

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 11, 2021
7:00 p.m.

George Long Elementary
Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Janey Bisard
Kyle McClure
Amy Humbarger
Shari Hein
Jonathan Claussen
Chris Maynard

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric Burk

ADMINISTRATORS

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

APPROXIMATE GUESTS – 13

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Amy Humbarger, President

Certified Correct,
Jonathan Claussen – Secretary

Submitted by Debbie Brady

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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 McClure, supported by Member Maynard, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of item 8H – Hiring of Adeline Harvey, Cafeteria Aide. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Maynard supported by Member Hein, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 13, 2021. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Hein, to approve paying the bills for September 2021 in the amount of \$800,774.80. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

5. Correspondence – None

6. Hearing of Citizens – Emily Mathews gave a thank you for standing for the pledge and freedom of choice. She said she is committed to being more present to keep abreast of issues in the district.

7. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Administrative Reports

- Brian Thompson – Highlighted Homecoming, PSAT testing, senior portfolios, pupil count day, and the ending of the first quarter on October 22. He also added that Quiz Bowl and Esports are underway.
- Jeanene Byerly – With the addition of Amanda Teel this past week the middle school has been fully staffed for the first time this school year. “Most Teens Don’t” will be visiting to talk to students about the dangers of vaping. Conferences will be held October 12th (both virtual and in-person). Special thanks to Nicole Gero, PTO President, for organizing the fall book fair.

She also recognized Kelly Bolton for going above and beyond in spending time after school and on the weekends to search for food from various vendors to provide meals for our students.

- Ben Learned – Highlighted CrossBraining and Reflex math program and explained that the indoor greenhouses are being utilized as sound booths. He talked about adding a second Reading Specialist. He also recognized the cafeteria staff in getting breakfast to a large number of students quickly for a smooth start to the school day.
- Michelle Clark – NWEA and benchmarking testing has been completed. To support student growth monthly meetings will begin to discuss student progress and develop individualized reading plans for students for targeted interventions. Parent conferences at the elementary are also being conducted with virtual, face to face and phone options for families.
- Doug Moeckel –Chris Osinski is being added as permanent sub. He will be learning all of the runs to act as a permanent substitute on a moment's notice as well as other duties. Mr. Moeckel is still working on recruiting drivers but he stated those inquiring are requesting sporadic driving to help the district but have no plans to be permanent drivers. Training is rigorous, so it dissuades some who are interested. He is still continuing to request proposals for privatizing. Multi-page documents are being completed for submission to pursue this option. He addressed the question of breakdowns but stated there has been excellent production from our buses having only needed normal repairs without interruptions to bus runs. The amount of student passengers showed an increase of 32% on count day compared to fall count day last year.
- Dr. Kiser – He addressed the lack of substitute teachers which is the reason for the increase to substitute rates on the “actions” portion of the agenda. He gave kudos to the teaching staff for their willingness in filling in when there has been a lack of subs to cover absences. He stated that it has been a great start to the school year. He explained ESSERS III funding. He shared the amount we are expecting but stated the district could possibly receive more but that there is a specific guideline for spending and criteria to follow. He will be keeping the board updated with the requirements.

B. NEOLA – 2nd Reading –Dr. Kiser read the synopsis of updates. Questions and discussion.

8. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Increase to Substitute Teacher Rate – \$120/day Daily Rate / \$130/day Long Term Sub Rate

Dr. Kiser explained the long-term sub rate would apply to any substitutes who work over ten consecutive days subbing for the same teacher. They would begin receiving the Long Term Sub Rate on the 11th day of subbing for that teacher.

Moved by Member Maynard, supported by Member Bisard, to approve increasing the substitute teacher rate to \$120/day daily rate and \$130/day for long term subs. Due

to a conflict of interest, Chris Maynard withdrew his motion. Member Claussen made the motion to approve the increase to substitute teacher rates stated above, supported by Member Bisard. 5 ayes, 1 abstention. Motion carried.

B. Reschedule December Board Meeting

Moved by Member Claussen, supported by Member Hein, to reschedule the December board meeting to Wednesday, December 15, 2021. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

C. Resignation of Harold Rokita to Retirement – December 31, 2021

Mr. Rokita has been a much loved fixture for over 23 years and will be missed.

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member McClure, to accept the resignation of Harold Rokita to retirement as of December 31, 2021. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

D. Hiring of Cara Arendt – Elementary Aide

Moved by Member Hein, supported by Member Bisard, to approve the hiring of Cara Arendt as an elementary aide. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

E. Hiring of Christopher Osinski – Bus Driver

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Claussen, to approve the hiring of Christopher Osinski as a permanent sub bus driver. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

F. Hiring of Craig Vitale – JV Boys Basketball Coach

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Maynard, to approve the hiring of Craig Vitale as the JV Boys Basketball Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

G. Hiring of Stephanie Mason – JV Girls Basketball Coach

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Hein, to approve hiring of Stephanie Mason as the JV Girls Basketball Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

H. Hiring of Adeline Harvey – Cafeteria Aide

Moved by Member McClure, supported by Member Bisard, to approve hiring of Adeline Harvey as an elementary aide. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business – Reminder of Student Council Dinner/Meeting on November 22, 2021 @ 7:00. Janey Bisard stated she will be attending the MASB conference in November. Kyle McClure said he attended a MASB meeting where the issue of the lack of substitute teachers was discussed. A reminder for the Senior portfolios presentations on November 16th.

10. Adjournment – Business complete, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.