

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

December 12, 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 Twelve of December, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board.

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
 Jason Jaques, 2nd Vice President
 Kathy Ruesken, Secretary
 Tina Adams, Assistant Secretary

Absent: Emily Conner, 1st Vice-President

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: Mrs. Adams said a prayer.

2.2 Superintendent Update: Mrs. Dumezich shared that she attended the Christmas lunch at the Senior Center. Mrs. Dumezich wanted to thank Tiffany Ulman, Stephanie Copp, Kim Beck, Casey Varady, and the Jr. Honor Society, and PAP for making the lunch. Mrs. Dumezich thanked Claudia Powell and Kathy Ruesken for making the desserts. Mrs. Dumezich shared she met with Senators and they voted on graduation requirements that will go in affect in 2029. Mrs. Dumezich feels confident that the guidance department will collaborate with the High School principal on the requirements needed for graduation. Mrs. Dumezich stated that the guidance department recorded the requirements in a zoom and is hoping that parents of eighth graders will listen to the recording, so they are aware of the graduation requirements.

2.3 Panther Spotlight: Mrs. Dumezich acknowledged the Theatre department. Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Jongsma introduced students they had with them from the Theatre Department. Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Jongsma talked about what the Theatre Department did at regionals with the production Tracks. They received fourth place. Mrs. Parker explained they had to take all their sets with them to regionals and they transported them to regionals in the new Theatre trailer. In April they will have an eighties show.

2.4 Directors Strategic Plan Presentation: Each Director in the district presented their strategic plan.

2.5 Finance: Mrs. Dumezich presented the finance report for the month of November.

2.6 Board Reports: Mrs. Adams reported on the Park Board. Mrs. Adams stated that St. Timothy's church proposed a garden and nursery on their property. The train Depot received tables from Tot Park. Imagine Griffith is decorating the Christmas trees; The Park Board budget is on track where they want it to be. The Baseball Field grants, and project are still on hold waiting for grant money, The Babe Rueth lighting will be ready next season. Cheever park light pole retired by NIPSCO at no cost. They received reimbursement from the little Cal for park tree additions.

Consent Agenda: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Jaques made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. The consent agenda contains the following items: Minutes, Agreements/Contracts, and Claims for Payroll 11/15/2024-12/6/2024Accounts Payable.

11/15/2024-12/12/2024, Professional Leaves, Fundraisers, Grants, Donations, and the following Personnel report:

PERSONNEL REPORT					
December 12, 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>				
	<i>Non- Certified</i>				
	<i>Extra-Curricular/Athletics</i>				
Sherri Terrell-Mishler	Girls Basketball Coach Varsity Assistant	Open Position	12/13/24	\$6,490.00	Seasonal
Oscar Beecham	MS 8th Grade Girls Head Basketball Coach	John Phillips	12/13/24	\$3,820.00	Seasonal
Christopher Pajdzik	HS Girls Varsity Wrestling Head Coach	New Position	12/13/24	\$6,490.00	Seasonal
Thomas Ehrlich	HS Boys Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach	Christopher Pajdzik	12/13/24	\$2,865.00	Seasonal
Jodie Barham	MS 7th Grade Girls Head Basketball Coach	Oscar Beecham	12/13/24	\$2,670.00	Seasonal
Paul Esquivel	MS 6th Grade Girls Head Basketball Coach	Jodie Barham	12/13/24	\$2,290.00	Seasonal
	<i>Clubs</i>				
	<i>Separations</i>				
Christopher Pajdzik	HS Boys Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach	Resignation	12/13/24	\$2,865.00	Seasonal
Shannon Scheidel Brand	HS Varsity Head Boys & Girls Cross Country Coach	Resignation	2025-2026 School Year	\$6,870.00	Seasonal
Jodie Barham	6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	Resignation	11/18/24	\$2,290.00	Seasonal
John Phillips	8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	Resignation	11/19/24	\$3,820.00	Seasonal
Oscar Beechem	7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach	Resignation	11/19/24	\$2,670.00	Seasonal
Mary Keil	Bus Driver	Retired	11/22/24	\$22.50	Hourly
Andrew Braddy	HS Head JV Baseball Coach	Resignation	11/15/24	\$3,820.00	Seasonal
Virginia Bellamy	Paraprofessional MS/HS	Resignation	12/20/24	\$18.00	Hourly
Taylor Opfer	Bus Driver	Resignation	12/6/24	\$22.00	Hourly
Natalie Stork	Special Ed LRE Teacher MS/HS	Resignation	1/1/25	\$64,500.00	Contract
	<i>Other</i>				
* Backgrounds Pending Approval					

4.1 First Reading Of Policies: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the First Reading Of Policies. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the First Reading Of Policies. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Approval Of Rescind Policies: Mr. Adduci requested a motion for the approval of the rescind policies. Mrs. Adams made a motion for the approval Of Rescind Policies. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.3 New Student Club: Mr. Adduci requested a motion to approve the New Student Club. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the New Student Club. Mrs. Ruesken second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.Extension Of Handbooks Through 2025: Mr. Domezich presented and requested for the approval of the Extension Of Handbooks Through 2025. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the Extension Of Handbooks Through 2025. Mrs. Adams second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

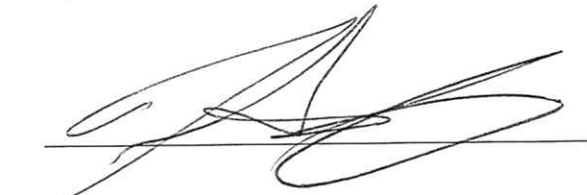
4.5 Design-Build Project: Mrs. Domezich presented and asked for the approval of the Design-Build Project. Mrs. Adams made a motion to approve the Design-Build Project. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Audience Participation: None

Good Of The Corporation: Mrs. Domezich wanted to invite everyone to the Caboose on Saturday and Sunday to see Santa. Mr. Jaques wanted to thank Ms. Hernandez and Mr. Chavez for a job well done, playing with the band at the last concert.

Upcoming Board Meeting: The next Regular School Board meeting will be on February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.

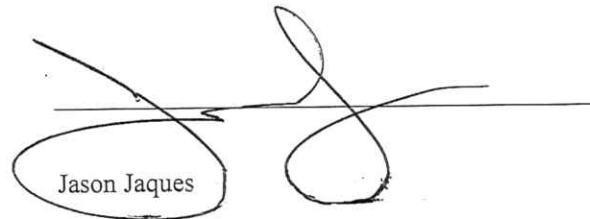
There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Ruesken motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Jaques seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



Jesse Adduci



Emily Conner



Jason Jaques



Kathy Ruesken



Tina Adams