

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

November 14, 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 Fourteenth of November, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board. Pause regular Board meeting to go in the Additional Appropriation hearing.

Mr. 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
 Emily Conner, 1st Vice - President
 Tina Adams, Assistant Secretary

Absent: Jason Jaques, 2nd Vice President
 Kathy Ruesken, secretary

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

1.2 Moment of Silence:

2.1 Delegations and/or Communications: none

2.2 Superintendent Update: Mrs. Dumezich shared that Principal Ms. Kinnie along with Tiffany Ulman the food service Director, Stephanie Copp the High School food service manager, High School principal Jon Chance, and Middle school principal Alan Anderson along with students from student council had a Friendsgiving dinner at the senior center. Ms. Kinnie would like to make this an annual event. Mrs. Dumezich shared administrators, principals and the special ed director from Valparaiso High School visited our special ed program throughout our district. Mrs. Dumezich hoped that everyone was able to get out to see the play Night Watch which ended on Sunday. Mrs. Dumezich congratulated everyone and Ms. Diekelmann on being chosen for the ESPN honor roll school. Griffith is one out of thirty-three schools selected to receive a banner for unified sports. The banner will be presented at the wheelchair basketball game that is held early March.

2.3 Panther Spotlight: Mrs. Dumezich acknowledged the eighth-grade girls Volleyball team who went undefeated this year along with winning the conference tournament. Mrs. Dumezich thanked the parents for getting the students to and from all the practices and games. Mrs. Dumezich acknowledged a fifth-grade student at Beiriger. The fifth-grade student presented a dance that she did for her peers during National Hispanic heritage month.

2.4 Financial Presentation: Mr. Sean McGill with Bakertilly presented the district financial presentation.

2.5 Strategic Plan Update And Presentation: Administrators of each building, and the Superintendent presented a strategic plan.

2.6 Approval Of The Strategic Plan: Mrs. Dumezich asked the Board to approve the live document presented with the Strategic Plan along with the additional building Strategic Plan. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2.7 Finance: Mrs. Chance presented the finance report for the month of October.

2.8 Board Reports: Mrs. Adams reported on the Park Board. Mrs. Adams stated the Park Board talked about the youth baseball field grant and the Babe Ruth field lighting. The Park Board accepted a bid. Mrs. Adams stated at Cheever park three light bulbs will be replaced.

Consent Agenda: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Conner made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. The consent agenda contains the following items: Minutes, Agreements/Contracts, and Claims for Payroll 10/11/24,10/25/2024 & 11/8/2024 Accounts Payable 10/11/2024 -11/14/2024, Fundraisers, Grants, Donations, and the following Personnel report:

PERSONNEL REPORT					
November 14, 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>
	<i>Certified</i>				
Tina Minor	Long Term Kindergarten Sub Wadsworth	Long Term Sub	12/4/24	The first 15 Days Will Be At \$150.00. After That \$48,000.00	Contract
Delores Estrada	Spanish Teacher Beiriger	Rebecca Gutierrez	11/4/24	Annual Rate \$55,000.00 Prorated at \$39,411.76	Contract
	<i>Non-Certified</i>				
Christina Lopez	Sub Bus Aide Transportation	Will Work When Needed.	11/6/24	\$16.50	Hourly
	<i>Extra-Curricular/Athletics</i>				
Issa Odeh	7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	Jodie Barham	10/28/24	\$2,670.00	Seasonal
Vincenzo DeRosa	Boys Ninth Grade Assistant Football Coach	Open Position	10/10/24	\$3,820.00	Seasonal
Paul Lipski	9th Grade High School Baseball Coach	Open Position	11/14/24	\$3,055.00	Seasonal
Antwan Pipkins	Middle School - 6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	Odeh Issa	11/14/24	\$2,290.00	Seasonal
Jordan Komosa	Boys Track & Field JV Coach	Adam Kessler	11/14/24	\$4,580.00	Seasonal
Robert Turek	Track & Field Assistant Varsity Coach	Shannon Hassel	11/14/24	\$4,580.00	Seasonal
Luke Neidy	JV Football Coach	Kyle Olson	10/10/24	\$3,055.00	Seasonal
Bryce Hayman	Freshman Head Football Coach	Kyle Olson	10/10/24	\$5,725.00	Seasonal
Andrew Davenport	High School JV Baseball	Andrew Braddy	11/18/24	Split Position With Justin Faught \$1,720.00	Seasonal

