 1-6.

12. Committee/Board Reports

A. Policy Subcommittee—Yvonne Palasky - The Board received an update from Yvonne Palasky, Policy Subcommittee Chair, on the work of the subcommittee.

B. Negotiations Subcommittee—Mary Beth Malin – The Board received an update from Mary Beth Malin, Negotiations Subcommittee Chair, on the recent work of the subcommittee.

- C. Public Relations Subcommittee—Jaimee O’Neill Eaton – The Board received an update from Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Public Relations Subcommittee Chair, on the recent work of the subcommittee.
 - D. Athletic Subcommittee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Martin Osga, Athletic Subcommittee Chair, on the recent work of the subcommittee.
13. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board – Jennifer Norman was questioning the PSAT/SAT tests and requested an overview of the reformat of the testing and how the score is impacting colleges. She also asked for the understanding of why the BOE packet is provided on Mondays and Mary Beth Malin explained the reason for this decision.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To adjourn the BOE regular meeting at 7:58 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna