

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, October 25, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Grass Lake High School

Library/Media Center

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Burnett

Florine Herendeen

John Paterra

Loretta Ryan

Tim Waskiewicz

Kimberly Seaburg

David Wright

ADMINISTRATORS

Brad Hamilton

Michelle Clark

Doug Moeckel

Brian Thompson

Jeanene Satterthwaite

GUESTS

Margaret Henthorne

Shannon Maynard

Rhonda Mosher

Jennifer Taylor

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 7:03 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Ryan, to approve the agenda as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Correspondence

Mr. Hamilton called attention to two handouts, one from the JCASB dinner.

4. Hearing of Citizens

None

5. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Administrative Reports

Member Burnett asked about parent/teacher conferences. The Middle School just had theirs and attendance wasn't very good. Ms. Herendeen suggested that it might be because teachers are so accessible now and parents don't wait until conference time to talk to teachers.

Discussion followed. Mr. Hamilton gave his opinion that he thinks conferences are obsolete, although that's a different issue than parent participation. He feels there's a better use of teacher's and parent's time. How do you get parents involved with their kids? As kids get older, there is less and less parent participation. This is a challenge that

needs to be addressed. What is the value of parents coming to parent teacher conferences? If we are going to have them, it needs to have value for the parents, so it means something.

Mr. Waskiewicz commented that, on the other side, it's good to get parents in the buildings and for them to see the teachers in the school setting.

B. Strategic Planning Committee Update

Mr. Hamilton gave the board a copy of the tentative agenda for the upcoming Strategic Planning sessions. He added that there might be a few adjustments before the actual dates. He also planned to send a survey to participants prior to the meetings. In addition, he was pleased that there would be four or five mini presentations from staff.

C. Weighted Grade Point Averages

Mr. Thompson explained that high school started to move in this direction five or six years ago with the addition of honor diplomas. The purpose is to make sure the top students are those who have taken the most difficult courses and worked the hardest. He called attention to the handout in the board packets. He added that report cards and transcripts would show the standard GPA and the weighted GPA.

Because this was a policy change, it would be on the agenda for approval by the board at the next meeting.

VI. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. October Budget Revisions

Mr. Hamilton called attention to the handout in the board packets. He discussed funding from the federal jobs bill, including the process and the amount that was still pending. He included about \$74,000 of the proposed money in the current budget. He would like to save any additional money for next year's budget, when the per-pupil cuts were planned to be even more.

The revised budget showed a deficit of \$426,715. Mr. Hamilton hoped that it wouldn't be that much, although the retirement rate had already gone up and was supposed to go up even more. He added that he would be happy if this year's budget turned out about like the previous year.

Mr. Hamilton reminded the board that they can't have a deficit budget. They might have to take money out of the fund balance to balance the budget.

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Ryan, to approve the budget as presented. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

B. Approve Derek Rohloff as 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Moved by Member Paterra, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve hiring Derek Rohloff as the 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

C. Approve Brent Jones as the Assistant 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Moved by Member Herendeen, supported by Member Seaburg, to approve hiring Brent Jones as the Assistant 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

8. Round Table Discussion

A. November School Board/Student Council Dinner

Mr. Thompson asked the board members to e-mail any format suggestions to him. Otherwise, he would probably continue with the same format as previously used. He planned to hold a brainstorming session with the HS Student Council to come up with about three ideas to discuss.

9. Unfinished Business

Mr. Hamilton congratulated the football team for making the playoffs again. They were scheduled to play Friday night at Michigan Center. Also, the JV football team was undefeated.

Mr. Hamilton called attention to the Energy Management Services proposal. He said he was very interested in doing this, but he wanted the board to look at the information and give their opinion. He added that there was more than cost savings; there was also curriculum, initiatives on "Going Green," etc. Mr. Hamilton wanted the Building and Grounds committee to hear a presentation from the company.

Mr. Hamilton reported that the building project was going well, although there were still a few issues, such as the floor in the multi-purpose room and windows in the classroom addition. He planned to schedule a walk-through for the board soon. The furniture would be arriving November 15th but he was unsure when the windows would arrive. Mr. Hamilton said he told them that the rooms needed to be sealed in some way if the windows weren't in yet.

Mr. Hamilton added that enlarging storage room was a good decision because it would allow for storage of the wrestling mats, among other things.

Mr. Waskiewicz reported on the MASB legislative meeting that he attended last Thursday at the Career Center. Since there were only thirteen people there, it was a good opportunity to voice opinions and discuss issues. They learned what MASB does to educate legislators about their goals. He told the Board members that they would receive an e-mail shortly from MASB with a survey of the goal suggestions they have collected from the meetings around the state.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Member Ryan, supported by Member Paterra, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.