

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AUGUST 15, 2019

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, August 15, 2019 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake. All those in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Steve Hill, President
Paul LaRoche, Vice President
Ivy Fleming, Member
John Jared, Member
Kathy Kusiak, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

Ruth Michniewicz, Secretary

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager
Mr. Jeremy Schmidt, Principal

Paul LaRoche served as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of Secretary, Ruth Michniewicz

AUDIENCE

New faculty members and their mentors, Jay Reed and members of Masonic Association of Service and Therapy Dogs (M.A.S.T) and five of their therapy dogs

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held July 18, 2019

Minutes of closed meeting held July 18, 2019

August Bills Payable

July Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from February 15, 2018

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

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

Aye: LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Presentation of New Faculty Members

Dr. Sefcik asked Principal, Jeremy Schmidt, to introduce the new staff members. He introduced the staff member and their mentor who provided highlights on their education, experience, and personal life. New faculty included: Joe Barczak, Luke Fischer, Colt Foerch, Nick Gaona, Amy Gunsaulus, Maddie Lyons, Jessica Mitchell, Daniel Nitz, and Lynsea Volbrecht. Tim Rennels was unable to attend.

Therapy Dog Presentation

Dr. Sefcik shared with the Board that research has shown therapy dogs can reduce stress and provide a sense of connection in difficult situations. Jay Reed, President and Program Director for Masonic Association of Service and Therapy Dogs (M.A.S.T.), presented information on their program. Their dogs are screened for demeanor, disposition, and obedience and are accompanied by their handler while working. He explained the difference between a service dog (an individual's prescription) and a therapy dog ("is like popcorn at a party", everyone loves it and smiles). Therapy dogs are there to provide comfort to many different people, not just a specific individual. Mr. Geist and Mrs. Sonders both reported seeing the positive results with students in the BDIPS class when a therapy dog stopped in. Dr. Sefcik indicated that the handlers and dogs are volunteers and there would be no cost to the District. She recommended that the therapy dogs are brought in once per week during this school year.

** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Kusiak to approve securing a therapy dog through the M.A.S.T. program effective with the 2019/20 school year.

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

Aye: Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Enrollment Update

Dr. Sefcik provided the student enrollment numbers as of August 5, 2019:

Grade 9	455
Grade 10	482
Grade 11	441
<u>Grade 12</u>	<u>485</u>
Total	1,863

She noted that it is a decrease of 16 students from this time last year. As of today, we are down an additional 12 to 1,851. We still have students registering and hope to present the 6th day enrollment numbers at the October meeting due to our September meeting being held early.

School Board Policy Modifications – First Reading

Dr. Sefcik recommended changes to the following School Board Policies based on direction from the Illinois Association of School Boards and legal counsel:

2:110	Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers
2:140	Communications To and From the Board
2:230	Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board
4:20	Fund Balances
5:180	General Personnel: Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared to approve the revisions to the above policies as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

BoardBook

Dr. Sefcik reported that in an effort to reduce the time and expense related to board meeting preparation and communication we have been looking at board packet preparation software. After researching several programs, she recommends approval of BoardBook at an annual subscription cost of \$2,000.00 per year. BoardBook meets our needs and Board members can access materials anytime, anywhere, as the program is internet based. If approved, we will use October 17th Board meeting date as our first distribution. We will pilot it to a few members for the September 12th meeting.

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Yanik to approve BoardBook as our Board meeting preparation software, at a cost of \$2,000 per year.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

November Board of Education Meeting Date Change

Dr. Sefcik recommended moving the November Board of Education meeting from November 21 to November 14, 2019. This will accommodate Board member attendance at the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Conference in November.

- ** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Jared to approve moving the November Board meeting from November 21 to November 14, 2019.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

DM Group

Dr. Sefcik stated that the District has been working with District Management Group (DM Group) for the past year to identify areas and make recommendations to more effectively serve our students. The District's highest priority is the development of a Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS). This is a long-term project, requiring 1-3 years of planning, research, communication, coordination, and roll-out. The administration is requesting permission to continue working with DM Group to develop the MTSS framework. DM Group has experience in successfully leading other districts through this challenging process. She recommended approval of a contract with DM Group in the amount of \$85,000 for services as defined in the *Refining Districtwide MTSS* proposal.

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Jared to approve the contract with DM Group in the amount of \$85,000 for services as defined in the *Refining Districtwide MTSS* proposal.

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

Aye: Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik
Nay: None
Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Recommend the employment of the following individuals:

- Luke Fischer, School Psychologist, MA+30 step 3
- Amy Gunsaulus, Speech Pathologist, MA+30 step 16. Position will be split 3/5 District 124 and 2/5 District 114. District 114 will reimburse District 124 for personnel costs.
- Tim Rennels, Part-time 6/11, Technology Ed. Teacher, MA+30 step 21
- Anthony Johnson, BDIPS Teacher Assistant (formerly Testing Coordinator), \$18.11/hr.
- Michelle Munaretto, Business Office Assistant, \$33,800 salary, start date- 8/12/2019
- Alex Hernandez, 3rd Shift Custodian, \$13.25/hr.
- Achille Chiapetta, Transportation, \$18.97/hr., start date-8/6/2019
- Lynsea Volbrecht, Asst. Volleyball Coach

Recommend accepting the resignation letters from the following:

- James McDunn, 2019/20 Technology Ed. Teacher
- Lisa Nordby, BDIPS Teacher Assistant, effective immediately
- Melissa Ball, Transportation, effective immediately
- Mia Schnaebele, Food Service, effective immediately
- Jessica Arias, volleyball coach, effective immediately

Recommend granting a Leave of Absence for Garrett Olsen from coaching during the 2019 football season.

Notification of FMLA request for Garrett Olsen, to be taken on an intermittent basis for 60 days.

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

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

Aye: LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill
Nay: None
Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on On-site Material Pickup, Big Dawg Mentor Training, Freshman Orientation, Parent University, New Teacher Orientation, Bac-to-School Institute Days, and Teacher Evaluation.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Evidence-Based Funding Model Update

Mrs. Reich reported that the Evidence-Based Funding Model distribution for 2019/20 was released this week and the District will be receiving an additional \$351,607. The District has maintained the Tier 1 designation in the funding model with an adequacy level of 65.3%. She explained that the adequacy level is the amount of local resources available divided by the amount of money it has been determined is “adequate” to educate all students.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported a FOIA was received and fulfilled from Empower Illinois

CLOSED SESSION

- ** At 7:55 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Jared to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2); the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); and pending litigation 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11).

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

Aye: Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

- ** At 8:25 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Kusiak to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: Jared, Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. LaRoche, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the Addendum A Performance Goals for the Superintendent, Chief School Business Official, and Principal.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. LaRoche to approve the Administrators' contracts as presented.

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

Aye: Hill, LaRoche, Fleming, Jared, Kusiak, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Michniewicz

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

** At 8:30 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

Paul LaRoche, Secretary Pro Tem