

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

Regular Voting Meeting

August 12, 2024

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, prior to the meeting being called to order by the President, Mr. Douglas Gerwick, at 7:01 p.m. in the board room. Board members and the public participated either in person or remotely.

The following members were present:

Mr. Douglas Gerwick	Mr. August Hurst
Mr. Ryan Thomas	Dr. Constance Nichols
Mr. Randy Arnold	Dr. Jeffrey Tedford
Dr. Erik Bardy	Ms. Patty Wilson
Mrs. Karen Hazy Bishop (Remotely)	

Others present were: Atty. Evankovich, Dr. Finch, Dr. Weaver, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Winger, Mrs. Dennis (remotely), 6 guests in person and approximately 4 guests remotely.

There was no Executive Session scheduled.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

There were no Board recognitions.

BOARD
RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Norman Bender - Subject of Commentary

- Expressed concern for the Title IX Amendment of 2024 and questioned District policy regarding Title IX.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

Mr. Tim McGonigle – Subject of Commentary

- Expressed concern over the proposed vote on this meeting's agenda in regard to the 2025 Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals Program and the impact it may have on the County.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2024 Board Voting Meeting and the August 5, 2024 Work Session Meeting.

VOTING MEETING/
WORK SESSION
MEETING
MINUTES
APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop*			

*Mrs. Hazy Bishop was not available for this vote.

President's Report:

- Mr. Gerwick advised the Board of the upcoming PSBA Conference in October.

PRESIDENT'S
REPORT

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. Finch advised the Board of the upcoming School Year Kickoff events and welcomed their participation.

SUPER-
INTENDENT'S
REPORT

Solicitor's Report:

- There was nothing to report.

SOLICITOR'S
REPORT

MCCC and MIU4 Report:

- There was nothing to report.

MCCC & MIU4
REPORT

Dr. Tedford made the motion, in consideration of related discussions in our previous public work session meeting, the Finance committee recommends, and I move that action items #1, #2 and #3 be approved by the Board with the exception of Mr. Gerwick's conference reimbursement payment in August's Bills Payable in Item #2. This motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas.

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Financial Statement for July 2024.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Bills Payable for June, July and August 2024.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve \$500 petty cash for the High School Fall Play and \$300 petty cash for Hillview's Fall Play.

FINANCIAL
STATEMENT
APPROVED

LIST OF BILLS
PAYABLE
APPROVED

PETTY CASH
FOR FALL PLAYS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows*:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

* Each Board member voted with exception to their individual mileage reimbursement checks.

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve Mercer County Head Start to purchase meals from the District Food Services, (contingent upon review and approval of the district solicitor).

2024-25
MERCER COUNTY
HEAD START
MEAL PURCHASE
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the 2024-25 Krise Transportation, Inc. school bus drivers and monitors – subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

2024-25
KRISER TRANS, INC.
DRIVERS AND
MONITORS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2024-25 School of McGuire Memorial Agreement (contingent upon review and approval of the district solicitor)

2024-25
SCHOOL OF
MCGUIRE
MEMORIAL
AGREEMENT
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2025 Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals Program.

2025
REAL ESTATE TAX
ASSESSMENT
APPEALS
PROGRAM
APPROVED

Authorizing 2025 Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals Program

Whereas, Pennsylvania law authorizes taxing bodies, including school districts, to file annual real estate tax assessment appeals in the same manner as taxpayers; and

Whereas, the Grove City Area School District (“District”) desires to implement a Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals Program (“Program”) for the tax year 2025 for residential, commercial and industrial properties that have recently sold within the District; and

Whereas, the purpose of the Program is to generate additional real estate tax revenues to be used for general school operations.

NOW, it is hereby resolved by the Board of the Grove City Area School District:

1. The District authorizes the Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals Program for residential, commercial and industrial properties as presented by Andrews & Price, LLC.
2. Appeals shall be filed on all residential, commercial and industrial properties that have sold in 2022, 2023 and 2024 where the difference between the current county assessment and assessment resulting from the recorded purchase price (adjusted by the applicable common level ratio) generates at least \$1,000.00 in additional school taxes.
3. The District adopts the terms and conditions set forth in the proposal submitted by Andrews & Price, LLC for implementing the Program.

