

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MINUTES OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting – November 8, 2023

The Grandview Heights Schools Board of Education met in regular session in the Larson Middle School Media Center.

Call to Order: President Emily Gephart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call	Members Present:	Members Absent:
	Eric Bode	
	Emily Gephart	
	Kevin Gusé	
	Katie Matney	
	Molly Wassmuth	

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Board Meeting Minutes

Recommendation for Approval (Motion 24-027) Mr. Bode moved to approve the following meeting minutes:

1. Regular Meeting, October 11, 2023
2. Special Meeting, October 28, 2023

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mrs. Matney, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

Recognition of Guests and Hearing of the Public

Grandview Heights High School students Rowan Mueller and Sophia Szabo-Ramsey addressed the Board with the following statement:

We are both student leaders of the Bobcat Anti Racism Collective (BARC). We are grateful to be in a school that offers clubs like BARC and we want to share our gratitude for the school's continued support of honesty in education.

BARC is a group of student leaders that actively try to combat racism and raise awareness of past or ongoing issues concerning race. We have hosted movie nights, general meetings, and other gatherings, and have provided resources to combat bills in our legislature and more. Thank you again for your continued support in ensuring that we have a safe and inclusive environment for learning.

Specifically, we welcomed a speaker of the BARC speaker series in the Fall, Dr. Rashalle Brackney. We are grateful that our school has allowed her to speak here and many of the students voiced to us that they learned a lot from both her interview and group session. Being able to hear from her was eye-opening and informative. We are lucky to be in a school that allows us to hear stories like hers.

There are house bills being proposed across the country, including Ohio, to curtail honesty in education and the vital discussions of divisive concepts. This recently has been coupled with the dangerous epidemic of book banning. As BARC members, along with many other students, we believe it is valuable to learn about the past in order to acknowledge our previous mistakes and prevent them from repeating. Ignoring issues such as racism does not make it go away.

Given the current climate of dishonesty, ignorance, and ambiguity and other issues in the United States, we are especially glad our school does its best to promote a holistic curriculum, characterized by diverse representation and valuable discussions, even about hard things at times, which helps us grow as critical thinkers.

Superintendent's Report

Teaching and Learning

Students and staff are preparing for our district-wide Day of Service to be held on Monday, November 27. Each building is intentionally planning experiences for our students that will be engaging and age and interest appropriate acts of service in support of our greater community and our Strategic Plan priorities of Personalized Learning and Well-being. This one-day experience will continue to build on the many acts of service our students engage in throughout the school year such as:

- At Stevenson Elementary: First graders aim to collect 1,000 cans of tuna and 1,000 boxes of mac and cheese to be part of holiday food boxes for senior citizens in need and third graders continue participation in the Blessing Box Project with Boulevard Presbyterian Church. The box can include: non-perishable food items, basic toiletries, baby supplies, pet food, or anything else that might be considered a blessing to someone in need. The mantra is, "Take what you need. Leave what you can. Spread Kindness." Mrs. Doran and Mrs. Keller have been working with Holy Family through their Feed the Streets initiative. Once a month, students have the opportunity to pack bagged lunches for the homeless to be distributed by Holy Family.
- At Larson Middle Schools: Bobcat Groups recently created inspiration bracelets for Star House, the nation's only 24/7 drop-in center for youth ages 14-24 experiencing homelessness, where youth are provided with immediate access to safety, basic needs, and access to crucial, stabilizing resources.
- At Grandview Heights High School, the Student Council will host its annual American Red Cross Blood Drive while many clubs are engaged in individual service projects such as collecting change for UNICEF.
- Our Wellness Committee, in addition to being inclusive of community efforts, is planning to expand its focus on social-emotional learning and mental health and physical fitness incentives/challenges for GHS staff.
- Congratulations to our recently named National Merit Semi Finalist Ana Gracia Brunette and our National Merit Commended Scholars Vivi Chute, Denison Murphy, and Devin Yeager!
- Congratulations to these student-athletes for Central Buckeye League recognitions: Volleyball: Defensive Player of the Year Olivia Sanzo; Girls Soccer Co-Player of the Year Maci Tew; Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year Madeline Palmisciano; Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year Denison Murphy; Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year Chris Szabo. The Girls Cross Country Team placed 9th in the state. Division 6 All-Central District football teams were recently announced by the Ohio Sportswriters Association. Congrats to 1st Team players Braddock Lusher (Defensive Lineman), Owen Nugent (Defensive Back) and Henry Ohlinger (Running Back). Coach of the Year is Jason Peters. To view all fall sports recognitions, visit gathletics.org.

District Wide

- Join me in welcoming our new Kids' Club Assistant Director Nichole Smith! Her previous experiences include Site Director for the Boys and Girls Club of Columbus and multiple roles in YMCA after school and summer programs.
- Staff continues their work focused on three district committees: Pedagogy, Grading Practices, and Student Pathways.
- Our administrators are soon participating in an Ohio School Safety Center workshop on afterschool event emergency preparedness.

Community Engagement

Visit the Community Connection Flyer page at www.ghschools.org for more opportunities!

Construction

Core Team Committee Report

Mrs. Gephart and Mr. Culp reported that the Core Team has been discussing the following topics:

- Lawn has been aerated and reseeded
- Swings have been replaced on the LMS playground
- Landscaping to be done in front of Larson Middle School
- Options to provide some shade on the playground area and the outdoor learning areas
- 11-month walk-through recently completed
- Master plan for interior design of the 4-12 building underway

Business and Finance

Finance Presentation

Treasurer Beth Collier presented the following financial highlights:

General Fund (001)

- General Fund Revenues
 - Taxes – \$7.1 million 2nd half settlement rec'd; 45.2% of budget.
 - State Funding – 40.6% of budget.
 - Property Tax Allocation – 2nd half settlement rec'd; 48.7% of budget.
 - Grandview Yard – \$2,459,047 million rec'd; 48.9% of budget.
 - Interest Earnings (Other Revenue) for September 2023: \$69,713.29 (\$273,693.78 FYTD).
- General Fund Expenditures
 - FYTD Budget: 4 months (33.3%)
 - Total FY Expenditures: 34.4% of budget

- General Fund Investments
 - US Bank Investment account: average yield to maturity 2.89%
 - Star Ohio Yield – 5.57%

Construction Fund (004):

- Interest Earnings for October, 2023: \$3,964.32
- Interest Earnings Project-to-Date: \$2,018,403 (net of investment advisory fees)
- 95.7% of Soft Costs have been spent.
- 97.4% of Construction Costs have been spent.
- Current Fund Balance: \$537,426.12
- Star Ohio: 5.57% yield on remaining cash balance.

Permanent Improvement Fund (003):

- Unreserved Fund Balance: \$267,508.31
- Upcoming/ongoing projects:
 - Track Replacement
 - Stevenson master programming
 - GHHS Auditorium Projector
 - Grounds Utility Vehicle
 - GHHS fitness center water fountain/exterior hose bibs

Annual Bond Millage Setting Process:

- Overview of Process
 - Calculated and adjusted annually
 - Certification to Franklin County Auditor (early November)
 - How much is on hand in the Debt Service Fund?
 - How much are the required debt service payments next year?
 - What other sources of funds does GHS have to help make the debt payments?
 - County Auditor will calculate the necessary millage (mid-late November)
 - Millage calculation is sent to the school district for approval (late November)
 - New bond millage rate goes into effect (January)
- 2018 Bond Levy
 - 7.51 Ballot Millage (5.85 Mill Increase)
 - BoE Resolution earmarking additional GV Yard funds to reduce the bond millage (October, 2018)
 - Actual increase to taxpayers: 2.8 mills
 - Committed to a transparent presentation annually
 - \$908,906 of GV Yard funds will be used toward 2024 debt service payments
 - Certified to Franklin County Auditor – November 2, 2023
 - Will share official calculated millage rate at the December BoE meeting

Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-028) Ms. Wassmuth moved to approve the following:

1. October Financial Reports
Recommend the Board approve the October, 2023 financial reports.
2. Budget Adjustments
Recommend the Board approve the following adjustments:

<i>Estimated Revenue</i>	
Model UN (200-9124)	\$13,100.00
Wrestling (300-9111)	1,440.00
Key Club (200-9107)	480.00
Tournament Fund (022-9101)	2,000.00

<i>Appropriations</i>	
Model Un (200-9124)	15,600.00
Wrestling (300-9111)	1,440.00
Key Club	480.00
Tournament Fund (022-9101)	2,000.00

3. Then and Now Certification

Recommend the Board approve the following then and now certifications:

PO 41728, Sam Belk, mileage reimbursement
PO 42040, Christian Cunningham, textbook
PO 42066, Jazz Arts Group, school residency
PO 41963, VISA, food service supplies
PO 41947, VISA, food service supplies
PO 41970, VISA, athletic supplies
PO 41952, VISA, athletic supplies
PO 41933, VISA, shipping
PO 41903, VISA, subscription
PO 41991, Nicole Richardson, senior night supplies
PO 42081, Benjamin Matter, homecoming supplies
PO 42083, Anthony Wappner, classroom supplies
PO 42026, Doug Page, athletic supplies
PO 42094, Ohio State University, CCP
PO 42098, Columbus State Community College, CCP
PO 42102, Baker Tilly, capital planning services
PO 42107, Cell Site Capital, consulting services
PO 42101, Mid City Electric, electrical work
PO 41950, Shelly Sanzo, volleyball supplies
PO 42119, Carrie O'Mara, mileage reimbursement
PO 42115, Albert Sporting Goods, supplies
PO 47005, VAT, transportation
PO 42135, Outdoor Home Services, lawn service
PO 42133, Ohio Pizza, athletic advisory council lunch
PO 42134, Kevin Richards, reimbursement

4. Baker Tilly Contract

Recommend the Board approve an agreement for services with Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC.

5. Transfer

Recommend the Board approve a transfer of \$480 from the General Fund to the Key Club Fund (200-9107).

6. MA Interior Design Master Plan

Recommend the Board accept a proposal from M&A Architects to develop an interior design master plan.

7. Donations

Recommend the Board accept the following donations:

- a. \$300 from the GHS Swim Team Boosters for 2023-2024 Swim Team Coaching Shirts
- b. \$600 from the Bobcat Boosters to GHHS Mock Trial
- c. \$100 from Jane Cammann to the LMS Garden Club
- d. \$1,440 from the GHS Wrestling Boosters for GHHS Wrestling Team Warm-Ups

8. Donations

Recommend the Board accept the following donations to the GHHS Cross Country Team:

a.	Neelam Shinde	\$255.00
b.	Jeremy Curfman	100.00
c.	Emilie DiFranco	20.00
d.	Sarah Hammond	20.00
e.	Kimberly Guo	50.00
f.	Christy Monson	20.00
g.	Vikki Vincent	25.00
h.	Stephanie Burley	550.00
i.	Maureen Murphy	50.00
j.	Susan Ebert	100.00
k.	Derek Stern	50.00

l.	Mandy Szabo	50.00
m.	Nancy Nolan	50.00
n.	Holly Hunt	50.00
o.	Rebecca Wade-Mdivanian	20.00
p.	Sharon Ebert	20.00
q.	Robert Lount	50.00
r.	Carrie Williams	10.00
s.	Brian Van Horn	25.00
t.	Elizabeth Grainger	20.00
u.	Jessica Dowdy	50.00
v.	Megan Murphy	200.00
w.	Bethany Black	20.00
x.	Joshua Uffman	25.00
y.	Jack Kukura	300.00
z.	Laura Swisher	50.00
aa.	Diane Hodges	20.00
bb.	Karin McKenna	50.00
cc.	Farrah Chrstos	25.00
dd.	Kathy Greer	20.00
ee.	Errol Sambuco	100.00
ff.	Lindsey Bills	25.00
gg.	Stephen McIntosh	200.00
hh.	Jennifer Hess	30.00
ii.	Jasmin Wurster	100.00
jj.	Megan/Robert Hatta	250.00
kk.	Melissa Palmisciano	300.00

Mr. Bode seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mrs. Matney, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

Personnel

Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-029) Ms. Wassmuth moved to approve the following:

1. Administrator Contract
Recommend the Board approve the following administrator contract.
 - a. Nichole Smith; Assistant Director of Kids' Club, \$48,000 annually, effective 10/23/23 – 7/31/2024

2. Supplemental Contracts
Recommend the Board to approve the following supplemental contracts for the 2023-2024 school year:

Non-Certificated
 - a. Kassondra DiPietro; Bowling Assistant Coach, VI-1-1, \$1,853.80
 - b. Sam Hawk; Basketball, Freshman Coach, Boys (.50 FTE), V-2-9, \$1,737.94
 - c. Emily Reardon; Basketball, 7th Grade Coach, Girls, V-3-M, \$4,634.50
 - d. Brian Heilbronner; Swimming, Assistant Varsity Coach, V-1-4 (.50 FTE), \$1,390.35

3. OHSAA Tournament Worker Payments
Recommend the Board approve the following payments for the OHSAA Tournament Workers for the 2023-2024 fall tournament season:
 - a. Ticket Taker/Seller/Announcer - \$25 per game
 - b. Athletic Trainer - \$60 per game
 - c. Site Manager - \$75 per game, Soccer
 - d. Site Manager- \$70 per game, Volleyball
 - e. Site Manager- \$75 per game, Football

4. Job Descriptions
Recommend the Board approve the following updated job descriptions.

- a. Assistant Director of Kids' Club
- b. Custodian
- c. Head Custodian
- d. Groundskeeper
- e. Apprentice Maintainer
- f. Maintenance Technician
- g. Elementary School Secretary
- h. Middle School Administrative Secretary
- i. Middle School Administrative Secretary- Data & Records
- j. High School Secretary
- k. High School Records and Guidance Secretary
- l. Athletic Secretary
- m. Educational Technology Specialist
- n. Service Desk Technician
- o. Health Service Paraprofessional
- p. Paraprofessional
- q. 3+Hour Cook/Cashier
- r. Less than 3hrs Cook/Cashier

5. Kids' Club Personnel
Recommend the Board approve the following Kids' Club new hires:

- a. Peyton Hunt; Recreation Leader, \$15.99 per hour, effective 10/30/2023
- b. Deja Hale; Recreation Leader, \$15.46 per hour, effective 11/6/2023

6. Kids' Club Personnel Changes
Recommend the Board approve the following changes Kids' Club personnel changes:

- a. Sam Delio; Recreation Leader to Substitute, \$15.46 per hour, effective 10/27/23
- b. Takwa Hassan; Team Leader, end of temporary assignment, from \$21.07 to \$16.07, effective 11/6/23

7. Kids' Club Resignations
Recommend the Board accept the following Kids' Club resignations:

- a. Aimee Chihuahua; Team Leader, effective 7/28/2023
- b. Shayne Stein; Team Leader, effective 11/3/2023
- c. Alex Mohler; Recreation Leader, effective 10/27/2023
- d. Susan Crist; Substitute, effective 9/28/23

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mrs. Matney, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

Board Policy and Procedure

Policy Committee Report

Mr. Gusé reported the Policy Committee met and is presenting the following policies for First Reading.

First Reading

1. Board Policies – First Reading
Recommend the Board consider the following Board policies on first reading.

- a. DH – Bonded Employees and Officers
- b. GCL – Professional Staff Development Opportunities
- c. JECBD – Intradistrict Open Enrollment
- d. JD – Employment of Students
- e. IGC-R – Home Instruction
- f. BBFA – Board Member Conflict of Interest

- g. DJB – Petty Cash Accounts
- h. DM – Deposit of Public Funds
- i. EBCD – Emergency Closing
- j. EF/EFB – Food Service Management/Free and Reduced Priced Food Services
- k. GBCC – Staff Dress and Grooming
- l. GBG – Staff Participation in Political Activity
- m. GBI – Staff Gifts and Solicitations
- n. GCB-1 – Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans
- o. GCE – Part-Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment
- p. GCPD – Suspension and Termination of Professional Staff Members
- q. IGBEA – Reading Skills Assessments and Interventions
- r. IGBEA-R – Reading Skills Assessments and Interventions
- s. IGCF – Home Education
- t. IIA – Instructional Materials
- u. IKE – Promotion and Retention of Students
- v. IL – Testing Programs
- w. JEA – Compulsory Attendance Ages
- x. JEC – School Admission
- y. JECE – Student Withdrawal from School
- z. JED-R – Student Absences and Excuses
- aa. JEDA – Truancy
- bb. JEG – Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance
- cc. JHCD – Administering Medicines to Students
- dd. JN – Student Fees, Fines, and Charges
- ee. KI – Public Solicitations in the Schools
- ff. EBCD-R – Emergency Closings
- gg. IGD – Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities
- hh. IGDJ – Interscholastic Athletics
- ii. IGDK – Interscholastic Extracurricular Eligibility
- jj. JECBC – Admission of Students from Non-Chartered or Home Education
- kk. JECBD – Intradistrict Open Enrollment
- ll. KJA – Distribution of Materials in the Schools
- mm. IKAB – Student Progress Reports to Parents

Discussion

Mr. Gusé explained that the updates are almost entirely language cleanup rather than actual substantive changes. He did highlight one policy in particular (GBF - Staff Participation in Political Activity) and highlighted that this policy prohibits wearing clothing that advocates or opposes a political candidate or issue.

Ms. Wassmuth asked for clarification whether the policy applies just to school grounds during the school day. Mr. Gusé confirmed that is correct.

Mr. Culp also added that this policy is nearly identical to the existing policy. He also stated that nearly all of these policy changes are required changes.

Mrs. Gephart explained that the policy does seem somewhat ambiguous when it mentions political activity, as some topics may seem political in nature to some individuals but not to others. She asked for clarification regarding whether political activity means something that a person would actually vote on. Mr. Gusé confirmed her understanding is correct.

Ms. Wassmuth also agreed that political activity can be open to interpretation. She also mentioned the Ohio Educator Code of Conduct establishes specific guidelines for topics such as free speech and political activity and wondered if there was any difference or overlap between the two.

Mr. Culp also discussed the recent guidance issued by the State Auditor’s Office regarding levy campaigns. In particular the guidance takes a much stricter stance on Superintendent and Treasurer involvement in a school levy campaign.

Mr. Bode asked about the Board Member Conflict of Interest proposed policy. Mr. Gusé explained that there are no substantive changes in the policy, but more language clean-up.

Mr. Bode also asked about the Home Instruction policy. Mr. Gusé explained that the change is simply a change in the terminology from home schooling to home instruction.

Co-Curricular Activities and Extracurricular Activities

Recommendation for Approval (Motion 24-030) Mrs. Matney moved to approve the following:

1. Volunteers
Recommend the Board approve the following volunteers:
 - a. Alison Kathleen Skala Barger
 - b. Tendency Chiang
 - c. William P. Doolittle
 - d. Dane Thomas Goettemoeller
 - e. Joshua Madden
 - f. Melissa D. Palmisciano
 - g. Phoukhong Soukkay
 - h. Laura Rayce Swisher
 - i. Scott Thomas Ulrich
 - j. Gregory Allen Wainer

Ms. Wassmuth seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mrs. Matney, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion Topic

Mr. Culp reported that the Ohio School Boards Association's Capital Conference is next week. He will be presenting on Monday at 10:30 a.m. A group of administrators and Board members are also planning on attending the Alliance Luncheon on Monday at 11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

Motion 24-031 (Adjourn) Ms. Wassmuth moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bode seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mrs. Matney, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

President Gephart declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

President

Treasurer