

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
June 10, 2013**

GBE approved 6/24/13

A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education took place on Monday, June 10, 2013 in the Library Media Center, located on the 2nd floor of Griswold Middle School. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairman Elizabeth Dorff.

The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT Elizabeth Dorff, BOE Chairman; Stuart Norman, Jr., BOE Vice Chairman; Laurie Sorder, Frank Everett, Valerie Grills, and Yvonne Palasky, BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Paul K. Smith, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John DiIorio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Madeline Illinger, Director of Special Education & Services; Holly McCalla, GPS 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; Susan Rourke, GES Principal; and Joseph Bordeau, GES Assistant Principal.

ABSENT Kimberly Brunelle, BOE Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To approve the minutes of May 28, 2013, as presented.
Ayes - E. Dorff, S. Norman, Jr., L. Sorder, F. Everett, and V. Grills
Nays -
Abstain - Y. Palasky
Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

RISE 4th Quarter Accomplishments - The Board received a copy of the *RISE* 4th quarter accomplishments from GHS.

Class Night 2013 Award Recipients - The Board received a copy of the Class Night 2013 award recipients.

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Thank You Letter – P. Berkel - The Board receive a copy of a thank you letter from retiring administrator Paul Berkel.

Thank You Letter – M. Toth - The Board received a copy of a thank you letter from retiring teacher Mary Toth.

HEARINGS AND REQUESTS

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. June Employee of the Month – S. Beckwith – The Superintendent was pleased to report that Sheila Beckwith, Griswold's Transportation Coordinator, was selected as the June employee of the month. Congratulations!
- B. Christopher Bollenbach Student Recognition Award - Acting Principal Paul Berkel presented the annual Christopher Bollenbach student recognition award to a 6th grade boy who shares some of Chris's interests and character: someone who is friendly and compassionate, enjoys both sports and art, and most importantly a boy who makes a difference in the lives of all of those he touches. This year's student recognition award was presented to Nick Thomasson. Nick was presented with a trophy and his name will be engraved on a plaque! Congratulations!
- C. Review and Action on GHS Boys Basketball Trip – Boys varsity basketball coach, Rob Mileski, presented details of a Griswold High School basketball trip request to Florida during December break, leaving on December 26 and returning on December 31, 2013. He reviewed the itinerary and answered questions from the Board.

MOTION

By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To approve the GHS boys varsity basketball trip.
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Review and Action on Healthy Food Certification Statement for Period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 – The Board, as in past years, will be recommended not to support the state "Healthy Food" certification to keep costs at a reasonable amount. The Superintendent reported that this does not mean that our cafeteria is not serving healthy food. Our Food Service Director, Thomas O'Connor, reported that he believes that this may be the last year for schools to opt out of participation.

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MOTION

By Stuart Norman Jr.
Seconded by Frank Everett
To not participate in the Healthy Food Certification
Program for the 2013/14 school year.
Motion unanimously carried.

Note: Stuart Norman, Jr. suggested contacting our state representatives to have a discussion with them about the option to stay with a no vote for participation in the healthy food certification program. Superintendent Smith will invite our state representatives for a luncheon meeting to share our views on the healthy food certification program.

- E. Review and Action on Adoption of Spanish Textbook: *Avancemos (2013)* – Academic sub-committee chairman, Elizabeth Dorff, and Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Dr. John DiIorio, reviewed details of adding a new Spanish program for students in grades 7 through 11. This will allow us to advance our current curriculum at GMS to an actual Spanish IA experience in grade 7 and a Spanish 1B experience in grade 8. This will also allow students who are prepared to take Honors Spanish II or College Prep Spanish II as a freshman. It opens up the option of AP Spanish or Honors Spanish V to seniors.

MOTION

By Valerie Grills
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To accept the new Spanish program for grades 7-11,
as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Frank Everett
To waive the two meeting requirement.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To adopt the Spanish series textbooks.
Motion unanimously carried.

- F. Review and Action on Adoption of Teaching the Young Child Textbook: *Child Care Today: Becoming and Early Childhood Professional* – Academic sub-committee chairman, Elizabeth Dorff, and CIA Director, Dr. John DiIorio, informed the Board that the Teaching the Young Child textbook is necessary for alignment with the college partnership.

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MOTION By Valerie Grills
Seconded by Frank Everett
To waive the two meeting requirement.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Frank Everett
To adopt the Family and Consumer Sciences textbook:
Child Care Today.
Motion unanimously carried.

G. Review and Adoption of English/Language Arts Textbook: *Prentice Hall Literature* – Academic sub-committee chairman, Elizabeth Dorff, and Director of CIA, Dr. John DiIorio, informed the Board that the adoption of a new English/Language Arts textbook will continue PH literature into grade 9. Common Core ready, this series is already used at GMS. The Board is asked to support this text in grade 9 to continue the sequence.

MOTION By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To waive the two meeting requirement.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To adopt the Prentice Hall Literature series for
English/Language Art, as presented.

H. Review and Action on Proposal for Introducing AP Government, GHS Social Studies Program – Academic sub-committee chairman, Elizabeth Dorff, and Director of CIA, Director Dr. John DiIorio, recommended the option of adding a senior AP level elective in the GHS Social Studies program for our students.