The motion carried; 6 ayes, 3 nays, with roll call voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	nay
Mr. Thomas	nay	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	nay	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Dr. Tedford and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2024-25 Watson Institute Agreement (contingent upon review and approval of the district solicitor)

2024-25
WATSON
INSTITUTE
AGREEMENT
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Arnold and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the following student travel request(s):

- Fourth grade students and 20+ chaperones to travel to the Capital and the State Museum in Harrisburg, PA on May 12, 2025 at no cost to the District.
- Varsity Volleyball Team (9 students) and 2 chaperones to travel to Penn-State Main Campus for a volleyball team camp on July 19-21, 2024 at a District cost of \$364.

STUDENT TRAVEL
REQUESTS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Arnold and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve a Gate Sale Increase - \$1.00 increase for each level.

GATE SALE
INCREASE
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the following staff conference request(s):

- Denine Saunders – Safety Care Initial Training at Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV, on March 21-22, 2024 at a District cost of \$130.
- Janine Stuart – AP Precalculus Training – virtual – July 29-August 1, 2024 at a District cost of \$945.

STAFF
CONFERENCE
REQUESTS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Dr. Nichols and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the 2024-25 Grove City High School’s TSI (Targeted Support and Improvement) Non-Title I School Plan.

2024-25
HIGH SCHOOL
TSI PLAN
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve hiring the following: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

E. WILLIAMS
J. HEANEY
L. EBEL
M. HERMAN
V. TARANTELLA
HIRED

- Elsie Williams – Temporary Professional Elementary Special Education Teacher – effective August 1, 2024 at a salary of \$57,250 (B-1).
- Jennifer Heaney – Temporary Professional Certified School Nurse – effective date TBD at a salary of \$60,150 (M-2).
- Lisa Ebel – Part-time Aide – at a salary of \$14.31 hourly, plus .94¢ per hour advanced education rate (Dept. B-II – Step 1 – Year 1) – effective August 1, 2024.
- Marie Herman – Temporary Professional High School English Teacher – effective August 1, 2024 at a salary of \$61,350 (M-3).
- Victoria Tarantella – Part-time Cafeteria Production Worker – at a salary of \$13.00 hourly, (Dept. C-II) effective August 21, 2024.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the following 2024-25 Building Substitute: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

2024-25
BUILDING
SUBSTITUTE
APPROVED

- Elizabeth Malczak – Hillview

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve a Change in Status for the following:

CHANGE IN
STATUS
APPROVED

- Alexandra Magee – Part-time to Full-time Aide – Dept. B – II – Step 1 – 2 years of service, plus .94¢ advanced education rate – effective August 1, 2024.
- Tricia Schofield – Part-time to Full-time Aide – Dept. B – II – Step 1 – 2 years of service, plus .94¢ advanced education rate – effective January 2, 2025.

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the following additional substitutes: subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

ADDITIONAL
SUBSTITUTES
APPROVED

- Sarah Kavanagh – School Nurse
- Ella Wise – aide
- Ashley Kellogg – Emergency substitute
- Carla Ligo – Emergency substitute
- Beth Lorretto – Elementary K-6 and Reading Specialist PK-12
- Traci Swogger – support
- Becky Sopher – cafeteria volunteer
- Terri Persch – cafeteria volunteer

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Bardy to approve the additional 2024 Hillview summer school teacher:

- Matt Nichols

2024
ADDITIONAL
HILLVIEW
SUMMER
PROGRAM
TEACHER
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the following leaves:

- Unpaid FMLA leave for employee #1188 – up to 12 weeks, approximately 8/20/24 – 12/2/24
- Unpaid FMLA leave for employee #1112 – up to 12 weeks, approximately 11/28/24 – 2/11/25
- Unpaid child-rearing leave for employee #1199 for the 2024-25 school year

UNPAID LEAVES
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the 2024-25 Non-union Personnel salary advancements and stipends.

2024-25
NON-UNION
SALARIES AND
STIPENDS
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the Act 93 Agreement from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029.

ACT 93
AGREEMENT
APPROVED

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the additional 2024 Fall Coaches - subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

2024-25
ADDITIONAL
FALL COACHES
APPROVED

- Ryan Purvis – Boys Soccer 7-8 Assistant Coach - \$3,585
- Marcus Kelly – Boys Soccer Volunteer Assistant Coach
- Rob Haggart – Girls Basketball 7-8 Asst. Coach – 1/3 pay - \$3,006
- Mike Hostetler – Girls Basketball 7-8 Asst. Coach – 1/3 pay - \$3,006
- TL Eller – Girls Basketball 7-8 Asst. Coach – 1/3 pay - \$3,006
- Caleb Verbois – Girls Tennis Volunteer Coach

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the following resignations/retirement as well as any necessary documentation as to terms and conditions to finalize the employees' separation from the District employment.

