

# **GRANT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2022**

## ***PUBLIC HEARING – E-Learning***

A public hearing was convened at 6:45 p.m. The following Board members were in attendance by roll call, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Lescher, Yanik. Public comment was solicited and none was given.

\*\* At 6:55 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to adjourn the public hearing.

## ***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, October 20, 2022 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of Grant Community High School, 285 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake.

## ***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:

Kathy Kusiak, Vice President  
John Jared, Secretary  
Shelly Booth, Member  
Ivy Fleming, Member  
Bob Yanik, Member

Members absent:

Steve Hill, President  
Ed Lescher, Member

Administration present:

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

Kathy Kusiak served as President Pro Tem in the absence of President, Steve Hill

## ***AUDIENCE***

Ryan Geist, Veronica Lukemeyer, Shannon Gipson, Greg Gipson, Brittany Templeton, Valerie Hurst, Edward Hurst, Ken Bryant, (illegible) Jergensen, Tony/Julie Hall, Tammy Holt, Joel (illegible), Delia Gomez, David Gomez, Katie Quirk, Jerome Moore, Caleigh Alhgren, Benjamin (illegible), Isabella Zamora, Kim (illegible)

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of regular meeting held September 29, 2022

Minutes of closed meeting held September 29, 2022

October Bills Payable

September Treasurer's Report

Destruction of closed meeting audio recording from April 15, 2021

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

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

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

## ***SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Recognition and Informational Items***

### Student Representative to the Board of Education

Dr. Sefcik introduced senior Nicole Kaminski as the first student selected to serve as the Student Representative to the Board of Education for the 2022/23 school year. Dr. Sefcik outlined Nicole's activities in school such as NHS, NLCC, SAALT, Class Council, Big Dawgs, and volleyball. She works at Slyce and Ultimate Ninja gym, and plans to pursue a teaching degree in the future. Nicole thanked the Board for the opportunity and said she was honored to be chosen. She is excited to be part of the communication between the Board and the student body. The Board warmly welcomed her as Student Representative to the Board.

### Student Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced Emily Hawkins, in the presence of her mom, as the October Student of the Month. She read Emily's profile of accomplishments, which included academic achievements, extracurricular activities, service to the community, what she enjoys in her spare time, and future plans. Dr. Sefcik offered Emily the opportunity to speak to the Board and she thanked the Board for the honor. She also said she was appreciative for the opportunities and support that she has had throughout her years at Grant. The Board and audience applauded Emily and Dr. Sefcik presented her with a certificate to commemorate being chosen as the October Student of the Month.

### Employee and School Resource Officer Recognition

Dr. Sefcik introduced Mr. Vern Jones and Officer Jon Cawley who, on September 28, 2022, were in the Commons when students alerted Mr. Jones that a student was choking and unable to breathe. Mr. Jones immediately began to perform the Heimlich maneuver and Officer Cawley continued until the student expelled the object and was able to breathe again. Dr. Sefcik presented each with a Bulldog Hero Award for their quick actions that saved the life of a Grant student. Vern said that he was happy and thrilled for this outcome and each day he looks for ways to keep everyone safe. He thanked the Board for their support for the Security Department at Grant. Officer Cawley said that he jumped in as a reaction to the situation. He was happy that even though it was a loud atmosphere with a DJ and students, he and Mr. Jones were able to recognize what was going on. He enjoys and is proud of his work as a school resource officer.

#### Curriculum Changes for 2023/24

Dr. Sefcik turned it over to Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Dr. Stacy Noisey, who spoke about the proposed curriculum guide changes for 2023/24, explaining how the changes fit with Grant's Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals. Principal, Jeremy Schmidt, then talked about focused efforts to improve student achievement and course level differentiation. Eric Taubery, Math, Science, & Technology Divisional Administrator, talked about the math and science proposed changes. Veronica Lukemeyer, English, Social Studies, & EL Divisional Administrator, went over proposed English Learners and English curriculum proposed changes. Blair Schoell, Fine Arts, Business, Tech, Languages, FCS, and Wellness Divisional Administrator, covered department name modifications and department consolidations, as well as other course proposal changes. Mr. Schmidt finished with highlights of curriculum and the goals of these proposed changes.

#### Behavior and Disciplinary Intervention Program and Supports (BDIPS)

Dr. Sefcik brought up Assistant Principal, Ryan Geist, who provided information on the Behavioral and Disciplinary Intervention Program and Supports, known as BDIPS. He gave a brief history, highlights an increase in the number of students served, student suspensions, students attending ROE and Ombudsman, and risk assessment totals for the program.

#### School Report Card Update

Dr. Sefcik provided information about the School Report Card Highlights, including summative designations, calculations, ratings, key changes to the summative designation calculation, new metrics, and timeline. The school report cards go public on October 27, 2022.

#### Calendar DRAFT – 2023/2024

Dr. Sefcik provided a draft of the 2023/24 school calendar for the Board to review and noted it will be shared with our feeder districts in order to align to the greatest extent possible. The first day of student attendance is shown as Monday, August 14, 2023 and the last day, if no emergency days are used, would be Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Graduation would take place on Sunday, May 19, 2024. She hopes to bring a final calendar to present at the November Board meeting.

#### Homecoming – 2023

Dr. Sefcik announced that Homecoming 2023 has been set for Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is the same week the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting falls in. There will be no need to change it to align with the Hall of Fame induction.

#### Illinois Association of School Board Lake Division Dinner Meeting

Dr. Sefcik reported that District leadership and Board member, Ivy Fleming attended the IASB Fall Lake Division Meeting. Annual business was conducted followed by an informative presentation on *Communicating with your Legislators and Advocating for your Districts*.

