

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
October 22, 2012**

GBE approved 11/13/12

A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Monday, October 22, 2012 in the Library Media Center located at Griswold Middle School. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Elizabeth Dorff.

PRESENT

Elizabeth Dorff, BOE Chairman; Stuart Norman, Jr., BOE Vice-Chairman; Kimberly Brunelle, BOE Secretary; Laurie Sorder, Frank Everett, Yvonne Palasky, and Valerie Grills (entered at 6:04 p.m.), BOE Members; and Deanna Edgar, BOE Student Representative.

ALSO PRESENT

Paul K. Smith, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John DiIorio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Madeline Illinger, Director of Special Education & Services (entered late); Holly McCalla, Business Manager; Dr. Mark Frizzell, GHS Principal; Matthew Peel, GHS Associate Principal; Glenn LaBossiere, Campus Wide Activities and Athletic Director; Paul Berkel, GMS Interim Principal; Sarah Cary, GMS Assistant Principal; and Susan Rourke, GES Principal; and Joseph Bordeaux, GES Assistant Principal.

ABSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the regular meeting minutes of October 9, 2012, with correction to Approval of Minutes, motion was made by Stuart Norman, Jr. and seconded by Laurie Sorder.
Ayes – E. Dorff, S. Norman, Jr., L. Sorder, Y. Palasky
Nays –
Abstain – K. Brunelle and F. Everett
Motion carried.

Valerie Grills entered at 6:04 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board received a GES newsletter.

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Elizabeth Dorff requested moving up the order of new business for A and B to this point in the meeting followed by *Hearings and Requests* so the younger children attending this evening can head home at a reasonable hour.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recognition of Griswold's October "Employee of the Month" – Superintendent Smith was honored to introduce Teresa Brown, a secretary at Griswold Elementary School, who was our recipient for the October "Employee of the Month" award. Congratulations!
- B. Introduction of GMS Student Council Class Officers – The Board was introduced to the newly elected Student Council officers at GMS by acting Principal Paul Berkel and co-advisor Lisa Romasanta of the GMS Student Council. The class officers elected are: Zachary Brown, President; Nicholas Coffey, Vice President; Deanna Weed, Secretary; and Benjamin Niedjadlo, Treasurer. Congratulations!

HEARINGS & REQUESTS

Deanna Weed spoke on behalf of her support for the music program at Griswold Middle School.

Deanna Weed spoke on behalf of a letter written by Jordan Chenette, an 8th grader at Griswold Middle School, who supports the GMS music program.

Jan Bennett and Jacquie Bill requested support from the Board of Education for full day Kindergarten at Griswold Elementary School.

Cortland Kinnie spoke on behalf of the music program and asked the Board to consider the rehiring of Amanda Richmond, a music teacher who lost her position this year due to budget cuts.

Joy Smith spoke to reinforce the request for full day Kindergarten at Griswold Elementary School.

Superintendent Smith added that he received e-mails from people who could not be here tonight but expressed support for adding freshman volleyball back into the budget, reinstating the strings program at Griswold Middle School, and adding additional world languages at Griswold High School.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Deanna Edgar reported on the *Spirit of Giving* can drive for St. Mary's food pantry, Character Counts week, Spirit Week, which will run Tuesday through Friday of this week, the

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homecoming parade, which will take place after school on Friday, October 26th, and the homecoming dance, which will take place on Saturday night, October 27th. *Mix It Up Day* will take place on October 30th at lunch. Lastly, Deanna reported on an Orphan's project and the annual student/teacher volleyball game.

NEW BUSINESS continued...

- C. Discussion and Action on GHS Roof Repair – The Superintendent provided a roof repair adjusted quote from Furey Roofing and Construction after Holly McCalla reviewed the quote and noticed it included prevailing wages, which this project would not require, so she was able to save approximately \$1,200 from the original quote.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Stuart Norman, Jr.
That we authorize expending \$7,880 to get the leaks repaired on the Griswold High School roof.

Val Grills shared her concern for a policy or town ordinance concerning the process of going out to bid.

Stuart Norman, Jr. reported that his reading of the bid ordinance interprets that we are supposed to go out to bid for \$7,500 or more unless it is an emergency situation or an ongoing business relationship. He suggested that if he were making the motion he would suggest not expending more than \$7,499 to do the roof repair.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Stuart Norman, Jr.
To amend the motion and approve the repair to the leaks in the Griswold High School roof not to exceed \$7,499.
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Discussion of GHS Roof Project and Building Committee Involvement – The Superintendent reported that the current school building committee will serve as the permanent school building committee, as indicated in *Chapter 92, School Building Committee, Town of Griswold Charter*. He further added that they will function when charged by the Board of Education to do so. The Superintendent recommended that the Board of Education charge the permanent school building committee with the project of repairing/replacing the Griswold High School roof.

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MOTION

By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Valerie Grills
That the Board of Education charge the school building committee to explore the replacement/repair of the high school roof.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Superintendent noted that he contacted Steve Merchant, Board of Finance Chairman, to inform him of this item for discussion on the agenda this evening.

E. Gifts/Donations
None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. *Leave Extension Request – Edgar St. Jean – This item was referred to executive session.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS

- A. 2012-13 Budget Update – Business Manager Holly McCalla updated the Board on the current status of the 2012-13 budget.
- B. 2012-13 Budget Transfers Request – Business Manager Holly McCalla requested approval for transfers in the 2012-13 budget and reviewed the justification for the transfers requests.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Kimberly Brunelle
To approve the budget transfer requests, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations - The Superintendent reported on the resignations of Carrie LaRoche, GHS Business teacher; Gary Buffin, GES Custodian, who will be moving to the full time maintenance/custodial position, and Phil Anctil, assistant coach for GHS Varsity boys track.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To accept the resignations of Carrie LaRoche and Phil Anctil, with regret, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To approve the resignation of Gary Buffin, who is moving on to a different position within the district, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Superintendent reported on the appointments of the following individuals: Gary Buffin, GPS maintenance/custodian and Laura Dufour, GHS assistant cheerleading coach for football and basketball.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Kimberly Brunelle
To approve the appointments of Gary Buffin and Laura Dufour, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

B. Pandemic Flu Plan – The Superintendent provided the Board with a new Pandemic Flu Plan, recently developed with support from the Uncas Health District, and it is ready for Board approval. A special thank you to Jacquie Burzycki for her assistance in this matter.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To approve the Pandemic Flu Plan, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Superintendent shared that from November 1 through November 8, 2012, the Griswold Public Schools will be hosting two Chinese principals from the Shandong Province. They will be spending a week in our town visiting the three buildings with the hope of a sister school partnership.

On November 16, several BOE members have signed up for the CABA conference and the Superintendent will send an e-mail reminder to all who will be attending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Building Committee – Frank Everett updated the Board on the work of the building committee.

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Elizabeth Dorff shared a communication she received about the SCRRA Recycling Center and Incinerator Facility, which offers field trips. She thought it would be a good match for 9th grade science curriculum. She also noted that Environmental studies are big right now and it would be worth getting our students interested and excited about it.

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Erica Pelish Sundstrom shared her support of the music program and hopes for reinstatement of the position cut from this year's budget.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To move into executive session at 7:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of a personnel matter, inviting Business Manager Holly McCalla.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:20 p.m.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To extend an unpaid leave of absence for Ed. St. Jean through December 31, 2012, conditioned upon his retirement date being December 31, 2012, and that further, as a part of this extension we realize that he is not able to come back and that we advertise for that position and fill that position.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak