

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, September 9, 2013

7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary

Library/Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly Seaburg

John Paterra

Mark Burnett

David Wright

Kristi Shoemaker

Tim Waskiewicz

MEMBERS ABSENT

Darrell Hart

ADMINISTRATORS

Brad Hamilton

Michelle Clark

Brian Thompson

Jeanene Satterthwaite

Doug Moeckel

GUESTS

Debbie Brady

Shannon Maynard

Jeff Thompson

Jennifer Thompson

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Tim Waskiewicz, President

Certified Correct

John Paterra, Secretary

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1. Call to Order

President Waskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Paterra to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 12, 2013 and the Special Meeting of August 26, 2013. All present voted Aye.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Burnett, to approve the board bills in the amount of \$781,651.18. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Correspondence

Mr. Hamilton reminded all of the Jackson County School Board Association's Organizational Dinner to be held on October 3, 2013. He asked that anyone planning on attending notify Debbie Brady so that she could RSVP to the ISD.

6. Hearing of Citizens

None

7. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Start of the School Year Update

Mr. Hamilton informed the members that it has been a good start to the school year despite the challenges. He also stated that most have been positive in dealing with the unique situations and challenges this year. He is pleased with the happenings in classrooms. He directed attention to the current enrollment numbers given by the building principals. At the high school there are 403½ students (including a Career Center only student), the elementary school is at 570 while the middle school is at 288 students. There are 7 students that will be temporarily enrolled by families working on the oil pipeline. It is not known whether they will be enrolled long enough to be included in the count day totals. Mr. Thompson also stated there are 2 or 3 exchange students.

B. Strategic Planning

The principals will be reporting on the goals being worked on in their individual buildings at the next meeting, but Mr. Hamilton also wanted to report on the challenges he has given to the staff. He talked about the unique opportunity afforded by the late start Wednesdays and has challenged the staff to come up with different ideas to develop new opportunities in which to work on the strategic goals. He has already had a couple of teachers approach him with ideas.

Mr. Hamilton and Brian Thompson will be attending a meeting to investigate the possibility for creating a common schedule among High schools although he admitted that this will be difficult to accomplish. It is common that each school is comfortable with their own schedule, whether block schedule or traditional. One of the benefits of a common schedule is for high schools to be able to collaborate on classes. He explained how this will fit in with strategic planning of developing a campus setting.

Mr. Hamilton mentioned that the *Leader in Me* program is going well and he is proud of the efforts being made. He then talked about the partnerships with the community groups, including the Wellness Center, the Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Development, but added that all must be pointed in same direction. The challenge is to get all to see the common threads they share. The school district must be willing to change as well. He pointed out that the district must be willing to downsize or grow to survive. But to accomplish the goals, all parties must be in line with this. There is a need to take a look at how to grow the community together.

8. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Approve the Transportation Handbook

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the Transportation Handbook as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

B. Approve Athletic Code of Conduct

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Shoemaker, to approve the Athletic Code of Conduct as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

C. Approve the Hiring of Jennifer Taylor – Middle School Cross Country Coach

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the hiring of Jennifer Taylor as Middle School Cross Country Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

8. Unfinished Business

Mr. Hamilton was asked what had been accomplished with the issue raised by Suzy Bednarski at the last meeting regarding the Dual Sport Policy. Mr. Hamilton mentioned he had talked to Mrs. Bednarski and had discussed the Dual Sports contract with her. He also mentioned that Mr. McCalla had talked to the coaches involved and informed them of the policy. Mr. Hamilton said that he felt that the situation had been handled satisfactorily for all parties.

Member Wright reminded everyone of the Relay for Life on Friday. He said that a group from Michigan Center had challenged the Grass Lake group to a t-shirt selling contest. Michelle Clark asked him to email info to her so that she could forward it onto the teachers.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Seaburg, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.