

Board of Education Regular Meeting (Tuesday, July 8, 2025)*Generated by Kimberly Grilli on Wednesday, July 9, 2025***Members present**

LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM**A. Opening Items**

Procedural: 1. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: 2. Five Principles of Cruiser PLC

Procedural: 3. Roll Call - All present

Discussion: 4. Review of Belief Statement and Board Norms

B. Agenda Approval

Action 2025-166: 1. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda. Add Exec. session before consent agenda per Ms. Gray. The session is for employment, dismissal, etc...ORC 121.22 G1

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-167: Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Ms. Walsh asked to remove everything from the Consent Agenda to be voted on separately.

C. Call to Order**D. Public Participation**

Procedural, Information: 1. Guidelines for Public Participation

- Mr. Mitchell - Parent Advisory committee - check in with Board and answer questions from the Board. Meeting monthly for a year. Meet with parents and representatives from the district. Hang tight and you can talk later during the meeting.
- Jane Decker - Board members behavior and posting on social media is ridiculous. Board member behavior is unacceptable. I hope Board members do not run against the Bond levy. Confronting some members at a meeting is bad. PAC was going great on cell phone use until angry display by one Board member. Students should be able to solve differences by not yelling, Board members should do the same. Board members should not be against each other.

E. Presentations

Presentation: 1. Presentation by State Senator Michele Reynolds - Good evening everyone. I am going around to my districts during break. There are several committees that I sit on that may be beneficial to you. I do care about education. School funding budget is what I want to talk about. Issues are not easy as talking points. Highlights - State formula aid was increased by 1.4 billion.

F. Board Items

Discussion: 1. Educational Trust - Golf Outing Update - \$12,908 profit plus the \$17,500 Chartwells so a total of \$30,408. GREAT!!!

Presentation: 2. Parent Advisory Committee Presentation

- Mr. Mitchell, Any questions from the Board?
- Ms. Herbert and Ms. Zimmer (also a member of the PTA). We wanted to come and let everyone know that we have a vested interest in the students.
- Latoya - We will get you back on the agenda for the presentation.
- Libby - I want to thank you for your participation
- Seth - I want to thank you for your participation
- Kathy - Do you need more direction for the Board or any other items you need from the Board to be more effective and producing the outcomes.
- Mr. Mitchell stated all information we got was very helpful.
- Ms. Herbert states we work well together.
- Latoya - this meeting was to get the presentation ready for the Board mtg but it got interrupted.

- John - Maybe have a mtg of the whole Board at the next PAC meeting. So, have a special board mtg.
- Paul - You and your kids are fantastic. It was amazing to speak about ideas and about this community.

G. Executive Session

Action 2025-168 1. Recommendation to Adjourn to Executive Session 8:10 p.m.

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of considering the employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

H. Reconvene to Open Session at 8:32 p.m.

I. Agenda

Action 2025-169: 1. Accept the minutes for the 5-19-25 Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

The Treasurer recommends the Groveport Madison Local Board of Education accept the minutes for the May 19, 2025 Parent Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-170, Minutes: 2. Approve the minutes for the June 10, 2025 regular meeting

The Treasurer recommends the Groveport Madison Local Board of Education approve the minutes for the June 10, 2025 Regular Meeting .

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Abstain: Kathleen Walsh

Action 2025-171: 3. Approve Job Descriptions

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached job descriptions. We are taking out all 4 administrative job descriptions.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-172: 4. Approve Certificated Personnel Items

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Certificated Personnel Items: minus the Deputy Supt additional job duties stipend

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-173: 5. Approve Non Certificated Personnel Items

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Non Certificated Personnel Items:

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-174: 6. Approve Payment-In-Lieu Transportation Reimbursement

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve payment-in-lieu of transportation reimbursement. The Ohio law allows for public school districts to determine the impracticality of transporting resident students attending schools not located within the district after consideration of a number of factors. Upon that determination, the school district is permitted to offer payment-in-lieu of transportation to the parent/guardian. The Transportation Department has completed studies and residents in affected areas will be offered payment-in-lieu of for the 2025-2026 school year. The initial list of families being offered payment-in-lieu-of transportation is attached as Executive Content since it lists students' names.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by John Kershner.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-175: 7. Approve Speech and Occupational Therapy Contract with REACH.

