

**REGULAR MEETING  
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,  
May 24, 2021**

**GBE approved 6/14/2021**

A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education took place on Monday, May 24 2021, in the Griswold Middle School Gymnasium. It was also offered via teleconference, due to the Coronavirus, and the meeting access information was as follows: Meeting ID, [meet.google.com/fyy-gkos-kkx](https://meet.google.com/fyy-gkos-kkx), or by Phone Number (US)+1 262-674-8579 with Pin 581 104 467#. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin.

**PRESENT** Mary Beth Malin, BOE Chair; Yvonne Palasky, BOE Vice-Chair; Joyce Rice, BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr.,; Shannon Webster, and Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Griswold BOE Members.

**ALSO PRESENT** Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Director, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Alisha Stripling, GPS Business Manager; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Marceline Dillon, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; and Joseph Bordeaux, GES Principal.

**ABSENT** Martin Osga, BOE Member; Jaqueline Love, GES Assistant Principal; and Christopher Champlin, GPS Special Education Director and Principal of Griswold Alternative School.

The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting- May 10, 2021

**MOTION** By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To approve the regular meeting minutes of May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Communications

A. May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Letter from Charlene M. Russel-Tucker, Acting Commissioner of Education -  
The Board received a copy of the communications listed above.

Hearings & Requests

None.

## New Business

- A. Honoring our Griswold Public Schools Distinguished Retiree—Sharon Parker - Mrs. Palonen read a brief history of Mrs. Parker’s service to the district. The Superintendent, Board of Education members, administrators and audience members applauded Mrs. Parker’s service to GPS and wished her well in retirement.
- B. Congratulations and Well Wishes to our Graduating Student Representative to the Griswold Board of Education—Ayla Taylor-Robichaud - Superintendent McKenna read a brief congratulatory note to thank Ayla Taylor-Robichaud for her service as a student representative to the Griswold Board of Education and wished her well in her future endeavors, albeit Ms. Taylor-Robichaud could not attend because of another commitment.
- C. Honoring our Griswold PRIDE - Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Distinguished Friend of Education Award Recipient, Nominated by Griswold Public Schools - A representative from CAS joined with the Superintendent, Board of Education, Administration and audience members to recognize Miranda Mahoney, who was nominated by GHS for the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Distinguished Friend of Education award, for which she was the recipient.
- D. GPS Staff Members who will be Recognized by the Connecticut State Department of Education Academic Office and RESC Alliance as “Impact Educators”—Glenn LaBossiere, Laurie LaBossiere, Donna Rossi, Pat Feeney, Jessica Gillespie, and Tara Parkinson - The Superintendent, Board of Education, Administration and audience members honored these GPS educators for their pioneering efforts in Blended Learning, which was also highlighted by the State of Connecticut, Department of Education.
- E. Gifts/Donations
  - 1. Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Tully -- \$100 Donation to Griswold High School

### **MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To accept this \$100 donation from Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Tully,  
with gratitude.  
Motion unanimously carried

- 2. Grasso Technical School, (Mr. Bret Jacobson), Donated a Drill Press to GHS

### **MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To accept the Drill Press from Grasso Technical School,  
(Mr. Bret Jacobson), with gratitude.  
Motion carried unanimously.

- F. \*Review Action, Discussion, and Possible Action on Employee Request for Extended Unpaid Leave - This matter was addressed in executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting.

Unfinished Business

None.

Administrators' Reports

- A. Financial Update, 2020/2021 – Alisha Stripling – GPS Business Manager, Alisha Stripling, reviewed the most up-to-date financial forecast for the fiscal year 2021.

B. Review, Discussion, and Action to Approve Line Item Transfers for 2020/2021 School Year

**MOTION**

By Shannon Webster

Seconded by Joyce Rice

To approve the line item transfers as presented and discussed.

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received a list of vacancies/appointments/resignations/retirements.
- B. Review of ARP Grant Guidance - The Board heard a presentation from Superintendent Sean McKenna on the American Rescue Plan Grant.
- C. Report on Town Budget Proposal – The Superintendent provided the BOE with a brief overview of the last Town of Griswold, Board of Finance meeting.

Committee/Board Reports

- A. Athletic Subcommittee Update – Member of the Athletic subcommittee, Stuart R. Norman, Jr., provided an update to the Board on the work of this committee.

Public Comment

Jennifer Norman, 257 Norman Road, shared her concerns with the ongoing development of the town budget and the board of education budget.

Other Business That May Properly May Come Properly Before the Board – The Superintendent, the Board of Education, Administrators, and Audience wished Attorney Stuart R. Norman, Jr., and his family well wishes on the arrival of his granddaughter, Francine.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice

Seconded by Shannon Webster

To move into executive session at 6:58 PM for the purpose of discussing item 6F - Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Employee Request Extended Unpaid Leave and invite Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent; Alisha Stripling, GPS Business Manager, and Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Director of Teaching, Learning & Innovation.  
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:15 PM.

**MOTION**

By Stuart R. Norman, Jr.

To honor the extended leave request that was presented to the Board of Education.

There was no second, after three (3) calls.

Motion did not carry.

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To adjourn the meeting at 7:18pm.

Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes prepared by: Sean P. McKenna/Robin Drobiak