

Grass Lake Community Schools

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240

(517) 522-5540 • Fax (517) 522-8195

Grass Lake Community Schools Special Board of Education Meeting

Monday, September 26, 2011

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Wright

ADMINISTRATORS

Brad Hamilton

Doug Moeckel

Jeanene Satterthwaite

Brian Thompson

Andi Overmyer

GUESTS

Terri Burg

Jessica Crandell

Tiffany Finch

April Fulara

Lindsay Gaddy

Margaret Henthorne

Karen Jenks

Kelli Lambrix

Shannon Maynard

Sue Schinck

Jennifer Taylor

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Tim Waskiewicz, President

Certified Correct

Mark Burnett, Secretary

Grass Lake Community Schools

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240
(517) 522-5540 • Fax (517) 522-8195

Grass Lake Community Schools Special Board of Education Meeting

Monday, September 26, 2011
7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary
Library/Media Center

1. Call to Order

President Waskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Correspondence

Mr. Hamilton reported on the meeting he attended September 19 with the JSEG group that was interested in reinventing education in Jackson County. He passed out minutes of the meeting and a draft of a resolution entitled, "Authorizing and Instructing Its Superintendent to Engage in Discussions and Collaborative Efforts with Other School Districts and Entities," that the JSEG group was asking all school boards in the county to approve. Mr. Hamilton stated that originally JSEG wanted school districts to do a SWOC (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges) study. Now they were also asking for three other things. He did feel that the meeting was productive. Both Representatives were in attendance, which changed the tone of the meeting.

Member Seaburg asked what the group hoped to achieve. Mr. Hamilton explained that JSEG is about trying to improve the educational system to try to attract more business to the area. He said that the superintendents tried to remind the group that schools cannot be run like a business. Also, they were trying to get JSEG to look at other studies that have already been done in the area.

More questions and discussions followed.

4. Hearing of Citizens

None

5. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Kelli Lambrix, PFM – Taxable Value and Loan Repayment

Kelli Lambrix talked to the board about millage. She explained that because 2009, 2010 and 2011 all had negative growth rates in taxable value, at some point the district will need to raise its millage.

When the 2006 bond was done, it looked like the bond could be paid off sooner. The negative growth in taxable value has created a problem with being able to pay off the bond in a timely manner. Mrs. Lambrix explained that the problem will actually take effect in 2032, when the bond is scheduled to be paid off.

Any change should be made in June when the millage rates are set for the following year. Ms. Lambrix added that PFM could work with the board on setting the necessary millage rate increase.

Mr. Waskiewicz suggested that a committee meet with Ms. Lambrix in the Spring to work on this.

6. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Approve Hiring of Becky McEldery, Kindergarten Teacher

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve Hiring Becky McEldery as a kindergarten teacher for the district. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

B. Resolution to Declare Policy Holder Status for Healthcare Services Benefits

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Burnett, to approve the Resolution to Declare Policy Holder Status for Healthcare Services Benefits. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

C. Approve Evaluation Plan for Teachers

Mr. Hamilton reminded the board that the new evaluation plan for teachers was presented at the September 12 board meeting. He was asking the board to formally adopt the evaluation plan.

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Burnett, to approve the Evaluation Plan for Teachers. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

D. Approve Evaluation Plan for Administrators

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Pattera, to approve the Evaluation Plan for Administrators. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

E. Approve Resolution for Best Practices Incentive

Moved by Member Seaburg, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve the Resolution for Best Practices Incentive. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

F. Approve Service Consolidation Plan Agreement

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Hart, to approve the Service Consolidation Plan Agreement. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

7. Round Table Discussion

A. Administrative Reports

There were some questions for Mrs. Overmyer about looking for a Math coach. There were questions for Mr. Thompson about students taking Virtual High School classes.

Responding to questions about Senior Portfolio Class, Mr. Thompson explained that this year students report to class two days a week, but the other three days they have tasks to complete on-line. There was discussion about an on-line blog to help in answering questions or e-mailing from students when they are off-campus.

There was discussion about setting up a school e-mail account for each student to use as they go through school. Mr. Thompson suggested waiting until the end of the semester to address all the issues that might come up during the semester. Mr. Waskiewicz felt it was okay to wait as long as we don't feel we are compromising the students' education. He suggested that the Technology Committee meet and discuss non-district hardware from students being used at school.

Mrs. Seaburg asked if students taking JCC classes could access their JCC e-mail at school. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Moeckel thought they could.

B. Mrs. Overmyer presented a Power Point presentation on SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) that will be implemented in 2014-2015. This program is supposed to give teachers more feedback and strategies for helping each student. She also reviewed CLAIMS for Language Arts and Math, and other information.

8. Unfinished Business

Mr. Waskiewicz reminded the board that the Festival of Tables is coming up. Things are progressing and the event is getting a lot of interest. He also reminded them that Homecoming is October 7. Mr. Hamilton felt that the, "Lake George," problem was hopefully solved. (The standing water problem in the west elementary parking lot.)

9. Adjournment

Moved by Member Pattera, supported by Member Seaburg, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.