

Grass Lake Community Schools

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240

(517) 522-5540 • Fax (517) 522-8195

Grass Lake Community Schools Regular Board of Education Meeting

Monday, May 9, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Grass Lake High School
Library/Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Burnett
Florine Herendeen
John Paterra
Loretta Ryan
Kimberly Seaburg
Tim Waskiewicz
David Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATORS

Brad Hamilton
Michelle Clark
Brian Thompson
Doug Moeckel

GUESTS

Debbie Easterday
Carrie Good
Darrell Hart
Patricia Hart
Margaret Henthorne
Shannon Maynard
Carlene Pindzia
Nate Pittenger
Jennifer Sullivan

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Tim Waskiewicz, President

Certified Correct

Loretta Ryan, Secretary

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1. Call to Order

President Waskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Ryan, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve the agenda, with the addition of VIII C. Approve Leave of Absence for Dawn Grimm and D. Approve Overnight Trip to Camp McGregor . All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve the minutes as presented. All present voted Aye.

4. Presentation of Bills for Payment

A. Moved by Member Herendeen, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve paying bills in the amount of \$695,031.88. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Correspondence

Superintendent Hamilton called attention to the information from SOS about a rally at the State Capitol on May 12.

6. Hearing of Citizens

None

7. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Election Update

Mr. Hamilton reported that Darrell Hart received 195 votes and John Paterra received 169 votes. He congratulated Mr. Hart on being elected and Mr. Paterra on being reelected.

B. Budget Update

Mr. Hamilton reported that he was still waiting for news from the Senate and House. He will be putting together some ideas over the next few weeks for potential cuts. The board will take action on layoffs and cuts at either the next meeting in May or the first meeting in June.

C. Athletic Committee Report

Mr. Hamilton reported that there was a lot of discussion on several items: transportation one way only to athletic events and pay to participate. Mr. Waskiewicz added that it was important to look at all areas for potential cost savings to the district.

The discussion on transportation centered on the school transporting teams only one way and then students would have to get a ride home by parents or another adult. (Students would not be allowed to ride home with other students.) Football would continue to be transported both ways because of all their equipment. The savings would come in bus driver pay, not in mileage, which would stay the same. The coaches would have to make sure all students had a ride home.

Mr. Moeckel reported that the district would have saved \$5700 over the last three seasons if this had been done. Mr. Hamilton added that the board was not voting on this. They were just sharing the discussion from the Athletic Committee meeting.

The other part of the committee's discussion was on a participation fee for extracurricular activities. They discussed having students pay a one-time only fee per year to participate in as many sports as they would like. This proposal included giving all participating students free entry into all athletic events hosted at Grass Lake High School or Grass Lake Middle School. The proposed fees were \$90 for high school students, \$60 for middle school students and \$10 for students on free and reduced lunches. A family cap would be set at \$240. Mr. Waskiewicz added that these fees were lower than the state average, but would still generate around \$35,000 in additional income for the district.

Mrs. Herendeen questioned the potential loss in gate receipts by allowing participating athletes to attend all athletic events for free.

Mr. Waskiewicz replied that increased student participation was a goal in the Indicators of Success for the district. Although there would be some lost income, there would be a positive outcome overall if student attendance and participation increased.

Discussion followed.

8. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Approve Resolution to Approve JISD Budget for 2011-2012

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Ryan, to approve the Jackson Intermediate School District budget for 2011-2012. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

B. Approve Band Trip

Mrs. Wilson explained to the board that this was the annual combined high school and middle school band and choir trip to Cedar Pointe. Approximately 127 students and 20 chaperones were going.

Moved by Member Seaburg, supported by Member Wright, to approve the annual band and choir trip to Cedar Pointe. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

C. Approve Leave of Absence for Dawn Grimm

Mr. Hamilton explained that Mrs. Grimm's husband had taken a job in Alaska and their family was moving. He was sorry to be losing Mrs. Grimm, but happy for her and her family.

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve a leave of absence for Mrs. Grimm. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

D. Presentation and Approve Request to attend Camp McGregor

Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Pittenger reported on the overnight trip to Camp McGregor that they had taken two years ago with Mrs. Sullivan's 3rd grade class and Mr. Pittenger's kindergarten class. They gave a slide presentation on the previous trip, which included 40 students and 30 adults. (Camp McGregor is a math and science camp run by the Jackson County ISD.)

This year Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Pittenger were co-teaching two third grade classes and they asked permission to take an overnight trip to Camp McGregor with their current classes, which they had co-taught for two years.

This year the teachers planned to incorporate science curriculum on plants, and would have stations on a nature trail, manned by adult volunteers. There would be 46 students this year. The cost would be about \$10 per student, plus \$3 or \$4 toward bus fees.

Moved by Member Ryan, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve the request by Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Pittenger to take their third grade classes on an overnight trip to Camp McGregor. All present voted Aye. Motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business

There was a reminder that the Wellness Committee would be meeting at 6:30 p.m. on the upcoming Wednesday.

Mrs. Morris informed the board that she was looking for additional help with Senior Portfolios.

Mr. Waskiewicz reported that he had attended the Cascades Conference Scholar Athlete Banquet. Ten Grass Lake High School students were recognized at the banquet.

The board was informed that Project Safe had a fund raiser scheduled at Burger King on the coming Wednesday, with 20% of the proceeds for that night going to the project.

The production of "Oliver" was excellent. The senior students would be recognized at the next board meeting.

10. Executive Session – Teacher Negotiations

Moved by Member Ryan, supported by Member Herendeen, to move into Executive Session. The Members voted by Roll Call Vote: Member Seaburg – yes, Member Wright – yes, Member Burnett - yes, Member Ryan – yes, Member Herendeen – yes, Member Pattera – yes, Member Waskiewicz – yes.

Moved by Member Herendeen, supported by Member Wright to move out of Executive Session.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Member Ryan, supported by Member Herendeen, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.