

GRASS LAKE

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Individual excellence inspired by tradition and innovation

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240

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Grass Lake Community Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday October 10, 2016

7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary

Library/Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Waskiewicz

Darrell Hart

Janey Bisard

Kimberly Seaburg

Heather Brown

Rich Holcomb

Aaron Cole

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATORS

Ryle Kiser

Brian Thompson

Michelle Clark

Jeanene Byerly

GUESTS

Debbie Brady

Jena Tengman

Sarah Sherwood

Lorraine Butchart

Giovanni Paterra II

Amy Humbarger

Terry Neely

Frank Seaburg

John Paterra

Suzanne Lawson

Cindy Lester

Jessica Rutz

Darcel Hall

Aaron Cole

Tammy Claussen

Mark Phillips

Mark Burnett

Jonathan Claussen

Gabby Boteler

Nicole Gero

Sarah Sixberry

Alexandra Garcia

Hannah R

Eric Burk

Sandy Wolfinger

Tiffany Finch

Lissa Cole

Angela Connors

James Phillips

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Rich Holcomb, President

Certified Correct

Kimberly Seaburg, Secretary

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

Monday, October 10, 2016
7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary
Library/Media Center

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 Waskiewicz, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the agenda. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Hearing of Citizens

- A. Sara Easter from Communications by Design updated the school board on what has been accomplished for the 1:1 Initiative. She stated that every teacher attended the two day training, Transformation Orientation, during the summer. She explained that as we are living in a time where teachers are being evaluated. They were shown how they can change the teachers' role in the classroom and how students can change their role. They were treated like professionals and discussed what it means to become 21st century educators. The purpose is to teach them and then to supply a coach in the district to help them implement what they have learned. She then explained the CBD Endorsement Program. Attending this four day training was Sarah Sherwood, Professional Learning Consultant for Grass Lake. At this training, Sarah learned different methods of teaching/coaching the teachers to move forward in the process. Sarah currently has 3 hours a day to schedule time with teachers. Ms. Easter stated the Chromebooks will be implemented by the end of October or first of November at the secondary level. Parent meetings have been scheduled for high school parents in October. CBD will continue to give additional help for a year. Ms. Sherwood will be returning for an additional four days training and will be shadowed by a coach as she mentors students. Sarah Sherwood was presented with a certificate of completion with the training that was attended.
- B. Lorraine Butchart, employee of Jackson County Library for 50 years, explained the importance of the upcoming millage vote for the library. 80% of funding to the library comes from property taxes. The current millage will be expiring soon and she explained what the millage will accomplish. She asked that everyone remember them on November 8th.

- C. Mark Burnett from the Grass Lake Educational Foundation passed out fliers to the board member applicant explaining the GLEF and asked them to consider helping out even if they are not chosen for the school board assignment.
- D. A parent asked what the procedure will be to explain the M-Step results to parents. Dr. Kiser handled the question. He said this is being evaluated and will be handled through the website and parent emails.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Waskiewicz, supported by Member Bisard, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2016 as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Hart, to approve paying bills in the amount of \$755,725.34. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Correspondence - None

6. Interviews of Candidates for Open Position of School Board

Member Holcomb introduced the candidates: Aaron Cole, Amy Humbarger, Melissa Mercer-Tachick, Terri Neely, Giovanni Paterra, James Phillips Jr. and Jessica Rutz, and then explained the process that will be followed:

- The candidates alphabetically drew numbers for the order of interviews. The following order was established:
 1. Amy Humbarger
 2. Dr. James Phillips Jr.
 3. Giovanni Paterra
 4. Terri Neely
 5. Aaron Cole
 6. Melissa Mercer-Tachick, Ph.D.
 7. Jessica Rutz
- Candidates #2 through #7 were excused to wait in the hallway.
- The candidates were given the opportunity to give an opening statement to briefly describe their background and experience and why they are interested in a board position.
- 3 core questions were asked by the board members to each candidate:
 1. What are most important roles/ responsibilities of a school board?
 2. What are the current challenges facing education and/or the school boards?
 3. What attributes are essential for school board members and a successful boardship?
- Closing comments from candidates.