MOTION By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Frank Everett
To adopt a new course proposal for AP U.S. Government at
GHS.
Motion unanimously carried.

I. *Review and Action on Non-Bargaining Units Wages for 2013/14 – The Board will review this item in executive session.

J. *Review and Action on Contract for Business Manager – The Board will review this item in executive session.

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K. Gifts/Donations – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Energy Savings Proposal – The Board heard a presentation from Ken Sullivan of the JCDPU on an energy savings proposal, which would replace lighting at GHS with more efficient lighting, realizing a savings of \$2,200 to \$2,300 per month. The Board requested information on options for purchasing these upgrades, on information about exit lighting, and whether or not it is part of the RFP, and when the company would plan on installing these upgrades. Mr. Sullivan was also asked to check with the company who would be installing the lighting and whether there would be added charges if installation had to occur during the evening hours. Ken Sullivan will get the answers within a day or two and the Board recommended a meeting with the Facilities sub-committee for next Monday evening, June 17th at 6 p.m. in the Superintendent's office, inviting Ken Sullivan, Jim Barney and Board Facilities sub-committee members along with Business Manager Holly McCalla and Superintendent Paul Smith.
- B. ECHIP Insurance Update – The Superintendent reported that the school and town are in the final stages of the negotiation language in the settlement that releases Griswold from ECHIP.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Superintendent reported on the resignations of the following individuals: Karen Rondeau, GMS full-time instructional assistant; Ashley Zelinski, GES Preschool teacher, 1.0 FTE, and Chad Barclay, GMS boys varsity basketball coach.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To accept the resignation of Karen Rondeau, Instructional Assistant, with regret.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Valerie Grills,
To accept the resignation of Ashley Zelinski, Preschool teacher, with regret.
Motion unanimously carried.

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MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To accept the resignation of Chad Barclay, GMS varsity boys basketball coach, with regret.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Superintendent reported on the appointments of the following individuals for the 2013/14 school year: Richard Schoen, GHS Business Teacher, 1.0 FTE; Nathan Moore, GHS Spanish Teacher, 1.0 FTE; Natasha Mills, Hannah Sunderland and Jessica Wheeler, GES Elementary Teachers, 1.0 FTE; and Chelsea Zimmitti, GES Kindergarten Teacher, 1.0 FTE.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the appointments of Richard Schoen, Nathan Moore, Natasha Mills, Hannah Sunderland, Jessica Wheeler, and Chelsea Zimmitti, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Announcement of the Teacher of the Year – Superintendent Paul Smith was honored to announce Griswold's 2014 *Teacher of the Year*, Mrs. Erin Palonen; and *Distinguished Teacher of the Year*, Ms. Julie Breault. Congratulations!
- C. Security Grant Update – Superintendent Smith updated the Board on a Security grant, designed to provide reimbursement, at a rate of 72.6%, for security projects to schools/towns. In order to qualify, the projects must be completed after 4/5/13 and projects must be completed within two years. The Superintendent reported on two priority projects; a new PA system at GHS, at a cost of approximately \$25,000, and consideration of installing laminate over glass in all three schools, at a cost of approximately \$75,000.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To authorize the Superintendent to pursue the School Security Grant to update the PA system at Griswold High School.
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. *Superintendent Evaluation – The Board will review this item in executive session.

COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

- A. Building Committee Update – Building Committee Chairman Frank Everett updated the Board on the work of the Building Committee. He reported that we should start

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seeing campus signage being installed this week. He also mentioned that a *Request for Proposals* for a high school roof study was advertised last week and the bid opening is scheduled for June 20th at 3 p.m. at Town Hall.

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY FORMERLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Yvonne Palasky attended both the Veteran's History Project at GHS and the Art Show at GMS and wanted to say how fabulous both events were.

Glenn LaBossiere reported that he served on the *SEED* Committee, creating rubrics for administrators who work in Central Offices, and he mentioned that Betty Osga knows people at the state level who reviewed our teacher evaluation plan and they informed Betty that it was one of the best plans they read. Congratulations to Dr. John DiIorio for a job well done.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To move into executive session at 7:26 p.m. for review of contracts, inviting Business Manager, Holly McCalla.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:18 p.m.

MOTION

By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the salaries for the Food Service Department for the 2013/14 school year, as presented.
Ayes – E. Dorff, S. Norman, Jr., L. Sorder, Y. Palasky, and V. Grills
Nays –
Abstain – F. Everett
Motion carried.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Stuart Norman, Jr.
To approve the salary for the Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent for the 2013/14 school year, as presented.
Ayes - E. Dorff, S. Norman, Jr., F. Everett, Y. Palasky, and V. Grills
Nays –
Abstain – L. Sorder
Motion carried.

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MOTION By Frank Everett
Seconded by Stuart Norman, Jr.
To approve the remaining proposed non-bargaining unit wages for 2013/14, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Frank Everett
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To approve the agreement between the Business Manager and the Griswold Board of Education, as presented.

MOTION By Laurie Sorder
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To move back into executive session for the purpose of the Superintendent's evaluation.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:27 p.m.

MOTION By Frank Everett
Seconded by Stuart Norman, Jr.
To adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak