

**REGULAR EDUCATION MEETING  
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,  
August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education took place on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mary Beth Malin, Chair of the Griswold Board of Education.

**PRESENT** Mary Beth Malin; BOE Chair; Yvonne Palasky, BOE Vice-Chair; Joyce Rice, BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, and Shannon Webster, BOE Members.

**ALSO PRESENT** Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Director, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; and Erin Palonen, GHS Principal.

**ABSENT** Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, BOE Member; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services and Principal of Griswold Alternative School; Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; and Jackie Love, GES Assistant Principal.

Pledge of Allegiance - The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOTION** By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To move item 11B – Facilities Subcommittee update - under new business, 7A.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Approval of Minutes

A. Special Meeting – June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**MOTION** By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To approve the special meeting minutes of June 20, 2022, as presented.

Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Joyce Rice, and Martin Osga.

Nays -

Abstain – Stuart Norman, Jr., and Shannon Webster

Motion carried.

B. Regular BOE Meeting – July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Martin Osga

To approve the regular meeting minutes of July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as presented.

Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Stuart Norman, Jr. and Martin Osga.

Nays –

Abstain – Joyce Rice and Shannon Webster

Motion carried.

Communications

- A. 2022 CABA/CAPSS Convention Registration Form – The Board was provided with a registration form to be completed and handed in by those BOE members who wish to attend this year's CABA/CAPSS convention in November.

Public Comments

Mary Beth Malin read the ground rules for the the public comment section of this meeting.

Ray Churchill of 150 Bitgood Road, Griswold, CT, shared his support for the turf field and hopes this project comes to fruition.

Consent Agenda – No items for action under consent agenda.

New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Music Department Field Trip Proposal to Disney World for March 2023 – GPS Music teachers - Ray Churchill, Michael Albaine, and Amanda Richmond were in attendance for the BOE meeting. Amanda Richmond presented a music trip proposal to the BOE for Disney World, Florida in March 2023. The Board approved the trip proposal, as presented.

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Joyce Rice

To approve the Music Department field trip proposal to Disney World for March 1 – 5, 2023, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Draft Agreement with Sprague Public Schools – The Board approved the draft agreement between Griswold Public Schools and Sprague Public Schools, as presented.

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Shannon Webster  
To approve the educational service agreement between Griswold Public Schools and Sprague Public Schools, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Revise the Authorized Signers on the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs – The Board took action to revise the authorized signatures for the ED-099, Child Nutrition Program.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky  
That the Griswold Board of Education authorize Deborah Martin, Griswold Public Schools Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, in the absence or incapacity of the first designated individual, Mr. Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Schools, to be the second person authorized to sign claims for reimbursement for the ED099 - CSDE Child Nutrition Programs.  
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Review and Discussion on Potential New Partnership with SNSN Radio – The Superintendent provided an update to the Board on a proposal to rent space to SNSN Radio. He wanted to make it clear to the Board that proposal is in the very early stages of talks at this time. The Facilities subcommittee did meet prior to this evening's BOE meeting to discuss this proposal. The Superintendent provided the BOE members with a list of considerations, such as benefits, risks, and other considerations to consider. The Board will bring this topic back to a future BOE meeting for further discussion and/or action.
- E. Review and Discussion on Upcoming BOE August 23<sup>rd</sup> Self-Evaluation & Retreat with Dr. Ravit Stein and Dr. Erin Dunn – The Superintendent updated the Board on a plan to set a special meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> as a self-evaluation and retreat. He has invited Dr. Ravit Stein and Dr. Erin Dunn to facilitate the meeting. Topics to be discussed will be team communication, team decision making, and maximizing interactions with the public on a range of topics related to public education. The Superintendent asked that if there are any

topics Board members wishes to review/discuss at the retreat, the requests should be e-mailed to BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin.

#### Unfinished Business

- A. Progress on the Multi-Purpose Field Study – Alan Carpenter, engineer for CPH, Inc., provided an update on the details related to the multi-purpose field study.

#### Administrators' Reports

None.

#### Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies, Appointments, Resignations – The Board was provided with a list of vacancies, appointments, and resignations.
- B. Update on Upcoming BOE Meetings – The Board was notified that the next scheduled BOE meeting for August 15<sup>th</sup> will be canceled due to several vacations. The Board's next regular meeting will take place on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Superintendent will be working with Glenn LaBossiere to create a BOE matrix of meetings for the 2022/2023 school year for subcommittees, etc. The Superintendent also shared that Deb Martin will be preparing two financial reports for the month of September. The first will detail the close out summary for the 2021/2022 school year and the second report will detail the projections for the opening of the 2022/2023 school budget.
- C. \*Pending Claims and Litigation – This item was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for discussion.

#### Committee/Board Reports

- A. Negotiations Subcommittee Update – M. Malin – The Board received an update from Mary Beth Malin on the work of the Negotiations subcommittee.
- B. Facilities Subcommittee Update - M. Osga – The Board received an update from Marty Osga on the work of the Facilities subcommittee.

Other Business that May Properly Come Before this Board – The Superintendent shared an exciting development. He noted that he and Glenn are working with Ray McNulty who is an international thought leader on the future of public schools and national drop-out prevention. They are creating a think tank between our district and another willfull district and the Superintendent hopes to have an update to the BOE soon about it. Administrators, teachers and students will be participating and he feels that this is an exciting venture.

**MOTION**

By Shannon Webster

Seconded by Joyce Rice

To move into executive session at 6:37 PM for the purpose of discussing item 10C, pending claims and litigation, inviting Glenn LaBossiere and Deborah Martin to participate.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:48 PM with no further action.

Adjournment

**MOTION**

By Shannon Webster

Seconded by Martin Osga

To adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting at 6:48 PM.

Motion was unanimously carried.

Minutes prepared by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna