

GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING JANUARY 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

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, January 19, 2023 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of Grant Community High School District Office, 25700 Old Grand Avenue, Ingleside, Illinois.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Steve Hill, President
Kathy Kusiak, Vice President
John Jared, Secretary
Shelly Booth, Member
Ed Lescher, Member
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

Ivy Fleming, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Christine A. Sefcik, Superintendent
Mrs. Beth Reich, Business Manager

Student Representative:

Nicole Kaminski

AUDIENCE

Tom Ross, Kevin Geist, Olivia Gunsaulus, Vinton Mora, Casey Caraher, Joshua Hawkins, Jennifer Hawkins

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of regular meeting held December 15, 2022

January Bills Payable

December Treasurer's Report

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

** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Jared to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Recognition and Informational Items

Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced Josh Hawkins, in the presence of his mom, as the January Student of the Month. She read Josh's profile of accomplishments, which included academic achievements, extracurricular activities, service to the community, what he enjoys in his spare time, and future plans. Dr. Sefcik offered Josh the opportunity to speak to the Board and he said there were too many people to individually thank for his success, but wanted to thank the Board, his teachers, and Dr. Sefcik. He also said he was appreciative for the opportunities and that he took part in as many as he could. The Board and audience applauded Josh and Dr. Sefcik presented him with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the January Student of the Month.

Semester One Activities Update

Dr. Sefcik invited Kevin Geist, Assistant Director of Activities and Athletics, to provide the update. He provided the overall student participation, outstanding student participation, and detailed club participation for the activities occurring during Fall, 2022. He spoke of the activities by month, such as September's Homecoming activities; October's Debate, Choir, and blood drive; November had a Chess competition, Fall Guard showcase, and the Fall Play; December had success with the Math Team, NHS, the Band Holiday Concert with Choir; and January included the Winter Pep Assembly. He is looking forward to all the accomplishments of the second semester activities.

Principal's Report

Dr. Sefcik presented Mr. Schmidt's monthly report which included information on Schedule Changes, SAT Preparation Class, and Professional Development.

Student Representative's Report

Nicole Kaminski provided her report which included a recap from last month's meeting, National Honor Society, Dual Credit Courses, Sophomore Class Council, and Sports. Dr. Sefcik added Nicole has been part of discussions with the administration researching ways to eliminate barriers to student participation. We are currently focusing on the potential elimination of student fees for entry into after school programs.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Action Items

New Course Proposals for 2024/25

Dr. Sefcik outlined the new course proposals for 2024/25 that include the following courses:

- Biology 123 Principles of Biology
- Education 124 Child Development for Educators
- English 121 Composition 1
- English 122 Composition 2
- History 121 History of Western Civilization to 1500
- History 122 History of Western Civilization 1500 to Present
- Social Studies 221 Comparative Political Systems

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the new course proposals for 2024/25, as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

School Board Policy Modifications – Second Reading

Dr. Sefcik recommended the modifications to the School Board Policies presented as a second reading, that were provided for a first reading at last month's meeting.

** A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the School Board Policy modifications, as presented.

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

Aye: Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

English Learner – Bilingual Education Program

Dr. Sefcik reported that the English Learner (EL) – Bilingual Education program is designed for students whose primary language is one other than English and schools are required to provide equal access for all students to a high-quality education and the opportunity to achieve their full academic potential. State guidelines for EL caseload sizes are 25-30 students per EL teacher. Our current enrollment is 68 students, with 8 different languages. Based on current enrollment and a projected increase of 42 additional students from feeder districts next year, ISBE has granted conditional approval of our EL-Bilingual Service Plan based on the addition of another bilingual teacher for next year.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Lescher to approve the addition of another full-time bilingual teacher for the 2023/24 school year.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

Spring Coaching Recommendations

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the spring athletic coaches.

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Jared to approve the spring athletic coaches, as presented.

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

Aye: Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Lescher

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Sherly Kizhakkadathu, Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable, \$40,000/yr., starting 1/19/2023
- Sheryl Dempsey, Long-term Substitute for Patricia Qasabian, beginning 1/17/2023 - 4/20/2023, at \$13,000.
- Austin Caraher, Full-time Substitute, \$230/day, starting 1/18/2023

- Chris Robinson, NHS Co-Sponsor for 2nd semester at \$1,190.75.
- Joseph Peters, 2nd Shift Custodian, \$15.00/hr., starting 1/17/2023
- Othella Davis, Security Guard, \$16.50/hr., starting 1/23/2023
- Carol Koren, Food Service, On-Call Sub, \$16.22/hr. starting 1/17/2023

Accepting the resignation from the following individuals:

- Vanessa Boss, Attendance, effective January 6, 2023.
- Chris Robinson, FCA Sponsor, effective immediately

** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mrs. Kusiak to approve the personnel recommendations, as presented.

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

Aye: Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Lescher, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Food Service – Mid-Year Review

Mrs. Reich reported that our Food Service Department has been working with Quest Food Management Services since August. She went over the handout that detailed the Food Service Department offerings pre-covid, during covid, and the present-day offerings that have been extended in partnership with Quest. She also presented some exciting future services such as a coffee shop, new food items and stations, and making changes based upon feedback from a student advisory committee. Prior to the Board meeting, Quest set up one of the most popular lines, the Picante Bar in the conference room. The Board was given the opportunity to make a plate and they were quick to give their positive feedback.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Sefcik reported that one Freedom of Information Act request was received and fulfilled. She said there was much to celebrate, with 32 Illinois State Scholars, 15 Tech Campus recognitions, 28 State-bound FBLA students, Special Olympics basketball team will be going to State, and the Dance Team's success.

CLOSED SESSION

** At 7:37 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Jared 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); collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2).

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

** At 7:55 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mrs. Booth to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

ACTION CLOSED SESSION

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Kusiak, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the salary adjustments for the Bookkeeper, and Payroll/Benefits/HR Coordinator, as presented.

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

Aye: Booth, Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

- ** A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to approve student #2022-23/01 to attend the Regional Office of Education Safe School during second semester of the 2022/23 school year.

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

Aye: Lescher, Yanik, Hill, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Fleming

Motion – **Passed**

ADJOURN

- ** At 7:56 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Lescher, second by Mr. Jared to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Hill, President

John Jared, Secretary