

GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes - Regular Board Meeting
March 11, 2024

The Board of Education met on Monday, March 11, at 7:00 pm at Rosy Mound Elementary School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President, Chris Streng. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Baker, Boyd, Eickholt, Holt, Stack, Streng, and Treutler Absent:

Also present: Scott Grimes, Jason Reinecke, Michael MacDonald, Mary Jane Evink, Dawn Kelley, Cecil Hammond, Matthew Leigh, Kevin Blanding, Heather Worthington, Rylie Grimes, Connor O'Connell, Jay Bennett and 12 audience members.

17-615 Trustee Eickholt moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Minutes of the February 12, 2024 regular Board Meeting and February 19, 2024 Special Board Meeting.
- Payment of Bills for February

Accounts Payable-	\$2,222,153.54
Expenditures Previously	
Approved by Board Treasurer	
Payroll	\$3,675,170.10
2020 Building & Site Bond	\$ 67.00
Ref Pay February, 2024	\$ 18,303.55
Edustaff, contracted staff and subs	\$ 119,682.81
PNC credit card (credit on account)	\$ 16,801.16

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

The following announcements were shared by Superintendent Grimes:

- Welcome to our Nationally recognized, Blue Ribbon school, Rosy Mound and thanks to Principal Kevin Blanding for hosting the board meeting. We will hear from Kevin and some of his staff later in our agenda.
- Today marks not only the second day of daylight savings time, but also the beginning of spring sports. Maybe more importantly to our students, staff and parents, spring break is less than three weeks away (March 29 - April 5, 2024)
- We are currently in our band, orchestra and choir festival season. We hosted band and orchestra festivals a couple of weeks ago, and our choir's perform in their festival this week.
- A quick legislative update. There has been some movement with the house and senate subcommittees to develop their budget proposals. Our most recent understanding is that those budgets may be released sometime in mid to late April.

- Finally, congratulations and thank you to board members Nichol Stack, Marc Eickholt and Seth Holt, for their continuing education with the Michigan Association of School Boards. Nichol and Seth for achieving level four–Master Board Member status, and Marc for certification in Data Skills. We appreciate your hard work on behalf of our school district and community.

Public Comment:

Rich Houtterman, Community Affairs Manager for Consumers Energy - Spoke on The Campbell plant and how they are preparing to shut down the plant in May 2025. They are heavily engaged with community stakeholders, preparing to take care of the property as they shut it down. They are working with the DNR regarding jetties at Pigeon Lake. Consumers Energy wants to transition the property well from a tax base vantage point and are working with the county and local municipalities.

Angela Vanderlaan - Spoke of two concerns, a transportation issue and a GHHS issue. The transportation issue related to Bus 64 and how full the bus is with the majority of students being under 2nd grade. Incident involving a parent of a Y5/K student was not present at entrance 1 on an early-release day and the bus waited for over 20 minutes. Due to this, parents from nearby bus stops came to the bus stop at entrance 1 to get their children off the bus but were not allowed to.

Robert Lock - Spoke regarding the law surrounding the transportation issue on the early-release day where students were not allowed to get off at a stop that was not their designated stop.

Kate Hoffmeyer - Spoke regarding the superintendent survey that our community had the opportunity to complete. She feels the write-in portion results of the survey would be valuable for the board to see in its entirety not just the word cloud that was provided to the board by MASB consultant, Jay. Bennett.

Instructional Services

Mary Jane introduced Rosy Mound Principal, Kevin Blanding

Rosy Mound Elementary Principal Kevin Blanding reported how his school supports the holistic development of students. He shared how collaborative teams have worked to grow academic success with Professional Learning Communities. These initiatives underscore the commitment to nurturing academic success along with social emotional well-being of students. Social worker, Rylie Grimes, shared about the establishment of a unique space within the school designed to assist students in maintaining emotional regulation. This space facilitates a structured progression from high-energy to low-energy activities, aiding students in returning to a state of equilibrium conducive to learning. Additionally, Rylie shared the implementation of classroom circles, a practice centered around the CASEL social-emotional standards, fostering inclusivity and emotional intelligence among all students. Heather Worthington, Young Fives Teacher, shared about Rosy's outdoor learning program which has also been implemented district wide in other Young Fives classrooms. Through a collaboration with the Outdoor Discovery Center, all Young Fives teachers work with Outdoor Discovery Center to provide at least 45 minutes a day of outdoor learning with our students. Connor O'Connel reviewed what each grade level has chosen to focus on and how Rosy utilizes their "landing page" for follow-up, validation and planning.

Business Services

17-616 Trustee Baker moved to approve the purchase of the Virtual Cluster Hardware and Installation from

Rehmann at a total cost not to exceed \$130,991.00. Funds will come from 2020 bonds.

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

- 17-617** Trustee Eickholt moved to approve the purchase of the Avigilon Access Control System from Grand Valley Automation at a total cost not to exceed \$114,570.00. Funds will come from the 2023 Safety & Security grant.

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

- 17-618** Trustee Stack moved to approve the banking relationship change to Lake Michigan Credit Union (LMCU) and West Michigan Community Bank (WMCB). LMCU will be the main bank that will hold our General Fund, Payroll, Food Service Fund and Activity Fund accounts. WMCB will hold our 2020 Building & Site Fund, Debt Fund, and Capital Projects Fund 42 accounts.

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

All boosters and PTOs/PTAs have turned in their required documentation at this time.

Human Services

- 17-619** Trustee Boyd moved to offer an employment contract to the below-named candidate for the 2023-24 school year, with placement on the salary schedule as presented.

New Hires/ Teachers	Position	Building	Level
Celine Nienhouse	Teacher - Elementary Art	Griffin & Lake Hills	MA Step 13

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

The board took a brief recess at 7:52 pm and came back at 7:57pm.

Board President

President Streng thanked the board for doing their homework over the weekend, reviewing the 31 superintendent candidate applications

Interview Preparation and Discussion/Selection of Candidates: Jay Bennett reviewed the interview preparation and interview process. We need to commit to due diligence in the whole process, not just the interview itself. He will provide the board with an interview guide once questions are decided upon. Make sure this guide is reviewed carefully in advance of the interviews. Jay reviewed sample questions and received input from the board. This input will be taken into consideration in designing the interview guide. First round interviews will be very structured and have a time limit. Second round interviews are where we will explore strengths and weaknesses of the candidates chosen to move to the second round.

Jay reviewed sample questions in the areas of vision, interpersonal, management & decision making, professional background and closing. He received input from the board as to what they would like to see in these categories. He will provide the board with a draft of the questions for their final review in the next week.

Jay facilitated the selection of candidates. All numbers were randomly assigned to candidates and do not have any significance.

Seven (7) candidates 1 7 14 22 24 85 96 had four (4) or more selections by the board. Jay recommended offering an interview to those seven (7) candidates. Jay will reach out to the seven candidates to confirm acceptance of an interview and will contact those that were not selected. He will issue a press release announcing candidates once they have accepted an interview and another press release once we have location and interview times set.

There being no further agenda items, President Streng adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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