

# 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, October 9, 2023**

**7:00 p.m.**

**George Long Elementary**

**Media Center**

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Amy Humbarger  
Kyle McClure  
Jonathan Claussen  
Janey Bisard  
Shari Hein  
Mark Rankin

#### **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Chris Maynard

#### **ADMINISTRATORS**

Ryle Kiser  
Jeanene Byerly  
Michelle Clark  
Misty Gunn  
Brian Thompson

#### **APPROXIMATE GUESTS: 9**

**PRESIDING OFFICER:**

Amy Humbarger, President

Certified Correct,

Jonathan Claussen, Secretary

Submitted by: Launa Steinhauer



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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. Agenda Distribution

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Rankin with the exception of 8A. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of September 11, 2023 with the exception of 8A was not supported. New motion was made by Member Hein, seconded by Member Bisard, to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of September 11, 2023. All voted, five Ayes, one Nay. Motion carried, 5-1.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member McClure, to approve paying the bills for September 2023 in the amount of \$823,749.46. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

5. Correspondence

A. Gail Johnson Letter

6. Hearing of Citizens

A. Margie Walz, Commissioner, Jackson County

B. Kevin Caldwell, Pastor, Grass Lake Baptist Church, Grass Lake Township Planning Commission

7. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Administrative Reports

**Jeanene Byerly:** Official count for count day was 308. We have begun our Grade Level PLCs where we discussed current NWEA data, Lexile Levels, and to move student growth forward. Parent Teacher Conferences will be on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Jackson County Animal Shelter brought in therapy dogs/kittens on September 26<sup>th</sup> and will bring them back several times this year to

provide our students a calm therapeutic environment. Each grade level had parent meetings to discuss expectations, PowerSchool, Schoology and learn about the curriculum and upcoming events.

**Michelle Clark:** count day – enrollment was 634 for K-5. Grandparents day was a great success. NWEA testing has been completed for reading and math K-5, as well as science for 3-5. We will begin meeting monthly to discuss student progress, develop individualized reading plans for students as well as targeted interventions to support student growth. PTO has scheduled a couple movie nights and fundraisers. Conferences are on October 17<sup>th</sup>. We will be offering virtual, face-to-face and phone conferences for families this year.

**Brian Thompson:** Homecoming was a great success again this year. PSAT/NMSQT testing will take place for juniors on October 11<sup>th</sup> during the school day. Congratulations to the Student of the Month of September, Ryan Riddle and Student of the Month of October, Delany O’Dale. Seniors are preparing for their Portfolio presentations on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The high school’s count day showed enrollment at 392. This number is up 25 students compared to last year. Last, Mrs. Janz and Mr. Prentice are putting on a fall play production, Acting Can Be Murder!” The production will take place on November 10, 11, 12<sup>th</sup>.

B. Dr. Kiser noted that all of the Hoekstra buses are in and things are going well. We are keeping four of our old buses for extras when repairs are needed. These will be replaced as they age out. We are also keeping the two transit buses.

C. NWEA Test Scores for Review – Board Workshop Agenda item

A board workshop will be scheduled in the next 3-4 weeks to review NWEA test scores.

D. Report on Potential Upcoming Bond

Dr. Kiser has been in touch with PFM, our financial advisors, to see if we can run a bond in the year 2025 or 2026. The district is running out of room to house our students as we continue to grow. Once we have more information and see how much the bond will be, a board workshop will take place to begin the process.

## 7. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Hiring of David Wright – Full-Time Custodian

Moved by Member Bisard, supported by Member Claussen, to approve the hiring of David Wright, full-time custodian. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

B. Hiring of Brooke Sharkey – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

Moved by Member Hein, supported by Member Bisard, to approve the hiring of Brooke Sharkey, full-time middle school basketball coach. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Dave Gamble as Full-Time Transportation Director

Moved by Member Claussen, supported by Member McClure, to approve Dave Gamble as full-time transportation director. Discussion. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Aaron Moeckel – New Contract

Moved by Member Hein, supported by Member McClure, to approve Aaron Moeckel's new contract. Discussion. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Member Claussen asked that policy 5511 of the Bylaws be addressed in a future board agenda for re-examination.
- B. Member McClure spoke about Northwest's "Mounty Canine Crew." As a member of the Jackson County School Board Association, Member McClure was at a meeting whereby Northwest's board association member informed the group about the program which consists of what Northwest calls their "facility dogs" that come into the schools in their district to help children by reducing their anxiety and stress and brings many benefits to their overall well-being.
- C. Member Humbarger mentioned Member Bisard's recognition at the county dinner for her Award of Distinction and Award of Merit.
- D. Members McClure and Hein and Dr. Kiser will be attending the November MASB Annual Conference.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.