

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

February 13, 2025

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 thirteenth of February at the hour of 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board.

Mrs. Adams, 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: Tina Adams, President
Kathy Ruesken, 1st Vice President
Emily Conner, 2nd Vice President
Jason Jaques, Assistant Secretary

Absent: Jesse Adduci, 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: Pastor Bill Jones with Griffith First United Methodist church said a prayer.

2.2 Superintendent Update: Mrs. Dumezich congratulated the seniors on the Boys Basketball team, Swimming team, and Unified sports since it was senior night. Mrs. Dumezich explained that we received a waiver for the two days of school that school was closed due to the cold and pipes bursting in the buildings. Mrs. Dumezich explained and went into detail as to why we are not engaged in eLearning. Mrs. Sarver, the new Technology Director, will be working on a flex waiver for grades K-8 to do eLearning without their iPad at home. Mrs. Dumezich hopes to get that going for the next school year. Mrs. Dumezich congratulated the seventh-grade girls' basketball team for being undefended.

2.3 Panther Spotlight: Mrs. Dumezich acknowledge the female wrestling team. The girls on the team took turns to talk and express how wrestling has changed their lives and thanked the coaches. Mrs. Dumezich recognized Tiffany Ulman and Daielle Azcona for preparing and delivering lunches to students in need on the two days that school closed. Tiffany Ulman shared that on the first day they delivered twenty-four lunches. On the second day they delivered over forty lunches. Tiffany Ulman explained that a unanimous donor donated the funds to pay for the lunches for the students in need on the two days school was closed.

2.4 Finance: Mrs. Chance presented the finance report for the month of January.

2.6 Board Reports: Mrs. Adams reported on Park Board. Mrs. Adams stated that the Park Board is still waiting for grant approval. Mrs. Adams also shared that the lights at the Babe Ruth field are still being worked on. Mrs.

Consent Agenda: Mrs. Adams requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. The consent agenda contains the following items: Minutes, Agreements/Contracts, and Claims for Payroll 1.17.25-1.31.25. Accounts Payable 1.10.25-1.13.25, Professional Leaves, Fundraisers, Donations, Grants, Overnight request, and the following Personnel report:

PERSONNEL REPORT					
February 13, 2025					
<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>
Niki Sarver	Director Of Technology And Curriculum	Robby Dragomer	7/1/25	\$96,500.00	Contract
	<i>Certified</i>				
Luke Haney	MS/HS Long Term Sub	Long Term Sub For Jenna Parker Maternity- Leave	TBD Based On FMLA	\$150.00 Daily For The First 15 Days. Then Prorated \$48,000.00 After The First 15 Days.	Contract
Delores Estrada	Spanish Teacher - Beiriger	Rebecca Gutierrez	8/11/2025	\$55,000.00	Contract
	<i>Non- Certified</i>				
	<i>Extra-Curricular/Athletics</i>				
	<i>Clubs</i>				
	<i>Separations</i>				
Brett Jennings	High School Business And Computer Teacher	Resignation	1/28/2025	\$68,500.00	Contract
Marilyn Brunk	HS/MS Math Instructional Coach	Resignation	End Of The 2024-2025 School Year	\$77,855.15	Contract
Marilyn Brunk	HS Academic Superbowl Coordinator	Resignation	End Of The 2024-2025 School Year	\$3,820.00	Contract
Marilyn Brunk	HS Academic Superbowl Math Coach Position	Resignation	End Of The 2024-2025 School Year	\$3,625.00	Contract
Heidi Filatov	Special Education Teacher - Wadsworth	Resignation	End Of The 2024-2025 School Year	\$48,000.00	Contract
Ebonie Johnson	Sub Bus Driver	No Call No Show	2/3/2025	\$23.50	Hourly
Justin Faught	JV Baseball Coach	Resignation	2/6/2025	\$2,100.00	Contract
Niki Sarver	Assistant Technology Director	Resignation	6/30/25	\$90,000.00	Contract
	<i>Other</i>				
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Backgrounds Pending Approval					

4.1 First Reading Of Policies: Mrs. Adams requested a motion to approve the first reading of policies. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the reading of policies. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Approval Of The 2025 Easter Egg Hunt: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board for approval of the 2025 Easter egg hunt. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the 2025 Easter hunt. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.3 Approval Of The Proposal For The Technology Project With E-Rate Savings And Proven IT: Mrs. Adams requested a motion to approve the proposal for the technology project with E-Rate savings and proven IT. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the proposal for the technology project with E-Rate savings and proven IT. Mr. Jaques seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.4 Approval Of New Student Club: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board for the approval of the new student club. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the new student club. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.5 Approval Of The 2025-2026 Kindergarten Round Up: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board for the approval of the 2025-2026 kindergarten round up dates. Mrs. Jaques made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 kindergarten round up dates. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.6 Approval Of The High Ability Handbook: Mrs. Cain presented and asked the Board for the approval of the high ability handbook. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the high-ability handbook. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.7 Beiriger Suicide Intervention Parent Acknowledgment Form: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board to approve the Beiriger Suicide Intervention Parent Acknowledgment Form. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the Beiriger Suicide Intervention Parent Acknowledgment Form. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.8 Eligibility Checklist For Section 504 Disability In Learning: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board to approve the Eligibility Checklist For Section 504 Disability In Learning. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the Eligibility Checklist For Section 504 Disability In Learning. Mr. Jaques seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.9 Approval Of Agreement With Constangy Brooks, Smith And Prophet LLP: Ms. Chance presented and asked the Board to approve the Agreement with Constangy Brooks, Smith And Prophet LLP. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the Agreement with Constangy Brooks, Smith And Prophet LLP. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.10 Approval Of Step One Report Of Design Build Project: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board for approval of the step one report on the design build project. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the Step One report of the design build project. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.11 Approval To Go Forward With Construction: Mrs. Dumezich presented and asked the Board for the approval to go forward with construction. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve of going forward with construction. Mr. Jaques seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.12 Approval Of Exhibit A # 2025-3 Resolution Approving Form Of Lease: Mrs. Adams presented and asked for a motion to approve the Exhibit A # 2025-3 resolution approving form of lease. Mrs. Conner made a motion to approve exhibit A # 2025-3 resolution approving form of lease. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.13 Exhibit B # 2025-4 Resolution Approving Form Of Lease: Mrs. Adams presented and asked for a motion to approve Exhibit B # 2025-4 resolution approving form of lease. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve Exhibit B # 2025-4 resolution approving form of lease. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4.14 Resolution 2025-5 Long-Term Sub Pay: Ms. Chance presented and asked the Board to approve resolution 2025-5 long term sub pay. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the resolution 2025-4 long term sub pay. Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Audience Participation: None


Good Of The Corporation: Mrs. Ruesken shared that Performance services have used our Wadsworth graphic design in the Indiana School Board Association Journal magazine. Performance Service stated that they are proud of the Wadsworth building and with the approval of the superintendent Performance Services has been marketing the completed Wadsworth project. Mrs. Conner stated that High School students are jealous of Wadsworth having a slide and not the High School. Mrs. Dumezich also stated that she is passionate about kids and has been an advocate of student choice. Mrs. Dumezich is hoping that parents are paying attention to what is happening at the state level. Senate bill 1 has been reconstructed. Mrs. Dumezich is asking to pay attention to what is happening in funding for the future and our children's future.


Upcoming Board Meeting: The next Regular School Board meeting will be on April 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.


There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Jaques motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Tina Adams, President


Kathy Ruesken, First Vice President


Emily Conner, Second Vice President


Jesse Adduci, Secretary


Jason Jaques, Assistant Secretary