

# GRASS LAKE

## COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Individual excellence inspired by tradition and innovation

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240

(517) 867-5540 • Fax (517) 522-8195

### Grass Lake Community Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday August 14, 2017  
7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary  
Library/Media Center

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Janey Bisard  
Heather Brown  
Aaron Cole  
Tim Waskiewicz  
Kimberly Seaburg  
Rich Holcomb  
Eric Burk

#### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

#### **ADMINISTRATORS**

Ryle Kiser  
Michelle Clark  
Doug Moeckel  
Brian Thompson  
Jeanene Byerly

**APPROXIMATE GUESTS - 153**

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Rich Holcomb, President

Certified Correct

Kimberly Seaburg – Secretary

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1. Call to Order

President Holcomb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Brown, supported by Member Bisard, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Anne Guerrero's name to item 8D, addition of item 8F – Hiring of Jennifer McDaniel, Elementary Teacher, item 8G – Hiring of Kelly Minick, High School Aide, item 8H – Joseph Niehaus, Special Education Aide and item 8I – Joseph Niehaus, JV Football Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Seaburg, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2017. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Cole, to approve paying the bills for July 2017 in the amount of \$1,305,598.95. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Correspondence – Dr. Kiser referred to a copy of the letter that was received from the Alliance Defending Freedom regarding the transgender issue.

6. Hearing of Citizens – President Holcomb began by stating that board policy allows for 30 minutes for the Hearing of Citizens portion of the meeting. The board had agreed to allow for 60 minutes so that both sides would have time to voice their opinion with 5 minutes allowed for each person. He stated the boards' desire to listen/hear the voice of the citizens. He invited those who would want to speak to be honest but respectful, state their name if applicable, and any affiliation with any group.

Speaking in support of the issue were: Richard Beal (parent), Terri Neely (parent), Jaimie Stockton (parent), Aubrey Martinson (parent), a parent of a transgender student from Adrian, Peter Tchoryk (Dexter parent), Sean Brier, Shane Shananaquet (a transgender student from Adrian), Jonathan (Ann Arbor), Giovanni Paterra (GL graduate), Andrew Heath (parent), Nicoll

Brandimore (GL graduate), Aryel (from Massachusetts), Kim Freese-Beal (parent), Jamie Peacock (parent), Jane Argiero (parent), Emily Sioma (GL graduate), and Chris Holda (parent).

Speaking in opposition of the issue: Lacey Riggs (parent), Heather McDougall (parent), Tim Butterfield (pastor of Grass Lake Baptist and GL alumni), Maureen Griffin (parent and GL alumni), Dale Foster (parent), Tammy Gerlach (parent), and Thomas Baird (parent, grandparent, and former GL teacher).

After the comments portion, the board went into recess for five minutes.

## 7. Reports of Superintendent for Information

- A. Technology/Thompson Update – Dr. Kiser reported the technology updates are nearly completed. Matt Collins, ISD technology representative, is working with Moss to complete items in a way that is acceptable to the district. Dr. Kiser also reported that representatives from several districts had the opportunity to visit with the Thompsons and Mr. Cleary. All had benefitted from their generosity. Districts should recognize the gift as “seed money” to start in the right direction with the districts working on plans to sustain the improvements.
- B. Summer Grounds Updates – Dr. Kiser reported that the portion in the east parking lot at the middle school where buses park has been replaced, sidewalks have been replaced, elementary parking lot repaired and speed bumps installed. The elementary playground improvements/changes are almost completed and a new sidewalk has been installed. New playground equipment will be delivered later and swings from middle school have been moved to the elementary. Future plans for small area of the old playground may include a greenhouse and amphitheater seating for outside classes. Also a 12 x 12 slab will be installed in preschool playground for a walk-in freezer that was given to our district.
- C. Sheriff’s Department Presentation – Officer Todd Whiting, former Grass Lake Liaison Officer. He has been acting as a liaison officer for school districts for five years. Our new liaison officer, Andrew Sullivan, was unable to attend. He discussed areas that will be monitored, the goal of educating the students and working with the administration. He reminded the district of the Sheriff’s Department’s availability to assist at school functions or whenever their assistance is requested.
- D. Seclusion & Restraint Update – Monday morning there will be an Awareness Training Video for all staff. There is an online training video in the event a staff member is unable to attend the training in person.
- E. Third Grade Reading Update – Mrs. Clark stated there were not any updates to report at this time. The board members will be given updates as they are received.

## 8. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

- A. NEOLA Policy/Seclusion and Restraint – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading/Adoption

Moved by Member Waskiewicz, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the adoption of NEOLA Policy 5630.01. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

B. Approve Changes to Building Handbooks

Moved by Member Brown, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to approve changes to the elementary, middle school and high school handbooks as presented. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

C. Resignation/Retirement of JoAnn Karle – Elementary Teacher

Moved by Member Cole, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to approve the resignation of JoAnn Karle as elementary teacher. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

D. Hiring of Anne Guerrero – Elementary Spanish Teacher

Moved by Member Cole, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve hiring Anne Guerrero as elementary Spanish teacher. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

E. Resignation of Nathan Raiche – Bus Driver

Moved by Member Waskiewicz, supported by Member Cole, to approve the resignation of Nathan Raiche as bus driver. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

F. Hiring of Jennifer McDaniel – Elementary Teacher

Moved by Member Brown, supported by Member Bisard, to approve hiring Jennifer McDaniel as an elementary teacher. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

G. Hiring of Kelly Minick – High School Aide

Moved by Member Seaburg, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to approve hiring Kelly Minick as a high school aide. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

H. Hiring of Joseph Niehaus – Special Education Aide

Moved by Member Brown, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to approve hiring Joseph Niehaus as a special education aide. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

I. Hiring of Joseph Niehaus – JV Football Asst. Coach

Moved by Member Seaburg, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to approve hiring Joseph Niehaus as a junior varsity assistant football coach. All present voted aye. Motion Carried.

9. Unfinished Business – The board members were reminded of the Back to School Breakfast on Monday, August 21, 2017 and invited to attend.

10. Adjournment – Business complete, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Debbie Brady