

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
May 12, 2016**

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

The meeting was called to order by Gerald Potacki, 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: Gerald Potacki, President  
Jennifer Dildine, First Vice-President  
Lisa Megquier, Second Vice-President  
Leah Dumezich, Secretary  
Raymond White, Assistant Secretary

Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Peter Morikis, Superintendent  
Aron Borowiak, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Katy Dowling, Director of Finance and Operations  
Tara Tauber, School Attorney  
Kathy Carter, Superintendent's Secretary

**Prayer:** Pastor Freda Scales of Griffith Lutheran Church of Griffith provided the prayer.

**Superintendent's Remarks:** Dr. Morikis shared with those present that Senior Recognition Night will be held May 20, 2016, and Griffith High School graduation will be on June 5, 2016. The Board recognized the Boys Basketball team with presentation of certificates for playing in the semi-state game after being involved in a terrible bus accident. Coach Gary Hayes was also presented plaques for being named The Times and Post-Tribune Coach of the Year. The Northwest Crossroads Conference also named Coach Hayes Coach of the year, and supplied the school with a plaque to present to him. Griffith Middle School Principal Dustin Nelson was presented with a plaque for being named District 1 Middle School Principal of the year by the Indiana Association of School Principals. Dr. Morikis informed the Board and audience that the Griffith Public Schools Education Foundation voted to donate funds up to \$150,000 to bring the READ 180 program into the elementary schools. These funds will be used to purchase computers and provide staff training and other supplies for the elementary schools. READ 180 has been used in the middle school and high school with great success.

Dr. Morikis then introduced Beth Moser from AAA. Ms. Moser explained that AAA has been a safety partner with schools nationwide, with over 500,000 school patrollers. Each year AAA recognizes one student from Indiana as Patroller of the Year. Students are nominated by the safety patrol sponsor based on their leadership qualities, safety skills, school involvement, citizenship/volunteerism, and a student essay. Beiriger Elementary student Meghan Braddy was the Indiana winner for the 2015-2016 schoolyear. Meghan was nominated by her patrol sponsor, Mrs. Elaine Plucinski. Meghan was presented with a Patroller of the Year Plaque and the school received a plaque to display, along with \$100 of free AAA School Safety Patrol materials. Ms. Moser also shared privately that Meghan will be presented with a laptop at the AAA recognition program.

**Delegations and/or Communications:** None

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Potacki asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2016 Board meeting. Mr. White motioned to approve the minutes. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

**Approval of Claims:** Mr. Potacki requested a motion to approve regular claims #21447 to #21572, Professional Leaves #1490 to #1509, and donations received #231 to #232; there were no extra-curricular fund requests. Mr. White motioned to approve and Ms. Megquier seconded the motion. There being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Dowling presented the treasurer's report.

**Authorization to advertise for additional appropriations- bus replacement fund:** Ms. Dowling petitioned the Board to authorize advertising for additional appropriations for the bus replacement fund. The settlement check has been received for the bus involved in the March accident, but is not enough to replace the bus. Ms. Megquier motioned to approve the request. Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Milk and Bread Bid Award for 2016-2017 schoolyear:** Ms. Dowling asked to Board to approve the bid awards as presented in the Board packet. Clover Crest Dairy in Hobart and Alpha Baking Company from Chicago were the lowest bidders. Ms. Dumezich motioned to approve the awards as presented. Ms. Megquier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**AP-TIP IN Memorandum of Understanding for Advanced Placement Training:** Mr. Borowiak asked the Board to approve the memorandum of understanding for the AP-TIP IN. He explained to the Board that Mr. Orkis wrote a grant for Griffith Public Schools to receive training for advanced placement classes. This training will allow us to offer more advanced placement classes. Mr. White moved to approve the memorandum of understanding. Ms. Megquier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**First Reading Board Policy Special Update on Criminal Gang Toolkit:** Dr. Morikis informed the Board that this is a first reading of a policy that replaces an old policy and no action is required at this time.

**Second Reading Board Policy and Adoption:** Dr. Morikis requested the Board to approve the new Board policy on Materiality and Process for Reporting Material Items. The first reading was completed at the April Board meeting. Mr. White motioned to approve the Board policy. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. There being no discussion, motion was approved unanimously.

**Middle School Math Textbook Adoption:** Mr. Borowiak petitioned the Board to approve the middle school's recommendation for the math textbook adoption. He explained that the adoption includes grades 7 and 8 along with 6<sup>th</sup> grade honors math, Mr. White motioned to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution #633 Extra-Curricular Funds Transfer:** Ms. Dowling requested the Board to approved Resolution #633 as presented in the Board packet. Mrs. Dildine motioned to approve as presented. Mr. White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Waiver of Conflict of Interest:** Dr. Morikis petitioned the Board to approve the waiver of conflict of interest as approved in the Board packet. Mr. White moved to approve the waiver and Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. After some discussion Mr. Potacki called for a roll call vote. Ms. Megquier voted no, Ms. Dumezich voted no, Mrs. Dildine voted yes, Mr. White voted yes and Mr. Potacki vote yes. Motion passed 3-2.

**Overnight Trip Requests:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to approve an overnight trip request for Beiriger Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> grade class to attend Camp Tecumseh May 19 – 20, 2016, in Brookston Indiana. Ms. Megquier motioned to approve the overnight trip request. Mr. White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**School Day Extension:** - non action item – Ms. Dowling presented a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed extended school day. After the presentation, audience participation was encouraged. Mrs. Korak, Music department chair asked if there have been any studies done on failure of extended school days. She feels that she does not get enough time with her students as it is and would like to see additional teachers added at the elementary level especially. Mr. Graff, Art department head concurred with Mrs. Korak, he would like to see two full time art teachers dedicated to the elementary schools. Parent Esther Lewis, commented that she has a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student in our system and she fully supports a longer school day, even 15 additional minutes a day working with students would be beneficial. She also understands what the art and music teachers are saying. Ms. Dumezich asked about additional positions for art, music and physical education

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

**Assignments**

**Certified**

Paige Brown	Elementary Teacher, Ready, effective 8-15-16, voluntary transfer
Ambre Cain	Elementary Dean of Students, effective 8-15-16, voluntary transfer
Micahl Cain	Elementary Art Teacher, effective 8-15-16, pending screenings
Peggy Glennie	Temporary Secondary English Teacher, effective 4-25-16 to 5-31-16
Charlotte Joseph	Elementary DATA Coach, effective 8-15-16, voluntary transfer
Mark Reid	Elementary P.E., effective 8-15-16, voluntary transfer
Marisa Specht	Elementary Teacher, Beiriger, effective 8-15-16, voluntary transfer

**Classified**

Rebecca Glade	Beiriger Playground Supervisor, effective 4-28-16
Tawanda Harris	Bus Aide, effective 4-26-16

**Extra-Curricular**

Yolanda Agosto	Grade 7 & 8 Cheerleading Sponsor, effective 6-3-16 to 7-5-17
Danielle Carlson	Senior High Cheerleading Sponsor, effective 6-3-16 to 7-5-17
Jennifer Cary	ISTEP + Prep Math & Reading Tutor Grades 4/5/6, effective 2-8-16 to 2-25-16 and 4-4-16 to 4-14-16
Anne Contreras	Afterschool remediation 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade, effective 4-25-16 to 5-11-16
Denise Isenblatter	Freshman Cheerleading Sponsor, effective 6-3-16 to 7-5-17

**Separations**

**Certified**

Emily Robinson	Secondary English teacher, effective 5/31/16, resignation
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**Classified**

Tammy Anderko	Maintenance, Custodial, Transportation Administrative Supervisor, effective 6-3-16, resignation with buyout of one week of vacation.
Genice Bullock	Bus Aide, effective 4-13-16, termination
Alison Higgins	Beiriger Playground Supervisor, effective 4-18-16, resignation
Borislavka Gvero	Custodian Class II, effective 4-20-16, resignation

**Extra-Curricular**

Melissa Diekelmann	Freshman Cheer Sponsor, effective 4-29-16, resignation
Lorraine Hageman	International Club Co-Sponsor, effective 5-31-16, resignation

Mr. White made a motion to accept the personnel report as presented. Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Borowiak introduced Mr. Micahl Cain to those present.

**Audience Participation:** None


**Good of the Corporation:** Ms. Megquier congratulated the Drama department on a fantastic job on the Spring Musical. She also thanked Mr. Orkis for writing the Advanced Placement Grant. Ms. Dumezich reminded everyone that the town wide spring clean-up would be Saturday, May 14, 2016, and Capernaum will provide entertainment in Central Park. The school band and choir will perform in Central Park at 1:00 on 5-21-16, with the high school auditorium being used in case of inclement weather.

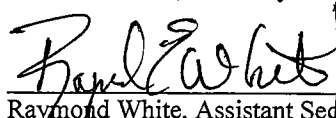
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

  
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Gerald Potacki, President

  
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Jennifer Dildine, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

  
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Lisa Megquier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

  
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Leah Dumezich, Secretary

  
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Raymond White, Assistant Secretary