REGULAR MEETING **THURSDAY,**
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION **February 27th, 2025**

GBE approved 3/13/2025

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, February 27th, 2025, 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; Martin Osga, Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik, Griswold BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Art Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Steven Bourque, GMS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Patricia Feeney, Director of Instructional Improvement – Learner Diversity; and Jessica Gillespie, Director of Instructional Improvement – Innovation.

ABSENT Stuart Norman, Jr., BOE Member; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS 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. Special Meeting—January 27th, 2025

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of January 27th, 2025, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

B. Special Meeting - Public Forum – February 10th, 2025 at 5:30 PM

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of February 10th, 2025, at 5:30 PM, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

C. Special Meeting – February 10th, 2025 at 6 PM

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of February 10th, 2025, at 6 PM, 2025, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

D. Special Meeting – February 11th, 2025

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of February 11th, 2025, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications
   A. February 5th, 2025, CABE Advocacy Highlights
   B. Thank You Note from ECHO Foundations for Generous Donation of $1,940 on Behalf of the Griswold High School Volleyball Team
   C. Thank You Note from Connecticut Children's Medical Center for the Generous Donation of $810.00 for the PJ Day for Kids on Behalf of Griswold Elementary School
   D. February 19th, 2025, Letter to the State of Connecticut Legislature, Appropriations Committee, from Superintendent McKenna

   The Board received a copy of communication above, A-D.

5. Recognitions

   A. GHS's Matayo Swepson, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Student Essay Honoree – The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members took a moment to recognize Matayo Swepson, a student at Griswold High School, whose essay was selected by Senator Chris Murphy's annual student essay contest on the legacy and aspirations of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unfortunately, Matayo was not feeling well and was unable to attend the meeting in person.

   B. Griswold *Forward* Recipient, GHS's Lauren Churchill – The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members took a moment to recognize Lauren Churchill, who was chosen as the recipient for this month's Griswold *Forward* award.

   C. Griswold *Forward* Lifetime Honoree, Martin Osga – The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members took time to recognize and honor Martin Osga, Griswold Board of Education member. Marty has served for many years on the Griswold Board of Education and numerous committees for the Board and for the Town of Griswold. He submitted his resignation to the Board with an effective date of March 1, 2025, as he moves out of Griswold and will no longer be eligible to serve on these Boards and committees. We wish Marty well in his new endeavors and thank him for all of the time he has given to the Griswold Board of Education and to the Town of Griswold.

The Board took a short recess beginning at 6:12 PM.

The Board re-convened the meeting at 6:25 PM.

6. Public Comments – There were no public comments this evening.

7. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed)

A. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Amend the Following **Policies** Under Sexual Harassment/Title IX—Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace—**Second Reading:**
   1. Personnel—4000.1
   2. Personnel—4200.1
   3. Students—5145.44

B. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Amend the Following **Regulations** Under Sexual Harassment/Title IX—Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace—**Second Reading**:
   1. Personnel—4000.1
   2. Personnel—4200.1
   3. Students—5145.44

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 Action to Accept the Resignation of Griswold Board of Education Member, Martin Osga, effective March 1st, 2025 – The Board accepted the resignation of Martin Osga, GPS School Board Member, effective March 1st, 2025.

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To accept the resignation of Griswold Board of Education Member, Martin Osga, effective March 1, 2025.
Motion unanimously carried.

B. Review and Discussion on New Bylaw of the Board—9325.5, Requests for Information—First Reading – The Board had a first reading of new Bylaw 9325.5 and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for review, discussion and action.

C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Appoint a Griswold Board of Education Member to the Cable TV Advisory Council – The Cable TV Advisory Council of Eastern Connecticut is seeking to appoint a Board Member to their advisory council. The candidate would be appointed to a two-year term to represent Griswold. At this time, there were no Board Members interested in participating and no action was taken on this agenda item.

D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve a Field Trip Proposal to Washington DC for November 20 – 23, 2025 – The Board approved a Griswold High School field trip proposal to Washington DC for November 20 – 23, 2025.

