

# 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 12, 2011  
7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary  
Library/Media Center

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mark Burnett  
Darrell Hart  
Florine Herendeen  
Kimberly Seaburg  
Tim Waskiewicz  
David Wright

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

John Paterra

### **ADMINISTRATORS**

Brad Hamilton  
Michelle Clark  
Doug Moeckel  
Jeanene Satterthwaite  
Brian Thompson

### **GUESTS**

Tiffany Finch  
April Fulara  
Margaret Henthorne  
Denise Lotz  
Shannon Maynard  
Carol McCown  
Penny Murray  
Jennifer Sullivan  
Jennifer Taylor

### **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 7:00 p.m.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the agenda with the addition of VII. C., Approve Letter of Agreement between Board of Education and GLEA. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve the minutes with a correction on the August 22 Board Minutes. All present voted Aye.

### 4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Burnett, to approve paying bills in the amount of \$551,322.91. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

### 5. Correspondence

#### A. Reinventing Jackson County Education System

Superintendent Hamilton reported on a meeting he attended to discuss ideas on education with representatives of JCEG. JCISD Superintendent Kevin Oxley had asked the Shared Services Subcommittee to meet with three or four members of the organization. (Mr. Hamilton is chair of the subcommittee).

Mr. Hamilton commented that this group is just one of the groups in the county that wants to reinvent education, and they are the most vocal right now. These groups feel that education needs to be reinvented in the county. They feel that the county has lost out on

some opportunities, such as new companies looking at the area, because of the education system in the county.

JCEG says they are not pushing for school consolidation, although some legislators are. They are interested in the possibility of receiving money from the governor. Mr. Hamilton commented that the problem would be that starting a program would be good, but when the money is gone, local schools would have to provide the funding.

Mr. Hamilton added that the group has some good ideas, but they have never spent any time in a classroom and really don't know anything about education.

Mr. Hamilton said that he would be meeting with the JCEG again on Monday, September 19, at 7:30 a.m. He hoped that Mr. Waskiewicz, or any other board member who was interested. Mr. Hamilton was concerned because there are many groups out there and he felt it would make more sense to have just one group.

#### B. JCASB Organizational Meeting

Mr. Hamilton reminded the board that the Jackson County Area School Board Association Organization Meeting and dinner was scheduled for September 27 at the Davis Banquet Center in Jackson. Mrs. Seaburg had already registered to attend. Anyone else wishing to attend should notify Mrs. Henthorne.

### 6. Hearing of Citizens

None

### 7. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

#### A. Start of the School Year Update

Mr. Hamilton reported that he had posted a part time custodial/maintenance position. Mrs. Szczykutowicz would be coming back, but she can only work a third of the time that she did before. Supervision of custodians will fall back on the building principals.

The new part-time person would clean up after elementary lunch, move mail around and help with some light maintenance and learn the HVAC control system.

Mr. Hamilton also posted a playground aide position. He would like to hire two, to alleviate pressure on the staff with the new pilot schedule.

Mr. Hamilton reviewed a copy of a memo that would be going out to staff the next day to explain what is being done to help with the schedule change. Just one teacher, instead of all teachers, need to be on the playground for each recess. He is going to hire sub teachers for

a half day for eight out of the ten months, to give teachers a chance to meet together. Finally, depending on the response from the Michigan Department of Education, Grades 6-12 could do threaded discussions online as part of classes. Kids would be at home working on computers and teachers could meet together for professional development or grade level or subject level meetings.

All in all, Mr. Hamilton said he had gotten through some transportation and cafeteria issues, but he was still working on some technology issues.

Mr. Hamilton added that an intervention was tried in the elementary east parking lot, but it failed. They will probably have to do some French drains to eliminate standing water after it rains.

#### B. Strategic Planning

Mr. Hamilton said the board needed to get back in to working on Strategic Planning. He will have more details at board workshops in the future. He suggested picking two goals review at each board workshop.

#### C. Board Policies

Mr. Hamilton reported that new laws require boards to look more closely at their policies, but NEOLA won't be sending updates as often.

He reviewed a handout about teacher evaluations. The district evaluation forms had to be updated to meet changes in law. He added that a county wide group, which included Brian Thompson, Jennifer Taylor and George Gogol, worked to prepare the form, which was being used in all districts in the county.

#### D. School Trip Update – Natalia Morris and Danielle Doctor

Mr. Thompson explained that he was cover for the teachers, who were unable to attend the meeting. The trip plans have been modified and, instead of Costa Rica, the group will be going to London, France and Italy. They have already put together a new itinerary.

### 8. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

#### A. Approve Hiring of Shannon Cook – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach

Moved by Member Herendeen, supported by member Seaburg, to approve hiring Shannon Cook as 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

#### B. Approve Hiring of Nick Pepper – Middle School Cross Country Coach

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve hiring Nick Pepper as Middle School Cross Country Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

C. Approve Letter of Agreement between Board of Education and GLEA

Mr. Hamilton explained that the letter, which covered the school social worker and counselor, was introduced during negotiations. The letter was developed by MEA Uniserv Director Jonathan Harmon and school attorney Martha Marcero.

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the Letter of Agreement between the Grass Lake Community Schools Board of Education and the Grass Lake Education Association. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

8. Unfinished Business

Mr. Waskiewicz asked about progress on the Festival of Tables. Mr. Hamilton reported that two more tables had been sold and he had received a \$1000 donation just that day. Mr. Hamilton added that they had many items in the silent and live auctions and now the key was to get tables sold and get people there.

Mr. Hamilton informed the board that the upcoming Friday night football game was also the kickoff of the Relay for Life. The football team would be wearing purple uniforms in honor of the Relay.

9. Executive Session

A. Contract Negotiations

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Herendeen, to move into Executive Session. Member Hart - yes, Seaburg – yes, Wright – yes, Herendeen – yes, Member Burnett - yes, Member Waskiewicz – yes.

Moved by Member Wright, supported by Member Seaburg, to move out of Executive Session. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Wright, to adjourn the meeting. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.