

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
February 19, 2015**

The Board of School Trustees of the Griffith Public Schools met in session at the Griffith High School Auditorium, 600 N. Wiggs St. on the nineteenth day of February, at the hour of 7:30 p.m. pursuant to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Raymond White, President of the Board of School Trustees. After the Pledge of Allegiance, on call of the roll, members were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Raymond White, President  
Gerald Potacki, First Vice-President  
Jennifer Dildine, Second Vice-President  
Lisa Megquier, Secretary  
Leah Dumezich, Assistant Secretary

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Peter Morikis, Superintendent  
Aron Borowiak, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Jan Bapst, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Rhett Tauber, School Attorney  
Kathy Carter, Superintendent's Secretary

**Prayer:** Father Mens from St. Mary Church provided the inspirational message/prayer.

**Superintendent's Remarks:** None

**Delegations and/or Communications:** An audience member asked a question regarding out-of-district students. Two parents spoke in support of the boys basketball team, and thanked the Board and Administration for having faith in the boys and filing an appeal with the Indiana High School Athletic Association. The last parent spoke in regards on the preparation the district gives our high school students in their college applications. Specifically, taking the ACT and SAT tests.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Mr. White asked the Board to approve the minutes from the January 8 and January 22, 2015 Board meetings. Mr. Potacki motioned to accept the minutes as presented in the Board packet. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion, there being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Claims:** Mr. White asked for a motion to approve Regular Claims #19481 to #19647, Professional Leaves #1198 to #1222 and donations received #202. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve and Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Bapst presented the monthly Treasurer's Report.

**2015-2017 Latchkey Program Recommendation:** Ms. Bapst introduced Mrs. Lori Mulligan who presented an overview of the before and after school program at the Griffith YMCA. Griffith Public Schools has used the YMCA latchkey program for a number of years. Ms. Bapst asked the Board to approve a new contract with the YMCA. Mr. Potacki motioned to accept the YMCA latchkey program with the YMCA, for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years. Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Wadsworth Roof Project – Architect and Authorization to Bid:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board for authorization to Bid and authorization to employ architects, Carras, Szany & Kuhn for the Wadsworth roof replacement project. Ms. Megquier motioned to grant Dr. Morikis' request and Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Overnight Trip Request – DECA State Competition, March 8-10, 2015 Indianapolis:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to approve the overnight DECA trip request as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Dumezich motioned to approve the request, Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Personnel Action:** Mr. Borowiak presented the Personnel Report, recommending the following personnel items:

**Assignments**

**Certified**

Fred Farnell Temporary Contract, Secondary Science Teacher, effective 1-19-15 to 6-9-15

**Classified**

Debbie Alessi High School/Middle School Foodservice Matron, effective 2-19-15  
Virginia Kallas Elementary Interventionist, effective 2-17-15 to 3-27-15  
Timothy Schutter Class II Custodian, effective 1-28-15  
Tiffany Ulman Part-time Foodservice worker, effective 2-16-15  
Elizabeth Wright Elementary Interventionist, effective 2-3-15

**Extra-Curricular**

Benjamin Geffert Varsity Football Coach, effective 2015-2016 school year

Separations

Certified

Teresa A. Carstensen                      Teacher, effective 6-9-15, retirement

Classified

Reginald Fuller                              Bus Driver, effective, 1-22-15, termination  
Peggy Glennie                                Elementary Interventionist, effective 1-16-15, resignation  
Christine Hernandez                        Part Time Foodservice Worker, effective 1-23-15, resignation  
Tiara Howell-Asabre                        Middle School/High School Foodservice Matron, effective 2-3-15, termination  
James Wheeler                                Secondary Interventionist, effective 12-18-14, resignation

Mrs. Dildine moved for approval. Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Audience Participation:** A parent asked what time the latchkey program at the YMCA opened and closed each day. Mrs. Mulligan said that the program begins at 6:00 A.M. and children are transported to their respective schools each morning by Griffith Public Schools transportation department. The students are also transported back to the YMCA after school. Parents can pick-up their children as late 6:30 P.M. The parent also asked if homework help was available at the YMCA program. Mrs. Mulligan replied that there is a set time for homework and timeframes coincide with the student's grade level, with the older students given at least 30 minutes each day.

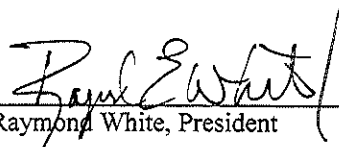
**Good of the Corporation:** Mr. White mentioned the financial difficulties that the Munster school system is experiencing. He thanked Dr. Morikis and Ms. Bapst for taking proactive measures in the past to prevent our district from being in the same type of situation. Mr. White also stated that the Munster school system maybe considering taking transfer students again. An audience member said that was not true, she has spoken with the Munster superintendent and that there is no talk regarding transfer students being taken in Munster school district.

Ms. Dumezich stated that she had previously requested that open enrollment be added to the agenda, and she was making a formal request for the item to be added for the next meeting. Mr. White replied that open enrollment would not be added to the next meeting agenda, because the Board voted unanimously in favor of open enrollment and putting open enrollment on the agenda again would be moving backwards.

Mr. Potacki asked Mr. Orkis about the College and Career Fair scheduled for February 27, 2015. Mr. Orkis stated that plans are moving along, at this time there were 52 speakers lined up to speak to our middle school and high school students the morning of February 27<sup>th</sup> and approximately 30 universities and trade schools set to speak to students in the afternoon.

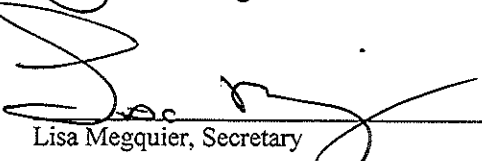
Mrs. Dildine thanked the boys basketball team for the volunteer time they gave to the students at the YMCA.

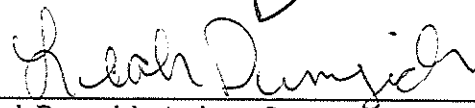
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

  
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Raymond White, President

  
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Gerald Potacki, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

  
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Jennifer Dildine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

  
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Lisa Megquier, Secretary

  
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Leah Dumezich, Assistant Secretary