#### Joint Conference Planning

Dr. Sefcik reminded the Board of the Joint Annual Conference will take place on November 18-20. The pre-conference workshop details can be found on the IASB website and workshop attendance can be coordinated to attend various sessions and share highlights at the December meeting.

#### Principal's Report

Mr. Schmidt presented his monthly report which included information on Elyssa's Mission, PSAT/NMSQT assessments, Non-compliance with Health Records, Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Enrollment Night and Activity/Athletic Fair 2023.

## ***PUBLIC COMMENT***

Mrs. Kusiak asked if anyone has filled out the Public Participation form to address the Board at this time. Shannon Gipson responded that she filled out the form to speak on the topic of parent, teacher, BOE communications. She commented on Board communication and pressure on students. Mrs. Kusiak briefly responded about the benefits of challenging students with supports in place.

## ***SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Action Items***

### Curriculum Changes 2023/24

Dr. Sefcik proposed accepting the curriculum changes for 2023/24 as presented by the Administration.

\*\* A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mr. Yanik to approve for curriculum changes for 2023/24 as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

### Behavior and Disciplinary Intervention Program and Supports (BDIPS)

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of one additional teacher and one additional paraprofessional to accommodate increased enrollment in the BDIPS program.

\*\* A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve the addition of one teacher and one paraprofessional for the BDIPS program.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

### School Board Policy Manual – Second Reading

Dr. Sefcik recommended approval of the comprehensive School Board Policy Manual if no second reading is necessary.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Jared to approve the School Board Policy Manual, as presented.

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

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

### E-Learning Plan

Dr. Sefcik reported that the plan that allows for utilizing an E-Learning Day in lieu of an Emergency Day must be renewed every three years. The District's initial plan was approved on December 19, 2019, following a public hearing and it is now time to be renewed. The public hearing was held prior to this Board meeting and no modifications were necessary, she recommended approval of the plan, as presented.

- \*\* A motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Booth to approve the renewal of the plan that allows for using an E-Learning Day in lieu of an Emergency Day, as presented.

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

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

#### Winter Coaches

Dr. Sefcik recommended the list of the winter coaching staff, as presented

- \*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the winter coaches, as presented.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

#### Personnel

Dr. Sefcik made the following personnel recommendations:

Employment of the following individuals:

- Andy Yarza, Systems Analyst, \$41,000/annual, starting 10/17/2022
- Lauren Becmer, Asst. Academic Team Coach

Accepting the resignation letters from the following:

- Elizabeth Panchi, Bilingual Parent Liaison, effective October 12, 2022
- Trevor Zell, Security, effective September 30, 2022
- Sophie Shaw, Paraprofessional, effective October 19, 2022
- Allison Wetter, Custodian, effective October 19, 2022
- Lilian Makey, Security, effective October 14, 2022

Notification of an FMLA request from the following

- Leonard Grodoski between December 14, 2022 and March 24, 2023
- Stacy Collins, between October 24, 2022 and February 3, 2023
- Jill Schroeder, between November 18, 2022 and March 3, 2023

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

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

## ***BUSINESS AFFAIRS***

#### Audit 2021/22

Mrs. Reich reported that the 2021/22 audit was recently completed by Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs & Co. LLP. The district is overall fiscally stable and debt free. She provided a few highlights including page 18 that is a snapshot of the District's financials.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Fleming, second by Mr. Yanik to accept the 2021/22 audit as presented.

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

Aye: Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

### 2022 Tentative Tax Levy

Mrs. Reich provided the tentative 2022 Certificate of Tax Levy. The county is predicting that our equalized assessed value will increase 11.46% from the previous year, including new construction. They project our new construction to be an increase of 3.83%. She will bring a recommendation for the final 2022 tax levy in November.

### Public Act 97-0256 (105 ILCS 5810-20.47) Sec. 10-20.47

### 2021-2022 Compensation Over \$75,000 Report

### Administrative Salary/Benefits Report 2021/2022

Mrs. Reich presented these three items together as they are similar types of reports and are all required to be presented at a regular Board meeting and posted to the District's website.

### Contract with Citywide Building Maintenance

Mrs. Reich informed the Board that the last month's action to accept a contract with GSF Cleaning and Support Services cannot be fulfilled by the company and they have agreed in writing to release us from that contract. Citywide Building Maintenance was contacted for custodial services and they believe they can provide staff. The agreement is for an initial period of one year, for four full-time custodians, and for a monthly cost of \$17,462.02.

\*\* A motion was made by Mrs. Booth, second by Mr. Yanik to approve the contract with Citywide Building Maintenance for one year, for four full-time custodians, at a monthly cost of \$17,462.02.

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

Aye: Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr. Sefcik provided a Gala update

## **CLOSED SESSION**

\*\* At 8:55 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).

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

Aye: Yanik, Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

- \*\* At 9:09 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mr. Jared to end closed session and return to open session.

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

Aye: Kusiak, Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

### ***ACTION CLOSED SESSION***

- \*\* A motion was made by Mr. Yanik, second by Mrs. Fleming to approve custodian bonuses, as presented.

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

Aye: Jared, Booth, Fleming, Yanik, Kusiak

Nay: None

Absent: Hill, Lescher

Motion – **Passed**

### ***ADJOURN***

- \*\* At 9:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Jared, second by Mrs. Fleming to adjourn the meeting.

---

Kathy Kusiak, President Pro Tem

---

John Jared, Secretary