DISTRICT
RESIGNATIONS/
RETIREMENT
APPROVED

- Sarah Kavanagh – Part-time LPN – resignation effective June 19, 2024
- Tyler Volz – Hillview Special Education Teacher – resignation effective July 31, 2024
- Sarah Zets – Hillview/Middle School Nurse – resignation effective July 26, 2024
- Cathy Yetso – Full-time Custodian -- retirement effective February 28, 2025
- Erin Ran – Hillview Full-time aide – resignation effective May 30, 2024
- Daniel Nemeth – High School History Teacher – resignation effective July 31, 2024
- Kelly Beach – Full-time Head Cook – resignation effective July 23, 2024

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Thomas to approve the additional 2024-25 Supplemental Positions - subject to the receipt and approval of clearances and District required paperwork.

2024-25
SUPPLEMENTALS
APPROVED

- Hannah Flowers – district-wide music department chair - \$800
- Brian Reiser – district-wide cyber department chair - \$800
- Alisha Johnson – district-wide art department chair - \$800
- Katie Stewart – district-wide technology department chair - \$800
- Beth Sciullo – district-wide physical education department chair - \$800
- Susyn Klingler – mentor for Elsie Williams - \$1,431
- Ann Lanshcaek – mentor for Jennifer Heaney - \$1,431
- Vincent Anastasi – mentor for Marie Herman - \$1,431
- Rob Haggart – High School Building Tech Support - \$2,220
- Justin Bandi – High School Building Level Tech Support - \$2,220
- Roger Flynn – Driver’s Ed – Behind the Wheel Instructor - \$43 hourly
- Gail Chutz – Driver’s Ed – Behind the Wheel Instructor - \$43 hourly
- Wayne Peters – Driver’s Ed – Behind the Wheel Instructor - \$43 hourly
- Pat McElroy – High School Fall Play/2 - \$5,721
- Pat McElroy – High School Fall Play Sets/2 - \$2,288
- Pat McElroy – High School Light & Sound Tech - \$2,806
- Pat McElroy – High School Theater Tech Director/2 (fall) - \$2,689
- Pat McElroy – High School Yearbook Advisor - \$2,798
- Jay Marstellar – High School TV Advisor - \$2,798
- Jay Marstellar – High School Video Tech - \$2,806
- Matthew Prinkey – High School Jazz Band - \$3,621
- Hannah Flowers – High School Show Choir - \$3,976
- Erin Persch – Middle School Student Council Advisor - \$1,296
- Alisha Johnson – Middle School Yearbook Advisor - \$1,315
- Kristy Thrasher – High School Accompanist - \$973

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Wilson authorizing the Superintendent to approve change orders for the high school construction project up to \$20,000 per change order, retroactive to the beginning of the project. The Superintendent shall report any such change order approvals to the Board on a monthly basis.

HIGH SCHOOL
PROJECT CHANGE
ORDERS
AUTHORIZATION
APPROVED

The motion carried; 8 ayes, 1 nay, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	nay	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Dr. Nichols to approve the first reading of the following policy:

POLICY 804
FIRST READING
APPROVED

- 804 – Public Records (recommended updates from PSBA)

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

A motion was made by Mr. Gerwick and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve the final reading of the following policies:

POLICY 200
POLICY 217
POLICY 222
POLICY 227
POLICY 254
POLICY 323
POLICY 351
FINAL READING
APPROVED

- 200 – Enrollment of Students (recommended updates from PSBA)
- 217 – Graduation (recommended updates from PSBA)
- 222 – Tobacco and Vaping Products (recommended updates from PSBA)
- 227 – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia (recommended updates from PSBA)
- 254 – Educational Opportunities for Military Children (recommended updates from PSBA)
- 323 – Tobacco and Vaping Products (recommended updates from PSBA)
- 351 – Controlled Substance Abuse (recommended updates from PSBA)

The motion carried; 9 ayes, 0 nays, with voting as follows:

Mr. Gerwick	aye	Mr. Hurst	aye
Mr. Thomas	aye	Dr. Nichols	aye
Mr. Arnold	aye	Dr. Tedford	aye
Dr. Bardy	aye	Ms. Wilson	aye
Mrs. Hazy Bishop	aye		

Mr. Hurst – Subject of Commentary

- Commended the Administration on the upcoming implementation of the new cell phone guidelines/policy.

Future scheduled business meetings:

- Educational Services and Personnel Committee Meetings – Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 8:15 a.m.
- Work Session Meeting – Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
- Board Voting Meeting – Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Harris
Board Secretary

djw