

GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes – Board Retreat
April 19, 2024

The Grand Haven Area Public Schools Board of Education held its annual Spring Retreat on Friday, April 19, 2024 at Grand Haven High School.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Board President Streng. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Also present: Scott Grimes, Jason Reinecke, Michael MacDonald, Mary Jane Evink, Dawn Kelley, Meaghen Beyer, Trent Carithers and 1 audience member.

17-623 Trustee Treutler moved that the meeting agenda be approved as presented

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

17-624 Trustee Stack moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- Minutes of the March 11, 2024 Regular Meeting.
- Payment of Bills for March

Accounts Payable -	\$ 1,839,781.33
Expenditures Previously	
Approved by Board Treasurer	
Payroll	\$ 3,719,858.19
2020 Building & Site Bond	\$ 67.43
Ref Pay March 2024	\$ 13,620.40
Edustaff, contracted staff and subs	\$ 127,183.74
PNC credit card (credit on account)	\$ 26,977.19

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

Public Comment: Mike Westbrook, spoke regarding a concern he had with an interaction with a teacher regarding a reading assignment for his 11th grade student. He shared an email he received that was sent to parents by the teacher regarding the reading assignment of "The Kite Runner" for his 11th grade student. He is concerned about the content of the book as well as the teacher's response to his request for an alternative reading assignment.

The following announcements were shared by Superintendent Grimes:

- Thanks to Tracy Wilson and high school staff for hosting.
- Spring is full of activities, band, choir, athletics, orchestra, plays along with community events happening.

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- Central High School and Grand Haven High School graduations are just 4 ½ weeks away. May 22 for Central High School and May 23 for Grand Haven High School.
- A brief legislative update - senate release budget for K-12 schools and is remarkably different from the Governors. The house should release their budget in the next week or so. The biggest difference is a larger per pupil funding allowance in the senate proposal and less categorical.
- Election Day is Tuesday, May 7 and our non-homestead millage renewal is on the ballot. This is an annual renewal, not a new millage proposal.

Instructional Services

- 17-625** Trustee Eickholt moved to approve the purchase of the Solution Tree agreement for the 24-25 SY in the amount of \$128,950.00 Funds will come from the 35j grant and Title II grant for professional learning.

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

Continuation of Service Plan - Grand Haven Area Public Schools must have a Continuation of Services Plan created and posted on the website, addressing how the district will respond when there are significant health issues. This plan must be reviewed and updated every six months. Although the Board of Education does not need to vote on this plan, it must be presented to the Board of Education at a regular meeting. The Continuation of Services Plan has been updated and will be shared for compliance and accountability. It is currently on the district website under the transparency page.

Business Services

- 17-626** Trustee Stack moved to accept the bids from Angeltrax and Techworx Mobile Electronics for bus camera replacement for a total project cost of **\$188,905.80**. The systems and installation services will be purchased using the State of Michigan Safety Grant.

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

Outdoor Discovery Center Update

Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC) is once again providing support for summer school. ODC will be providing an adventure camp in the morning while we provide 30 minute pull-out, high impact tutoring in math and reading during the adventure camp. This summer school opportunity will be offered at three (3) locations - Lake Hills, Robinson and Rosy Mound to allow parents flexibility in locations that are convenient for families. We currently have the highest elementary enrollment for summer school that we've had in previous years.

One Page Strategic Plan Update - Mary Jane Evink

- **Assessment Date**
 - **Student Growth and Success** - Mary Jane provided detailed data on student growth and achievement. Out of 20 tests given, GHAPS ties or exceeds the county average in 18 of them and exceeds the average at the state level. We are closing some of

those learning gaps although we continue to seek improvement, especially in 4th and 11th grade math. We continue to focus efforts on subgroups that continue to struggle. Generally subgroups are keeping pace but our goal is to have these students experience a faster growth than they are currently achieving. Graduation rates were studied at the ISD level to increase graduation rates. In looking at graduation rates for our district, it was noticed that our Early College students were marked graduated after their 12th year but they should be marked graduated after the 13th year. It was also determined that our students who receive a certificate of completion, which many of our special education students receive, count against our graduation rate vs student's who receive a diploma. Taking all these factors into consideration, our graduation data is better than what appears on state sites.

- Perception Survey Data

- Staff Perception survey highlights were shared. Areas of strength show we see growth in staff using data for instruction, belief in a collaborative climate in the district, perceived barrier in collaborative teams is reduced from last year and staff feel their needs are being met in the area of professional development. Areas of growth are staff wanting to know how to better provide intervention strategies, improve teaching school ready behavior strategies and improve implementation of positive behavior intervention systems.
- Parent Perception survey highlights were shared. Areas of strength are that parents would attend mental health training outside of the school day, staff continues to be one of our district's greatest strengths and that special programming/extra curricular activities (ie arts, music, athletics), curriculum and class size rank high amongst parents surveyed. Areas of growth according to our parent perception survey include attendance of students, which is not just a GHAPS issue but a national issue. Diversity and inclusion was also mentioned as an area of growth along with an increase in interventions and extracurricular activities.
- Student Perception survey highlights were shared. Areas of strength are that students feel respected by staff and that staff offer students support. Athletic programs were also an area of strength. Areas of growth included better communication, especially around topics that are sensitive or hard to discuss. Students feel like there is a lack of respect amongst their peers and that improvement in action/follow through on issues of harassment or bullying is needed.
- Also shared is information on training that is being offered to all staff and students around "Mitigating Microaggressions". This training is grounded in kindness and dignity and teaches a 3-step protocol in addressing microaggressions.
- Early Release and Professional Learning Communities update was shared with the board. Each building administrator and central office staff can look at the data from each building based on the rolling agendas to see what learning communities are reviewing and working on. Solution Tree offers support in areas that team's feel like they need assistance or additional support. The district understands that early release does put a burden on some of our families and we continue to look for ways to ease transportation issues.

- Social Emotional Wellness/School Readiness Behaviors

- A MTSS module was added to Synergy so teachers can enter behaviors directly. This will increase the data tracking ability for our building administrators and behavior teams. This implementation took longer than anticipated but is now ready as of April.
- The MTSS District team focused on Tier 1 behaviors to systemize the teaching of

positive behaviors. With this focus, we have seen a reduction in office referrals. Elementary schools are also beginning to implement Responsive Classrooms which have a positive impact on reducing and managing behaviors.

- MTSS is a requirement of the Michigan Department of Education and our 31a grant fund is tied to MTSS.
 - Board Input on Goals for 24-25 school year
- Mary Jane Evink provided the board with a link to add feedback for any changes/additions or deletions they would like to see on the 24-25 One Page Strategic plan. She asked the board to provide that feedback within the next couple of weeks.

The board took a short break at 10:05am and reconvened at 10:17am.

- Human Services Update - Jason Reinecke
 - We have a number of professional staff positions that we are hiring for the 24-25 school year. We have started the process of absorbing positions through attrition due to the decline in enrollment.
- Sinking Fund - Michael MacDonald
 - Michael MacDonald provided the board with information regarding what a sinking fund is and what is allowable to spend sinking fund monies on. Sinking funds are heavily regulated and have mandated reporting requirements. A sinking fund is a millage levy that needs to be approved by the voters and would alleviate using general funds for pay as you go projects such as buses, building upgrades and repair, site improvements, security upgrades and instructional technology. Sample ballot language was shared with the board. Sinking funds can't go longer than 10 years or be in excess of 3 mills.
- Safety Update - Trent Carithers, Director of Safety and Security
 - He reviewed projects that are in process or have been completed that have provided increased security and safety in our buildings. He also shared with the board future projects that are in the planning phase. Trent is working very closely with our community law enforcement partners as well as the Intermediate School District safety personnel.
- Food Service Update - Meaghen Beyer
 - Introduced Shane Dykhuis, our new District Chef, who was hired in January 2024. We have 35 employees / 7 substitutes that make up our food services team. Meagen provided the board with an overview of the number of students who are being served breakfast and lunch. Tasting events are being trialed in a few of our buildings to introduce healthy options to students.
- Board Input on Goals for 24-25 school year
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The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nichol Stack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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