

Grass Lake Community Schools

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240

(517) 522-5540 • Fax (517) 522-8195

Grass Lake Community Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, February 13, 2012

7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary

Library/Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Burnett

Darrell Hart

Florine Herendeen

John Pattera

Kimberly Seaburg

Tim Waskiewicz

David Wright

ADMINISTRATORS

Brad Hamilton

Michelle Clark

Doug Moeckel

Jeanene Satterthwaite

Brian Thompson

GUESTS

Natalia Aguiar

Daryl Alopaeus

Elisa Alopaeus

Makenna Burnett

Turner Burnett

Stephanie Diaz

Amy Farley

Margaret Henthorne

Michael Herendeen

Emelia Hornberger

Shelby Maldonado

Carol McCown

Jean McKim

Heidi Mitchell

Jerry Mitchell

Rachel Mitchell

Wendy Murdock

Dominique Perez

Clara Rollan

Hailee Shoemaker

Mike Shoemaker

Jennifer Taylor

Nikki Tracy

Bill Walbridge

Libby Watkins

Ryan Watkins

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Tim Waskiewicz, President

Certified Correct

Mark Burnett, Secretary

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1. Call to Order

President Waskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the agenda as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Hart, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2012 and the Special Meeting of January 23, 2012 as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Burnett, to approve paying bills in the amount of \$597,892.12. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Hearing of Citizens

None

7. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Meet the Exchange Students

Mr. Thompson introduced three exchange students who were here for the entire semester. Then he introduced the six students from Chile who were just at the school for several weeks. They each gave a brief Power Point presentation with information about their

country: Politics, education, culture of the region where they live, adolescents in Chile (school, family, free time), Chile to the world (exports of food and copper, fishing), and Student Revolt.

B. Summer 2012 Roof Projects

Mr. Hamilton called attention to a handout with information on the middle school roof. The original plan was to work on some sections of the elementary roof, but it was felt that the middle school roof was a more urgent need. There were planning to do the pre-bid process in March so the work could be done in the summer. The rough estimate would be between \$110,000 and \$130,000.

C. Ad Hoc Budget Committee

Mr. Hamilton said it was time to take a very serious look at the budget for next year. This could be just a small group or a committee of the whole.

He explained that there was a projected increase of 11.9% in the retirement rate for next year. Some of this would be offset by increases in state funding. Mr. Hamilton was concerned that the district wouldn't qualify for some of the incentives that were related to student achievement. He had been meeting with the principals about this and would be working with Mrs. Overmyer.

Members Hart, Seaburg and Wright volunteered to form the committee, but the meeting would be open to all board members.

D. Election Law

Mr. Waskiewicz stated that some other districts in the area were leaning toward six year terms because of the potential turnover rate if half the board was up for election every two years. Some discussion followed.

E. Hearing for Bullying and Aggressive Behavior Policy

March 12th, 6:30 p.m., will be a hearing for the new policy. NEOLA is working on the policy, but then administrative guidelines and procedures will have to be determined, with input from the principals.

8. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Resolution Regarding School District Borrowing and Cash Flow

An e-mail and resolution from Lapeer Community Schools was included in the board packets as an example. The state only makes payments to the schools for 11 months and some districts have to borrow money to cover payroll and expenses for the 12th money. Grass Lake has been fortunate in not having to do this. In 2011, over \$700,000,000 was borrowed

by Michigan school districts, with over \$15,000,000 in interest paid. The proposed resolution was to ask the legislature to reform the state aid payments and make 12 payments a year and make some other changes to eliminate the need for schools to borrow money and spend so much on interest payments.

Mr. Waskiewicz read the proposed resolution to the board. Mr. Burnett asked if the wording of the resolution was good and if the district should support it. Mr. Hamilton said this wouldn't do anything to help Grass Lake Schools because we didn't have this problem. Questions and discussion followed. Mr. Waskiewicz said the board members needed do some research and reword the resolution. Member Herendeen will work with Mr. Waskiewicz on this and e-mail the rest of the board

B. Accept Resignation of Sally Dwyer – Special Education Aide

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Herendeen, to accept the resignation of Sally Dwyer, with regret. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

9. Principal Week – February 12th – 18th

Mr. Waskiewicz thanked the principals and gave them a certificate.

There was some discussion about what the principals like about their jobs. There was also discussion about the exchange students.

8. Unfinished Business

Tim reminded the board that there is a meeting scheduled for February 20 at 7 p.m. with the On Track 360 people to get more specific information about the evaluation process.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Seaburg, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.