

GBE approved with Correction October 10th, 2024

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, September 26th, 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, and Jennifer Norman, 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; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; and Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; and Thomas Verville, GPS Director of Facilities.

ABSENT

Cathy Waselik, BOE Member; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Art Howe, GHS Associate Principal; 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—September 12th, 2024

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To approve the regular meeting minutes of September 12th, 2024, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications

A. September 19th, 2024, MEMO on Changes to the Title IX Policies - The Board received a communication from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, regarding changes to Title IX policies.

5. Recognitions

A. Retirement of Robert Hess, GMS Special Education Teacher

B. Retirement of Karen Lantrip, GES Secretary

The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members took time to recognize and honor two of our employees who have decided to retire after serving many years in the Griswold Public Schools. Those honored this evening were Robert Hess, GMS Special Education teacher, and Karen Lantrip, GES Secretary. Congratulations!

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

7. Consent Agenda

- A. 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—Second Reading
- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 3542.41—Business/Non-Instructional Operations—Food Service—School Lunch Service—Professional Standards for Food Service—Second Reading
- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Regulation 3542.41—Business/Non-Instructional Operations—Food Service—School Lunch Service—Professional Standards for Food Service—Second Reading

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the consent agenda, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

8. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the “Senior Paint Day” Fundraiser Proposal

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jennifer Norman
To approve the “Senior Paint Day” fundraiser proposal, as presented.
Ayes – Yvonne Palasky, Stuart Norman, Jr. Martin Osga, and Jennifer Norman.
Nays –
Abstain – Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Motion carried.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Potential Capital Committee Projects for the 2025-2026 School Year – The Superintendent reviewed a preliminary list of capital committee projects being proposed for 2025/26 for Griswold Public Schools. After reviewing the items, Stuart Norman, Jr. requested that repairs to the fire pump controller, which is currently listed as priority/urgency #3, be moved to priority/urgency #1.
- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Budget Line Item Requests – The Board approved a list of budget line item transfer requests.

MOTION

By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the budget line item transfer requests.
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Regularly Scheduled Meeting Dates for the Griswold Board of Education for 2025 – The Board approved the BOE regularly scheduled meeting dates for 2025, which is required to be submitted to the Town Clerk's office.

MOTION

By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

To approve the regularly scheduled meeting dates for the Griswold Board of Education for 2025.

Motion unanimously carried.

- E. Review and Discussion on New Bylaw of the Board 9325.5—Requests for Information by Board Members—First Reading – The Board had a first reading of new Bylaw 9325.5 and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for a second reading and to take action.
- F. Review and Discussion on New Policy 0100—Mission-Goals-Objectives—Mission Statement—First Reading – The Board had a first reading on new policy 0100 and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for a second reading and to take action.
- G. Review and Discussion on New Policy 0050—Mission-Goals-Objectives—Code of Ethics – The Board had a first reading on new policy 0050 and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for a second reading and to take action.
- H. Review and Discussion on New Policy 0521.2—Mission-Goals-Objectives—Nondiscrimination—Commitment to Religious Neutrality (Prayer in Schools)—First Reading – The Board had a first reading on new policy 0152.2 and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for a second reading and to take action.
- 9. Old Business
 - A. Review and Discussion on Non-Lapsing Account Draft Policy – The Superintendent continues to keep the non-lapsing account draft policy on the BOE agenda. The Policy subcommittee continues to work on and review this draft policy.
- 10. Administrator's Reports
 - A. Review and Discussion on Semi-Annual Facilities Department Update—Tom Verville, Director of Facilities – The Board received an update from Thomas Verville, GPS Director of Facilities, which included an overview of the work that the department has focused on over the past few months.
 - B. Review and Discussion on Financial Forecast, SY '24-'25—Deb Martin, Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services - The Board received an update from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, on the current status of the financial forecast for the 2024/2025 school year.
 - C. Assistant Superintendent's Report
 - 1. Classroom Walk-Through Data Collection - Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent, provided an update to the Board on the classroom walkthroughs taking place in the district with a focus on data collection.
 - 2. Updates from District Committees
 - a. District Safety, Wellness and Climate Committee
 - b. Teaching, Learning & Innovation Committee

Assistant Superintendent, Glenn LaBossiere, provided an update to the Board on the work of the District Safety, Wellness and Climate committee and the TLI committee.

11. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Board received a list of vacancies, appointments, and resignations.
- B. Superintendent's Timely Updates
 - 1. Fall Participation Numbers – The Board received an update from the Superintendent on the fall participation numbers for sports.
 - 2. Overview of District Committees, Work, and Meeting Dates – The Board received an update from the Superintendent on district committees, their work, and meeting dates for the upcoming school year.
 - 3. Superintendent's Annual Professionals Goals & Objective setting with the Griswold Board of Education* - This item was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for discussion.

12. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Facilities Subcommittee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Martin Osga, Facilities Subcommittee Chair, on the recent work of the subcommittee.

13. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board – BOE member, Stuart Norman, Jr., expressed some concern and requested an update on chronic absenteeism. The Superintendent confirmed that he will bring this information forward for the next BOE meeting.

Jennifer Norman requested that Bylaw #9324 – Advanced Delivery of Meeting Materials - be addressed by the Policy subcommittee, as the bylaw does not currently match our current procedures.

MOTION

Jennifer Norman

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To move into executive session at 6:52 PM for the purpose of review of Superintendent's Annual Professionals Goals & Objective setting with the Griswold Board of Education*, inviting Superintendent Sean McKenna into executive session.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:11 PM with no further action.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jennifer Norman

To adjourn the BOE regular meeting at 7:12 PM.

Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna