

Grass Lake Community Schools

899 South Union Street • Grass Lake, Michigan 49240
(517) 522-5540 • Fax (517) 522-8195

Grass Lake Community Schools Special Board of Education Meeting

Monday, September 28, 2009
7:00 p.m.

Grass Lake Middle School
Library/Media Center

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Darrel Hart
Florine Herendeen
Mark Burnett
Loretta Ryan
Tim Waskiewicz
David Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Paterra

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Brad Hamilton
Michelle Clark
Doug Moeckel
Andi Overmyer
Jeanene Satterthwaite
Brian Thompson

GUESTS:

Shannon Maynard
Margaret Henthorne
Suzy Sczykutowicz
Jennifer Taylor

PRESIDING OFFICER:

Tim Waskiewicz, President

Certified Correct

John Paterra
Secretary, Board of Education

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I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. Correspondence

Superintendent Hamilton called attention to a handout that he had distributed to the board members.

IV. Hearing of Citizens

None

V. Reports of the Superintendent for Information

A. Strategic Goals

Superintendent Hamilton announced that he planned to reconvene the Strategic Planning Committee to get them involved with plans for a bond election. He hoped to schedule a meeting in October.

B. Committee Meetings

Mr. Hamilton reported that the Wellness committee recently met and would be meeting again October 7th. He asked for a meeting of the Athletic Committee on October 5th at 7 p.m., in the Superintendent's Office. The members of that committee are Mr. Burnett, Mr. Patera and Mr. Wright. Another committee needed to meet in October to review the NEOLA policy change for phone usage of the administrators. After some discussion, it was decided that the Finance Committee should meet at 6:30 p.m. before the October 12th Board Meeting to discuss the issue.

VI. Reports of the Superintendent for Action

A. Approve Building Project Using Qualified School Construction Bonds

Mr. Waskiewicz reported that the Bond Committee met the previous week and reviewed the options regarding the QSC Bonds. The Committee recommended that the district move forward with a bond election.

Moved by Member Burnett, supported by Member Ryan, to approve using the Qualified School Construction Bonds for a building project. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Hamilton reported that a date to go to the Treasury had already been schedule. He would be meeting with Todd Dailey and the principals sometime this week before submitting the final documents to the treasury. Pat Berardo or Beverly Bonning of Thrun Law Firm would be working with Kelli Lambrix on the document wording. Also, the board needed to make the final decision on a construction management firm for the project. Mr. Hamilton added that he had asked Kirk Herald, of Thrun Law Firm, to draft a contract for the architect and the construction management company.

Mr. Hamilton asked that the Building & Grounds Committee schedule a meeting soon. They agreed to meet on October 5th at 8 p.m., following the Athletic Committee Meeting.

B. Approve Temporary Exceptions to Transportation Handbook

Member Ryan reported that she and Members Herendeen, Burnett and Pattera, met and walked the routes to school that parents were concerned about. The board members recommended that students west of Lake Street and Water Street be allowed to ride the bus. They recommended that students in the Ridgeview Subdivision be allowed to ride the bus for this year only, with a review of the situation at the end of the year.

Moved by Member Ryan, supported by Member Hart, to approve the recommendations as presented; namely, to allow students west of Lake Street and Water Street to ride the bus and students in the Ridgeview Subdivision to ride the bus for this year only, with a review of the situation at the end of the year. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Suzy Sczykutowicz asked about the possibility of adding crossing guards to some of the street corners in question. President Waskiewicz said it might make sense to put a crossing guard at the Ridgeview Subdivision, instead of allowing them to ride the bus, if there were more students in the subdivision.

C. Approve Hiring Part-Time Custodian Pam Sierminski

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Ryan, to approve Hiring Part-Time Custodian Pam Sierminski. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

D. Approve Hiring Part-Time Custodian Tyler Schultz

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Herendeen, to approve hiring Part-Time Custodian Tyler Schultz. All presented voted Aye. Motion Carried

E. Approve Hiring Part-Time Custodian Mark Anderson

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Ryan, to approve hiring Part-Time Custodian Mark Anderson. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried.

VII. Round Table Discussion

A. Policy 5722

NEOLA Policy 5722 addresses school-sponsored student publications and productions. Mr. Thompson recommended that the district continue with the “Nonpublic Forum,” as described in the policy. He added that he read any potential publications, posters, etc., before they were published or displayed. The same would hold true for anything put on the web page. After some discussion, it was agreed that this policy would be put on the next board meeting agenda for a decision by the board.

B. Administrative Reports

Mr. Hamilton reported that he was recently contacted by PAM, Pedaling Across Michigan, a group that asked to use the school facilities June 23rd and 24th. They would set up tents on the practice football tent and use the high school facilities to eat, classrooms for meetings, parking space, etc. Food Service Director Carlene Pindzia would take care of meals. There were approximately 750 people in the group. Mr. Hamilton planned to inform the Chamber of Commerce that the group would be in town on those dates.

Mrs. Clark informed the board that each building had two students selected for “Art on Loan.” The students would have their artwork exhibited at Ella Sharp Park through October 18, and then loaned to businesses to display. After a year, the artwork would be returned to the students. Mr. Hamilton would like the students to be recognized by the board. He added that he appreciated the art teachers for working with the students on this.

C. Systems Check Level III

Section 2 – Strategic Planning

Member Herendeen lead the discussion.

2.1 - Board Develops Improvement Goals. After some discussion, the board agreed that they felt there were close to the advanced category.

2.2 Board Action Plans. Mr. Waskiewicz felt it might be redundant to have separate board goals from the strategic goals. Mr. Hamilton reminded them that these questions referred to the board and that the strategic goals were for the district. After some discussion, it was agreed that the answer should be NOT YET.

2.3 Board Member Individual Goals. There was some discussion about whether board members should have individual goals. Mr. Hamilton gave some examples of individual goals, such as: attend all meetings, read packet before the meeting, attend all committee meetings, etc. He explained that the Board was a “system,” and eventually the board

members would see how the board system connects with the other systems – district, administrators, buildings, classrooms, etc.

Mr. Waskiewicz suggested that the board needed some help and guidance. Mrs. Satterthwaite suggested a board goal-setting retreat. Mr. Waskiewicz replied that some sort of forum with someone giving them direction would be good. Mr. Hamilton responded that this was the purpose of the exercise, to figure out what process the board wanted to use.

There followed a discussion of when and how to meet. Mr. Hamilton suggested that Mrs. Satterthwaite work with the group, since she was the district Baldrige Coordinator. He asked her to come up with a plan of how much time was needed and the best forum to work in.

VIII. Unfinished Business

Just a reminder that Wednesday, September 30, was student count day.

IX. Adjournment

Moved by Member Hart, supported by Member Ryan, to adjourn the meeting. All present voted Aye. Motion Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.