The applicants were asked to return and were thanked for their time and preparation in applying for this position. The school board members were asked if there were any additional questions or comments. They were then each asked to write on individual ballots their top two choices of candidates. The ballots were collected and Member Holcomb explained that the selections will be

graded as 2 points for the first selection and 1 point for the second selection. Their choices were then read:

1. Tim Waskiewicz – 1st choice Giovanni Paterra, 2nd choice Aaron Cole
2. Kimberly Seaburg – 1st choice Giovanni Paterra, 2nd choice Terri Neely
3. Darrell Hart – 1st choice Aaron Cole, 2nd choice Giovanni Paterra
4. Janey Bisard – 1st choice Amy Humbarger, 2nd choice Aaron Cole
5. Heather Brown – 1st choice Amy Humbarger, 2nd choice Melissa Mercer-Tachick
6. Rich Holcomb – 1st choice Melissa Mercer-Tachick, 2nd choice Aaron Cole

The points were scored as follows:

- Aaron Cole – 5 points
- Giovanni Paterra – 5 points
- Amy Humbarger – 4 points
- Melissa Mercer-Tachick – 3 points
- Terri Neely – 1 points

There was a question about the weighted tabulations. It was determined this was not an issue due to the fact that the results would have been the same. A coin toss was used to choose which candidate, Aaron Cole or Giovanni Paterra, would go first to answer second round questions.

Aaron won the coin toss and opted to go second. Second round questions:

- What is your opinion of current school district policies towards students with special needs; i.e. mainstreaming behavioral problem students, English as a second language, breakfast programs, students who face the problems of poverty, family problems, etc.?
- What will be your top objectives if elected to the school board?
- What special strengths do you feel you would bring to the board?

There was discussion and comments by the board members.

Roll call vote was taken: Member Waskiewicz – Giovanni Paterra, Kimberly Seaburg – Giovanni Paterra, Darrell Hart – Aaron Cole, Janey Bisard – Aaron Cole, Heather Brown – Giovanni Paterra, Rich Holcomb – Aaron Cole.

A five minute recess was taken.

There were comments by the board members and the reasons given for their choices.

Another roll call vote was taken: Member Waskiewicz – Giovanni Paterra, Kimberly Seaburg – Giovanni Paterra, Darrell Hart – Aaron Cole, Janey Bisard – Aaron Cole, Heather Brown – Aaron Cole, Rich Holcomb – Aaron Cole.

Moved by Member Waskiewicz, supported by Member Brown, to, to nominate Aaron Cole to fill the vacant board seat. A roll call vote was taken: Member Waskiewicz – Aaron Cole, Kimberly Seaburg – Giovanni Paterra, Darrell Hart – Aaron Cole, Janey Bisard – Aaron Cole, Heather Brown – Aaron Cole, Rich Holcomb – Aaron Cole.

Aaron Cole was appointed as new school board member.

7. Swearing In of New School Board Member

Superintendent Kiser swore in new board member Aaron Cole.

8. Reports of Superintendent for Information

- A. Administrative Reports – Brian Thompson, Michelle Clark and Jeanene Byerly gave a brief report of their buildings.

Member Holcomb and all the board members gave congratulations to Doug Moeckel's induction to the Hall of Fame.

- B. One-To-One Initiative – Chromebooks and Ipads are on-site. There will be a mandatory parent meetings on October 17th and 25th. A pilot group of 15 to 20 high school students will be assigned Chromebooks to test the rollout to the high school. After Thanksgiving, devices will be rolled out to middle school students. Questions and comments by the board.

9. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

- A. Resignation of Crystal Claus – MS Special Education Teacher

Moved by Member Brown, supported by Member Waskiewicz, to accept the resignation of Crystal Claus as Middle School Special Education Teacher. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- B. Hiring of Joanna Botte – MS/HS Special Education Teacher

Moved by Member Brown, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the hiring of Joanna Botte as Middle/High School Special Education Teacher with a hire date of October 24th. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- C. Hiring of Kara Toteff – Girls Soccer Coach

Moved by Member Waskiewicz, supported by Member Bisard, to approve the hiring of Kara Toteff as Girls Soccer Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

- D. Resignation of Bridgette Heidrich – Central Office Assistant

Moved by Member Seaburg, supported by Member Brown, to accept the resignation of Bridgette Heidrich as Central Office Assistant. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

10. Unfinished Business - None

11. Adjournment

Business complete, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m