Justin Faught	High School JV Baseball	Andrew Braddy	11/18/24	Split Position With Andrew Davenport \$2,100.00	Seasonal
	<i>Clubs</i>				
	<i>Separations</i>				
Rebecca Gutierrez	Spanish Teacher Beiriger	Resignation	11/4/24	\$48,000.00	Contract
Odeh Issa	Middle School - 6th Grade Basketball Coach	Resignation	10/10/24	\$2,290.00	Seasonal
Jodie Barham	Middle School - 7th Grade Basketball Coach	Resignation	10/11/24	\$2,670.00	Seasonal
Ashley Reinike	Long Term Maternity Substitute	Resignation	11/22/24	Long Term Sub Pay	Contract
Kyle Olson	JV Assistant Football Coach	Resignation	10/21/24	\$3,055.00	Contract
Kyle Olson	Freshman Head Football Coach	Resignation	10/21/24	\$5,725.00	Contract
	<i>Other</i>				
Renae Schueberg	CDL Bus Driver	Renae Was A Mini- Bus Driver. Renae Just Passed Her CDL Test To Become A Bus Diver.	10/28/24	\$23.50	Hourly
Camille Schafer	Tutor -Sub Beiriger	N/A	10/28/24	\$50.00	Hourly
Rachel Wajvoda	Tutor - Beiriger	N/A	10/28/24	\$50.00	Hourly
Kylie Duhamell	Tutor - Beiriger	N/A	10/28/24	\$50.00	Hourly
Marisa Specht	Tutor- Beiriger	N/A	10/28/24	\$50.00	Hourly
* Backgrounds Pending Approval					

4.1 Approval Of The 2024-2025 Teacher Contract: Mrs. Dumezich presents and asked the Board to approve the 2024-2025 Teacher Contract. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Teacher Contract. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Second Reading And Approval Of Policies: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve Second Reading And Approval Of Policies. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve Second Reading And Approval Of Policies. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.3 Resolution # 2024-4803 School Facilities Improvement Project For 2025-2027: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve Resolution # 2024-4803 School Facilities Improvement Project For 2025-2027. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve Resolution # 2024-4803 School Facilities Improvement Project For 2025-2027. Mrs. Conner second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.4 Resolution # 2024-4804 2025 Board Of School Trustees Regular Meeting Dates: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve Resolution # 2024-4804 2025 Board Off School Trustees Regular Meeting Dates. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve Resolution # 2024-4804 2025 Board Of School Trustees Meeting Dates. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.5 2025-2026 School Calendar: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Conner did state that she would approve the 2025-2026 calendar. but feels weary of approving with the full Board not present. Mrs. Conner stated that the Board would receive calendars to review before approving. Mrs. Conner stated that she does not agree with the full week for Fall break

as a working parent. Mrs. Conner stated she knows from other working parents that they would not like the full week of Fall break either because it is hard to find childcare.

4.6 Athletic Pay Scale 2024: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the 2024 Athletic Pay Scale. Mrs. Conner made a motion for the Approval Of the 2024 Athletic Pay Scale. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.7 New Student Club: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the New Student Club. Mrs. Conner made a motion for the Approval Of the New Student Club. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.8 After School Program Butterfly Dreamz: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board to approve the After School Program Butterfly Dreamz. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve of the After School Program Butterfly Dreamz. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Audience Participation: One audience participant stated that having Fall break was easier to find childcare when it was broken up two days in one week and the other two days in another week. The audience participant stated that we should take it into consideration not to have a full week of fall week when doing the calendar.

Good of the Corporation: none

Upcoming Board Meeting: The next Regular School Board meeting will be on January 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Adams motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



Jesse Adduci, President

Emily Conner, First Vice President

Jason Jaques, Second Vice President



Kathy Ruesken, Secretary



Tina Adams, Assistant Secretary