

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 Special Board of Education Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2021

7:00 p.m.

High School Auditorium-Public virtual attendance only

Streaming on www.grasslakeschools.com

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Janey Bisard
Kyle McClure
Eric Burk
Amy Humbarger
Sheri Hein
Jonathan Claussen
Chris Maynard

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATORS

Ryle Kiser
Doug Moeckel
Jeanene Byerly
Michelle Clark
Brian Thompson
Ben Learned

APPROXIMATE GUESTS – 45 via streaming

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Amy Humbarger, President

Certified Correct,
Jonathan Claussen – Secretary

Submitted by Debbie Brady/Janelle Sherwood

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1. Call to Order

President Humbarger 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 Bisard, supported by Member McClure, to approve the agenda with a change to 7E. - Request to Change Date of February 8th Board Meeting to February 16th. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Claussen, supported by Member Bisard, to approve the minutes of the Organizational and Regular Meetings of January 11, 2021. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

4. Correspondence – None

5. Hearing of Citizens – The public were asked to post any comments or questions in the Comments section of Grass Lake Schools Facebook page and given time to respond. There were none.

6. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. School Board Appreciation – Welcome to the new members of the school board. Thank you to all the school board members for their dedication, hard work, and willingness to think outside the box in the challenging past year.

B. Two Tier Busing – Doug Moeckel informed the board of the impact two tier busing will have on the district and students. He gave an overview of the reasons for the previous 11 resignations of drivers, the predominate reason being leaving to higher paying jobs. He then explained a document with a breakdown of the numbers of the

families/students/stops that would be affected and talked about the change in times to the start of school day for each building. Discussion.

- C. Extended Learning Plan Reports – Dr. Kiser stated we were required to give a report by the end of January of the Extended Learning Plan. A chart was given to the board members comparing growth data of the non-virtual vs. virtual students. He explained that this shows that the district’s plan is working well. There are no recommendations to make a change at this time. Discussion.

7. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Headlee Millage Ballot Wording Resolution

This was discussed by the Policies and Personnel Committee. Member Humbarger stated that the committee is making the recommendation to accept the wording for the ballot for the Headlee Restoration Millage.

Dr. Kiser explained this is a restoration of 18 mills required for the school district to receive its full revenue per pupil. The economy and the growth of the community has had an impact on the mills. Non homestead homes are being replaced by homestead homes, especially around the lakes. This tax is for non-homestead properties. 7 years ago the millage was passed with a cushion that projected the mills would last 20 years; it lasted only 7 years. Currently we are at 17.65 mills. This restoration is projected to see the district through for the next 13 years. This is for operating expenses. Discussion.

Moved by Member Hein, supported by Member Burk, to approve the resolution for the Headlee Millage ballot wording as presented. A roll call vote was taken: Hein-yes, Maynard-yes, Bisard-yes, Burk-yes, Claussen-yes, McClure-yes, Humbarger-yes. Motion carried.

Member Claussen suggested that Exhibit A of the resolution should be read into the minutes.

Member Hein rescinded her first motion. She then made an amended motion to approve the wording as presented with the addition of Exhibit A which she read aloud:

EXHIBIT A

GRASS LAKE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its full revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Grass Lake Community Schools, Jackson and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, be increased by 5 mills (\$5.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 13 years, 2021 to 2033, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will

collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2021 is approximately \$20,595 (this millage is to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore that reduction)?

Member Maynard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Humbarger-yes, McClure-yes, Claussen-yes, Bisard-yes, Burk-yes, Maynard-yes, Hein-yes.

Member Claussen also suggested that Exhibit B be read into the minutes. Member Hein then amended her motion to include Exhibit B which she read aloud:

EXHIBIT B

SUMMARY OF BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE INSERTED IN THE NOTICES OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION:

GRASS LAKE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL
EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE
AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW

5 MILLS FOR 13 YEARS

FOR HEADLEE RESTORATION PURPOSES, IF NECESSARY

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Grass Lake Community Schools, 899 S. Union Street, Grass Lake, Michigan 49240-9346, telephone: (517) 867-5540.

Member Bisard supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Hein-yes, Maynard-yes, Burk-yes, Bisard-yes, Claussen-yes, McClure-yes, Humbarger-yes.

B. Approval of Extended Learning Plan

Moved by Member Maynard, supported by Member Burk, to approve the Extended Learning Plan. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

C. Extend Emergency Paid Sick Leave – Retroactive to January 1st

Dr. Kiser explained that federal legislation of the Emergency Paid Sick Leave, 10 days of paid leave in the event that an employee tests positive or is quarantined, expired on December 31st. The district can choose to extend this with approvals by the unions and the school board. Any unused portion of the original 10 days will be available, retroactive to January 1st and extending through March 31st. The Policies and Personnel Committee discussed and recommends the extension. Discussion.

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Burk, to extend the Emergency Paid Sick Leave retroactive to January 1st. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

D. GSRP – Employee Pay Increase

Dr. Kiser explained that the salaries for the lead teacher and associate teacher are paid through the GSRP (Great Start Readiness Program). Discussion.

Moved by Member Maynard, supported by Member McClure, to approve the GSRP employee pay increase for the lead and associate teachers. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

E. Request to Change Date of February 8th Board Meeting to February 16th

Dr. Kiser explained this is being requested because the deadline is February 9th for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for new auditors. By moving the date of the meeting, the board will be able to approve the new auditing firm at the February meeting.

Moved by Member Hein, supported by Member Maynard, to change the February 8th board meeting to Tuesday, February 16th. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

F. Resignation of McKenna Lynch – Assistant Varsity Track Coach

Moved by Member Burk, supported by Member Bisard, to accept the resignation of McKenna Lynch as assistant varsity track coach. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

G. Resignation of Sara Clark – Bus Driver

Moved by Member Burk, supported by Member Claussen, to accept the resignation of Sara Clark as bus driver. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

Member Claussen recommended that the verbiage be amended on 7A. to include that the board is approving that this proposition be added to the ballot for a special May election and to approve any expenses incurred.

Member Hein amended her motion to approve the resolution for the Headlee Millage ballot wording with the reading of Exhibits A and B to include the approval to pursue a special May election with any expenses incurred. Member Maynard supported the motion. Roll call vote was taken, Hein-yes, Maynard-yes, Burk-no, Bisard-yes, Humbarger-yes, Claussen-yes, McClure-yes. Motion passed.

8. Unfinished Business –

Dr. Kiser asked to meet with the Buildings and Grounds Committee next week – date/time to be determined.

9. Adjournment – Business complete, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.