Board of Education Special Meeting (Wednesday, March 18, 2026)
Generated by Kimberly Grilli on Thursday, March 19, 2026

Members present
LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Meeting called to order at 7:31 AM

A. Call to Order

Procedural: 1. Call to Order

Procedural: 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Procedural: 3. Roll Call - All present except for Ms. Herbert

B. Agenda Approval

Action 2026-130: 1. Adoption of Meeting Agenda
Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by John Kershner.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer

C. Executive Session

Action 2026-131: 1. Recommendation to Adjourn to Executive Session at 7:33 am Ms. Herbert arrived at 7:34 am. Reconvene at 9:06 am.
It is recommended that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, promotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1); and preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment, pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(4) and investigation of charges or complaints against a district employee or official pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(1) and to confer with the Board's attorney concerning disputes involving the public body that are subject to pending and imminent court action pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(3). The Board further acknowledges that no formal action or vote will be taken in executive session and that any subsequent Board action will occur in open session.

Motion by John Kershner, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer

D. Reconvene from Open Session

E. Board Item

Action, Discussion: 1. Consideration of Executive Session and Discussion (if needed)

F. Superintendent's Agenda

Action 2026-132: 1. Approve Certificated Personnel Items
- Ms. Zimmer - Confirm title for Ms. Wyatt. Just a clerical error, but it is the same pay.

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

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-133: 2. Approve Contract for Director of Business Services
- Mr. Kershner - I have no problems with the applicant. But, with reductions, do we need this job? I would rather have aides and other support. Just because of budget reductions, I will not approve this.
- Ms. Dowdell-Burger - I think we need this position with our aging buildings and the amount of work that needs done.
- Ms. Walsh - Job description needs updated and not utilizing it by the Board. Needs license. Need to be sure person has construction and facilities experience and I do not believe that this person does. When I first started on the Board, we did not have this position and I do not see this position has helped.
- Ms. Zimmer - Kathy, are you and John saying we do not need this position and the responsibilities should just be taken care of by the Assistant Superintendent?
- Mr. Kershner - Yes, I am saying we do not need this and it could be done by current Admin. We do not need a Masters to be required. We have a lot of overlap.
- Ms. Walsh - Yes, we need someone that specializes in facilities and construction.

- Mr. Grube - I respectfully disagree with some of these comments. This job does much more than facilities. They are responsible for classified staffing and other duties besides facilities and construction. I think it has brought great value to the district. They deal with contracts and negotiations also.
- Ms. Walsh - Did you have a large pool?
- Mr. Grube - No, we did not have a large pool. The skill set we are looking for is a small pool of applicants and very few people have all the skill sets.
- Mr. Kershner - I do not agree with the need for this job.
- Ms. Zimmer - He is a licensed attorney and usually they are by the book and follow the laws. Jobs will be vetted and this will save us money.

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached contract for Bobby Dodd as Director of Business Services.

Motion by Ashley Zimmer, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert
No: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

Action 2026-134: 3. Approve Contract for Director of Human Capital

- Ms. Walsh - Explain to me how you determined the experience level? I saw more candidates that had more HR experience.
- Mr. Grube - Looked at TOTAL level of admin experience and put her on this step. Not just HR experience but total admin experience.
- Ms. Dowdell-Burger - Pleased with candidate.

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached contract for JaTina Threat as Director of Human Capital.

Motion by John Kershner, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert

Action 2026-135: 4. Approve Contract for Director of Student Services

- Ms. Walsh - My questions were answered in advance. Thank you to admin for getting back to me with everything.

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached contract for Casey Martin as Director of Student Services.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert
No: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

G. Board Member Comments

- Ms. Dowdell-Burger - I will not be here for State of the Schools because I have a work commitment out of state.
- Ms. Herbert - I appreciate the work of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.
- Ms. Zimmer - Job descriptions - Approved in January 2022 for Director of Business Services.

H. Adjournment

Action 2026-136: 1. Motion to Adjourn
9:30 am adjourn

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Ashley Zimmer.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Kathleen Walsh, Ashley Zimmer, Dionna Herbert
Not Present at Vote: John Kershner