

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2011

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Grant Community High School District 124, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Thursday, October 20, 2011 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake. All who were present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

On Roll Call, the following Members were found to be present:

Ken Mark, Vice President
Ryan Kelly, Member
Paul LaRoche, Member
Tom Lippert, Member
Jim Loris, Member

Members absent:

Steve Hill, President
Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary

Administration present:

Dr. John N. Benedetti, Superintendent
Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. John Barbini, Principal
Mr. Greg Urbaniak, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

AUDIENCE

Jose Becerra from American Legion Post 703 and Erin Notriano.

Mr. Becerra addressed the Board regarding the 2nd Annual *Meet a Vet Day* that will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2011. He invited the school to inform the students, staff and visitors by handing out flyers to put up around the school. He reported on the success the event had last year with over 500 attendees and numerous service people on hand to educate visitors on their stories of service to our country including artifacts, memorabilia, uniforms and equipment dating back to the Civil War.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held September 15, 2011

Minutes of closed meeting held September 15, 2011

October Bills Payable

September Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from April 15, 2010

Quarterly list of authorized depositories, investment managers, dealers and brokers

** A motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert, Loris, Mark

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

WeatherBug – Weather Station and Total Lightning Package

Dr. Sefcik informed the Board that she has been researching weather notification and lightning detection systems. The most widely used program, WeatherBug, recently announced grant funding through December 9, 2011 of \$2,000.00 through the School Safety Grant. These funds would offset the one-time cost of \$10,480 for the purchase of the Weather Station and Total Lightning Package for a net cost of \$8,480. The WeatherBug system would be utilized by school officials to make decisions where severe weather is concerned, but there is also an interactive education package that comes with the purchase that we can explore utilizing in the District's curriculum. Dr. Sefcik answered questions from the Board.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Kelly to purchase the WeatherBug Weather Station and Total Lightning Package at a net cost of \$8,480, which is after a School Safety Grant of \$2,000 off the original cost of \$10,480.00.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: LaRoche, Lippert, Loris, Mark, Kelly

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Audit 2010/11

Dr. Sefcik reported the 2010/11 audit has been completed by Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs & Co., LLP. There were no findings to report, as documented in the management letter to the Board. The auditors pointed out the District has \$142,921 in interest earnings from recently retired bond issues that the District may want to utilize for existing bond issues. Dr. Sefcik specifically pointed out the Financial Highlights on page 7, the combined fund balances are up \$1.3 million over last year on page 10, and individual funds begin on page 17. Dr. Sefcik answered questions from the Board.

** A motion was made by Mr. Lippert, second by Mr. Loris to approve the 2010/11 audit as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Lippert, Loris, Mark, Kelly, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

2012-13 Curriculum Proposals

Dr. Benedetti presented the following curriculum modifications for the 2012-13 school year. The list includes new, modified and deleted courses.

New Courses

Adv. Placement Spanish

COMCON - Computer

Applications and Consumer

Education

Modified Courses

Global Insights

Psychology

Sociology

World History 1 & 2
Spanish 4
Honors Spanish 5

Deleted Courses
Social Studies Applications
Computer Applications

Honors Spanish 4

** A motion was made by Mr. Kelly, second by Mr. Lippert to approve the 2012-13 curriculum proposals as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Loris, Mark, Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

2012-13 School Calendar

Dr. Benedetti presented the 2012-13 school calendar. He pointed out some of the more important dates, starting date, ending date, graduation, winter and spring breaks. He informed the Board that there are 177 instructional days, three institute days and one day for parent/teacher conferences. If emergency days are not used, the last day of student attendance is Thursday, May 23, 2013.

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Loris to approve the 2012/13 school calendar as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Mark, Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert, Loris

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Graduation Ceremony

Dr. Benedetti invited the Board to present their opinions regarding the venue for the graduation ceremony in June, 2012. The Board all agreed that the Field House was the best place for the graduation ceremony while the number of graduates and guests could be supported.

Personnel

Dr. Benedetti recommended the employment of the following individuals:

- Jane O'Malley, part-time 6/11 English/Teacher Aide, BA+15 step 3, beginning October 6, 2011.
- Claudia Hinstrosa, Food Service, beginning 9/19 at \$8.75 per hour.

He also recommended the Board accept the retirement letter from Georgene VanCleve, bus driver, effective September 30, 2011.

** A motion was made by Mr. Kelly, second by Mr. Lippert to approve the personnel recommendations as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert, Loris, Mark

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Dr. Barbini presented his monthly report which included information on the football team win to crown them the NSC Prairie Division Champs. Their next game will be against Warren on Friday, October 21, 2011. The Blood Drive was a big success with 192 units collected, which

was several units over last year's total of 151. Life Source will be donating \$1,500 to the junior class to defray the cost of Prom. The next opportunity to donate as part of the fundraiser with Life Source will be April 17, 2012. Collection was done only during PE class or study hall. They are considering collection on a late start date in the future in order to keep students in their classroom during the school day. Dr. Barbini then turned it over to Greg Urbaniak who provided a PowerPoint presentation that was displayed to the teachers on October 19, 2011 as part of the School Improvement Meeting. It outlined the strategies of increasing the math and reading scores to better reach AYP benchmarks. Mr. Urbaniak praised the enthusiasm shown by the teachers after receiving this information.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Benedetti reminded the Board that the 17th annual Gala will be held on Saturday, November 5 if anyone is interested in attending. Also, he gave a reminder that the November Board of Education meeting was moved from November 17th to Tuesday, November 15th.

CLOSED SESSION

** At 8:35 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Kelly, second by Mr. LaRoche to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); and the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5); pending litigation 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11).

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: LaRoche, Lippert, Loris, Mark, Kelly

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

** At 9:05 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Loris, second by Mr. Lippert to end closed session and return to open session.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Lippert, Loris, Mark, Kelly, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

** A motion was made by Mr. Lippert, second by Mr. Loris to hire Jeff Walls as assistant wrestling coach.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Loris, Mark, Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Lippert to hire Mike Werner as assistant baseball coach.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Mark, Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert, Loris
Nay: None
Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

** A motion was made by Mr. Lippert, second by Mr. LaRoche, to authorize the Superintendent to implement the "Notice to Remedy" for employee #2011/12-01.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Kelly, LaRoche, Lippert, Loris, Mark

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

** At 9:16 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Loris to adjourn the meeting.

Ken Mark, President Pro Tem

Ryan Kelly, Secretary Pro Tem