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To approve the GHS field trip proposal to Washington DC for November 20 – 23, 2025.
Motion unanimously carried.

E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Set the Tuition Review Projection for the 2025-2026 School Year – The Board voted to set and approve the projected tuition revenue for the 2025-2026 school year at 3.8 million dollars.

MOTION By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To set the projected tuition revenue for the 2025/2026 school year at 3.8 million dollars.
Motion unanimously carried.

F. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Set the Tuition Rate for Children of Staff Members – The Board set the tuition rate for children of staff members at 30% for the 2025/2026 school year.

MOTION By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To set the tuition rate for children of staff members at 30% for the 2025/2026 school year.
Motion unanimously carried.

G. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the New ECE UCONN Music Curriculum – The Board reviewed and approved the new ECE UCONN Music curriculum.

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To approve the new ECE UCONN Music Curriculum, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

H. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Accept the Following Gifts and Donations (note: each gift will require its own motion):
   1. Beagary Charitable Grant in the amount of $60,000 to Griswold High School

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To accept the generous donation from the Beagary Charitable Grant in the amount of $60,000 to Griswold High School.
Motion unanimously carried.

   2. Beagary Charitable Grant in the amount of $55,000 to Griswold Middle School

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To accept the generous donation from the Beagary Charitable Grant in the amount of $55,000 to Griswold Middle School.
Motion unanimously carried.

3. TangerKids Outlet Donation in the amount of $500 to Griswold Elementary School

MOTON By Jennifer Norman
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To accept the generous donation from TangerKids Outlet in the amount of $500 to Griswold Elementary School.
Motion unanimously carried.

4. Lisbon/Griswold Continental Lions Mini-Teacher Grant in the amount of $100 to Griswold Elementary School

MOTION By Jennifer Norman
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To accept the generous donation from the Lisbon/Griswold Continental Lions Mini-Teacher grant in the amount of $950 to Griswold Elementary School.
Motion unanimously carried.

9. Old Business

A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Potential Capital Committee Projects for the 2025-2026 School Year – No discussion took place on Capital Committee projects.

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To table action on the potential capital committee projects for the 2025/2026 school year.
Motion unanimously carried.

B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Initial Budget Proposal for the 2025-2026 School Year – No discussion took place on the initial budget proposal for the 2025/2026 school year.

MOTION By Cathy Waselik
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To table action on the Initial Budget proposal for the 2025/2026 school year.
Motion unanimously carried.

10. Administrators' Reports

A. Assistant Superintendent's Report—Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent
1. Presentation on MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) - The Board received an update from Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and Directors of Instructional Improvement – Patricia Feeney and Jessica Gillespie - on our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for our students (MTSS). Students receive support for academic, behavioral and/or social emotional needs. They explained how the MTSS program works.

11. Superintendent's Report

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

B. Superintendent's Timely Updates
   1. Griswold Public Schools Early Childhood Registration
   2. Governor Lamont's Budget Proposal
   The Board received an update from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, on the topics listed above 1 and 2.

   3. Status Report Regarding Complaint against the Griswold Board of Education Submitted to the FOIA Commission – The Superintendent reported that an FOIA complaint was filed against the Griswold Board of Education and he has referred this matter to the Board's attorney.

12. Committee/Board Reports

A. Policy Subcommittee Update - Yvonne Palasky – Chair of the Policy Subcommittee, Yvonne Palasky, provided an update to the Board on the work of the committee.

B. DPAC (District Partnership Advisory Council) - Yvonne Palasky – Chair of the DPAC Committee, Yvonne Palasky, provided an update to the Board on the recent meeting of the DPAC.

C. Town of Griswold, Capital Committee—Martin Osga – Chair of the Capital Committee for the Town of Griswold, Martin Osga, provided an update to the Board on the recent meeting of the Capital Committee.

13. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board – BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin, wished to send out congratulations to the GHS boy's basketball team for winning the ECC tournament on Wednesday evening. They will start with the state tournament at home next Wednesday at 6 PM.

14. Adjournment

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To adjourn the regular meeting at 6:59 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak