

GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes - Board Retreat Meeting
October 18, 2024

The Board of Education met on Friday, October 18, 2024, at 8:30 am at Grand Haven High School.

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 am by Board President Chris Streng. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Eickholt, Stack, Baker, Boyd, Streng, Holt (arrived at 8:33 am) and Treutler (arrived at 8:33 am) Absent:

Also present: Kristin Perkowski, Jason Reinecke, Mary Jane Evink, Michael MacDonald, Nate Hunt, Cassady Krumm, Trent Carithers, Andrea Hughes and Nick West (Maner Costerisan) and 9 audience members.

The meeting agenda was approved as presented.

17-676 Trustee Stack moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Minutes of the September 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
- Payment of Bills for September

Accounts Payable	\$1,578,550.92
Expenditures Previously Approved by Board Treasurer	
Payroll	\$3,403,053.44
2020 Building & Site Bond	\$ 19,128.00
Ref Pay September, 2024	\$ 18,245.00
Edustaff, contracted staff and subs	\$ 39,180.60
PNC credit card (credit on account)	\$ 36,046.06

Trustee Baker seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

The following announcements were shared by Superintendent Perkowski:

- Recognition of GHAPS Grand Partner of the Month - The Grand Haven Schools Foundation (GHSF)
 - Executive Director Sue Bays was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from Superintendent Perkowski and the board. GHSF has funded over 800 full-tuition preschool scholarships since 2005 and has been instrumental in providing our youngest learners with a solid education foundation.

Last year, the kick-off of the Mini Grant program provided over \$11,000 in grants to support enhanced classroom learning. In addition, District Impact Grants, Field Trip Grants, and Classroom Library Grants for new teachers brought the total awarded to GHAPS to an incredible \$122,641.91.

Public Comment:

Sally Edwards spoke regarding her concerns with the recent adoption of board policy based on federal Title IX law and the rescinding of another policy. She expressed her concern surrounding her understanding of our process for policy updates.

Betty Jo Enell spoke regarding her experience substitute teaching in an elementary kindergarten classroom and the lack of teacher assistant staffing in Young Fives and Kindergarten classrooms especially at the end of the school day.

Kristin presented an overview of the learning targets for today's board retreat which will feature key operational area updates, transparently sharing summary of superintendent's 30-60-90 plan, allow time for feedback, and discussing a shared vision for the district.

Instructional Services

Mary Jane Evink, Executive Director of Instructional Services provided the board with an update on two topics, Professional Learning and Assessment & Data Analysis.

1. Professional Learning: We continue to provide professional learning to our professional staff, bringing targeted professional development opportunities. Research shows the better our teachers are, the better our student achievement is. We strive to provide targeted professional learning to our teachers and this year with the implementation of Bridges Math to our Y5-4 classrooms we had a full day of summer learning. This past week our teachers worked and collaborated with our math coaches learning about best practices in math instruction utilizing Bridges Math. The utilization of manipulatives in Bridges Math is higher but we are seeing an increase in student engagement.

The continuation and development of nature based learning in collaboration with Outdoor Discovery Center for our Kindergarten Continues to show that behaviors are reduced in those outdoor environments and increased student engagement is happening.

All our teachers are continuing to work with Solution Tree representatives to support to our teachers in establishing smart goals and progress monitoring of those goals.

Our Special Education teachers are receiving coaching from Solution Tree representatives as well to support their professional development as well. We have received positive feedback regarding our Tier 2 Behavior interventions that are in place to support staff and students.

2. Assessment & Data Analysis

Our focus continues to be on having a balanced approach to assessments. We developed assessment teams this summer and our instructional coaches are co-assessing with our classroom teachers. Together they look at the assessment data to better understand their learners and how to best support them. Whether it be a quick screener, iReady assessment, common formative assessments, measuring standards and learning targets or more formal state assessments, this data allows us to individually look at student needs and build interventions to assist in their success in mastering a learning target.

- 17-677** Trustee Eickholt moved to approve the purchase and installation of poured-in-place safety surfacing at Griffin Elementary by Landscape Structures in the amount of \$84,500.00. These funds will be paid from the Capital Projects Fund 42.