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Speech and Occupational Therapy Contract with REACH.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-176: 8. Approve Special Education Contract with Highland

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Special Education Contract with Highland.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-177: 9. Approve Special Education Contracts with The Learning Spectrum

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Special Education Contracts with The Learning Spectrum.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

J. Superintendent's Agenda

Presentation, Report: 1. Department Reports

- Busing - year end event went well. All buses passed inspection. Fuel dispenser system is being bought and reimbursed by CBS. Rodeo bus champion came in 3rd nationwide, it is international!!! Back to school getting ready...dry runs are 1st week of August. Drivers will be ready to meet and greet and Graeter's Ice Cream will be served.
- Business Services - Hiring classified people. Playgrounds have been installed and complete!!! Fencing will be done soon to protect the playgrounds. Security cameras were installed and covering the playgrounds.
- Human Capital - Classified Job Fair was great. Looking for about 34 people in total for classified dept. We had 115 people come and interview. IT WAS GREAT!!! Kellie did a great job with organization and communications. Latoya - great job!!!

Action 2025-178, Discussion: 2. Approve Ohio School Plan Insurance Renewal

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Ohio School Plan Insurance Renewal as attached.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Abstain: Kathleen Walsh

Discussion: 3. Board Policy Review-Second Read - Changes, adds and drops will be in Treasurer's notes and that will be relayed to Supt dept. and be what is adopted as Board policy.

Action 2025-179: 4. The Superintendent recommends the following policies.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-180: 5. Move to take a 5 minute recess

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Kathleen Walsh

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-181: 6. Cell phone policy

The Superintendent recommends the following policies.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower, John Kershner

No: Kathleen Walsh

K. Treasurer's Agenda

Procedural: 1. Treasurer's Reports

Action 2025-182: 3. Admin Pick-Up Structure and Salary Range

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Admin Pick-Up Structure and Salary Range for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-183: 4. Donation from Compass Group

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education accept the donation in the amount of \$17,500.00 from Compass Group (Chartwells).

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-184: 5. Donation from Charles River Laboratories

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education accept the donation of Micropipettors in the amount of \$1,800.00 from Charles River Laboratories.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-185: 6. Authorize Submission of the FY25 Final Appropriations and FY25 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources to County Auditor

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education authorize the Treasurer to submit to the Franklin County Auditor the FY25 Final Appropriations and FY25 Final Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources as of June 30, 2025 with the submission of revised actuals to be reported at its next regular meeting for ratification.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by John Kershner.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-186, Discussion: 7. Resolution of Necessity for Bond Levy

- Mr. Kershner - I am surprised that this is on again. It was defeated soundly last time. No Middle School should be on Noe-Bixby. The idea of an elementary school in Independence Village is very well liked. We didn't revise anything or discuss this after it failed twice. This plan was not the most voted for plan.
- Mr. Grube - After the bond issue was defeated, we started looking at our options. We are bursting at the seams. We have classrooms in hallways and classrooms in closets. Our libraries are cut up into multiple classrooms and meeting spaces.
- Mr. Collier - Modulares will cost us \$7 million for 2 - 12 modular classrooms and a 6 modular classroom (30 classrooms all together) and 2 cafeterias.
- Ms. Walsh - We should have changed the plan and built a school in Independence Village. I do not like the statement "school in Independence Village could mean kids don't get out of that community." We have Madison and Dunloe in the community.
- Ms. Gray - \$90 million for renovations and modulares is now what the public has to pay at 100% local share. This is sad for the community. Our students deserve better schools and updated buildings.
- Mr. Bower - I agree with Libby. We had plenty of meetings and not many people showed up.
- Ms. Dowdell-Burger - Thanks to the people that did come and show up for all the meetings. Levy did fail and I understand that. We had members of this board that helped that bond levy fail. It was intentional to ensure that bond failed. Board members just have a difference of opinion.
- Mr. Kershner - Majority did rule but 2 people did not like it.

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Bond issue in the amount of \$77,215,000 for the purpose of constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping three new 5-8 middle schools with related site improvements and appurtenances thereto; constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping an addition to Groveport Madison High School, with related site improvements and appurtenances thereto; abatement and demolition of existing facilities; improving, renovating, furnishing, and equipping existing facilities; and replacing existing equipment and constructing various permanent improvements school district-wide.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Yes: Seth Bower

No: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

L. Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

Information: 1. Board member comments and/or special announcements, and other business.

- July 28th at 6 p.m. - Special Meeting
- John - Get legal and or prosecutors office opinion on public comment and virtual board meetings.
- Legal Counsel - It's a board meeting if there are more than two board members present. So, if a committee has less than three board members, then that would not be considered a board meeting.

M. Adjournment

Action 2025-187: 1. Motion to Adjourn
11:13 pm

Motion by Libby Gray, second by Kathleen Walsh.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner