

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 December 12, 2011

7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary

Library/Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Burnett

Darrell Hart

Florine Herendeen

John Paterra

Kimberly Seaburg

Tim Waskiewicz

David Wright

ADMINISTRATORS

Brad Hamilton

Michelle Clark

Eric McCalla

Doug Moeckel

Andi Overmyer

Jeanene Satterthwaite

Brian Thompson

GUESTS

Jane Anderson

Tina Bednarski-Lynch

Katelyn Beurer

Sara Bohn

Scott Elliott

Lindsay Gaddy

Carrie Good

Bethany Hoff

Jim Howe

Karen Jenks

JoAnn Karle

Kelly Kroske

Denise Lotz

Matt Maynard

Shannon Maynard

Christina McKim

Jean McKim

John McKim

Lori Maldonado

Shelby Maldonado

Kathy Mietelka

John Mobley-Bohn

Natalia Morris

Barb Palmer

Nathan Pittenger

Jim Stormont

Jennifer Sullivan

Jennifer Taylor

Rachel Wilson

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 Paterra, to approve the agenda. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Paterra, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14 and the Special Meeting of November 28, 2011 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 \$608,782.90. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Presentation by Mrs. Beurer's 5th Grade Class

Mrs. Beurer introduced the nine students from her class in attendance. She explained that her class took a different approach to Veteran's Day this year. They had six veterans come into their classroom and talk about their experiences in the military.

The class also came up with the idea of sending care packages to active military connected with Grass Lake (four of them). They collected enough money that they can send at least three more packages. All the students wrote letters to be included in the packages.

7. Hearing of Citizens

A number of students and parents addressed the board with questions and statements about Choir Director Antoinette LaCinski being let go by the district. They wanted to know why and how this happened, if Ms. LaCinski would be able to be a substitute teacher for the district, and if she could be rehired in the future.

Superintendent Hamilton gave a chronology of the events and explained the contract language relating to this subject. He explained that Ms. LaCinski has lost all her seniority rights and all rights as a teacher because she lost her certification. He added that she could be a substitute teacher for the district if she followed the same steps as anyone else.

In response to questions and concerns about the music program, Mr. Hamilton stated that the music program is just as important as all the other district's programs. Administrators will seek the best candidate and make the best decision for the program and the district.

Jennifer Taylor stated that the teachers' association was informed of the situation, but wasn't involved in the decision-making.

8. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Strategic Planning Goals

Mr. Hamilton explained that the administrators have been refocusing on some of the goals. The Wellness Committee has been refocused and he is looking forward to seeing how that meshes with the district goals. The Technology goals are moving forward at a rapid pace. He added that the grant applications for GLEF funds were focused a lot on technology.

Mrs. Overmyer and Mrs. Clark continue to meet with John Gehrig and the elementary staff, and the teachers are putting a tremendous effort into the changed RTI program.

B. Technology Committee Update

Technology Committee members Wright, Herendeen and Waskiewicz met to discuss the opportunity to get into the technology consortium with the JCISD. Most other schools in the county have already joined the consortium. They would like to work something out with the ISD to join the consortium but keep Matt Maynard in his current position.

The state is looking at forming one statewide consortium, but the ISD is trying to convince them that regional consortiums would be better.

After discussions with the committee, Mr. Maynard and the ISD, an agreement was made that if the district joined the consortium, Mr. Maynard could continue to be a full-time

employee of the district. Joining the consortium would provide the system administration and instructional technology support that the district needs.

Mr. Hamilton and the committee recommended that the board approve joining the consortium. Mr. Waskiewicz added that he felt that the district would be getting the best of both worlds by joining.

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Seaburg, that the district enter into the Technology Consortium once everything is agreed upon. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

C. School Board Elections

Mr. Hamilton called attention to a document from Pat Berardo of Thrun Law Firm with scenarios for four year or six year elections. Because of the law change, elections can only be held on even years in November, with the term year beginning January 1. Mr. Hamilton asked that the Board review this and make a decision in January.

There was discussion of the Policy Committee scheduling a meeting to review the options.

9. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Resolution – Jackson County’s Commitment to a Solid Educational Foundation

Mr. Hamilton reminded the board that this resolution had been discussed over the last several months’ board meetings. All Jackson County Boards of Education, agencies, village boards and township boards are being asked to sign and endorse the resolution before January.

Jim Stormont added that the purpose of the resolution was to try to get everyone in Jackson County to work toward the same goals and come together to address Lansing for help with the education system in the state. This is a community effort to help the schools.

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Herendeen to approve the Resolution for Jackson County’s Commitment to a Solid Educational Foundation. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

B. Policy Review – Approve Policy 1422.02, 312.02, 4122.02, 1443, 1460, 3160, 4160, 1461, 3161, 4161, 1623, 3123, 4123, 2260.01, 3131, 3143, 5771, 6510, 6520, 9160 and Administrative Guidelines 1623A, 3123A, 4123A, 1623B, 3123B, 4123B, 2260A, 3122A, 4122A, 2260.01A, 2260.01B, 2260.01C, 4160G, 4162B, 6510C, 8420C, 8420D, 9150A, 9160A, 9160C

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Paterra, to approve the NEOLA Policies as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

8. Unfinished Business

Nothing

9. Executive Session

A. Teacher Contract Negotiations

Moved by Member Paterra supported by Member Herendeen, to move into Executive Session. The members voted by roll call voted: Member Hart – yes, Member Seaburg – yes, Member Paterra – yes, Member Wright – yes, Member Burnett – yes, Member Herendeen – yes, Member Waskiewicz – yes. Motion Carried.

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

10. Adjournment

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