Trustee Stack seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Business Services

Michael MacDonald introduced Nick West, CPA with Manor Costerisan. Nick reviewed the financial statements and audit findings. The district received a clean, unmodified opinion audit, which is the highest rating a district can receive. He congratulated Michael and the Business Office staff. New this year, the district created an Annual

Comprehensive Financial Report, the most comprehensive and transparent financial reporting that a district can do. The full audit and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report can be found on our website.

17-678 Trustee Stack moved that the Board of Education accept the audits into District records.

Trustee Boyd seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Human Services

Safety & Security Update - Trent Carithers, Director of Safety and Security provided an update on projects currently happening. CRASE training, which is training for civilian response to an active shooter events. All new professional staff receive CRASE training at New Teacher Orientation. Trent is working with SROs and Ottawa County Sheriff's Department on a complete refresher for all staff members.

Trent is working with OASSN and I Love U Guys Foundation in building consistency and clarity in our emergency response protocol. This will require language changes in how we communicate in an emergency situation as well as retraining of staff. Trent is working on creating a reunification training to be held in the summer of 2025.

We have implemented a new Behavioral Threat Assessment (BTAM) process. Staff was trained last year and we have implemented it this year. Each building has a threat assessment team. When a report of a threat is received, the team gathers information using a screening and assessment tool. Will determine if the event can be closed or if we need to move forward with intervention.

Trent has completed an AED inventory across the district and has manually checked each one. All AED's are online and will allow us to get updates, notification and provide maintenance information. Trent is looking to create signage that easily identifies the location of all our AEDs.

The board took a break at 9:34am and resumed at 9:50am.

Superintendent

Communications and Marketing Update - Nate Hunt, Director of Communications and Marketing provided an update on his key findings through 1:1 meetings with staff and participating in community input sessions, spending time in our buildings and looking at our processes. He highlighted five (5) key focus areas: improve access to information; share our stories; celebrate our people and track our progress. Next step is to finalize a plan that outlines strategies and tactics to be shared with the board in November.

Listening & Learning Tour - Superintendent Perkowski provided the board with a recap of her 30-60-90 Day Plan, Master Planning Process & Timeline, Internal and External Input Sessions, her community Coffee & Connects and student survey given to GHHS and Central HS students.

Superintendent Perkowski reviewed findings of a student survey given to GHHS and Central HS students. Almost 1000 students participated in the survey. This student voice is important as we develop our strategic plan. We will continue to engage student voices with the creation of a Superintendent Student Advisory Council that we will begin to create in the next 30 days.

We held a full day internal input session in August and three (3) - three(3) hour each external input sessions in September. We had approximately 80 staff members participate in the internal input session and approximately 80

members participate in the external input sessions. Along with the eight (8) Coffee & Connect events held throughout the community in September and October, these opportunities to hear the voices of students, staff, parents and community members have provided us with invaluable insight as we prepare to create a 3-5 year strategic plan.

The updated 30-60-90 day plan can be found on our GHAPS website along with a Capital Projects dashboard as we continue to build trust and provide transparency to all our stakeholders.

Strategic Plan Recommendation Overview -the purpose of a strategic plan is to provide a clear, long-term roadmap that outlines the district's goals, priorities and actions necessary to achieve its vision for the future. In doing so, we must do the following:

1. Set a clear vision & mission
2. Establish goals & objectives
3. Guide decision-making & resource allocation
4. Promote accountability and transparency
5. Enhance collaboration & community engagement
6. Address challenges & adapt to change

An overview of our timeline is as follows:

Phase 1 - July-September 2024

- Assess the Organization - "Blank Canvas"
 - Superintendent 30-60-90 Day Plan, Coffee & Connect events, internal & external input sessions

Phase 2 - October 2024-November 2024

- Organization & Community Analysis
 - Summarize themes from internal and external stakeholders: strengths, challenges, and opportunities

Phase 3 - November 2024-March 2025

- Strategic Plan Co-Design
 - Develop a 5-year strategic plan with executive summary and roadmap for public distribution with metrics for tracking implementation

Phase 4 - April 2025-June 2025

- Strategic Execution
 - Working with board of education and district leaders to establish clear success criteria and outcomes to ensure effective, transparent evaluation reporting

There being no further agenda items, President Streng adjourned the meeting at 11:38 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Nichol Stack, Secretary
GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION