

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 12, 2014**

The Board of School Trustees of the Griffith Public Schools met in regular session at Griffith High School Library, 600 N. Wiggs Street Griffith Indiana on the twelfth day of June, 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
Richard Muha, First Vice-President
Jennifer Dildine, Second Vice-President
Gerald Potacki, Secretary
John Dudlicek, Assistant Secretary

Absent: None

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

Prayer: Pastor Shawn Cornett from First Christian Church provided the inspirational message/prayer.

Superintendent's Remarks: Dr. Morikis introduced Mr. Borowiak who gave a presentation on the district's ECA and ISTEP scores in English and Math. The Math scores were much improved. This improvement stems from hard work within the Math department. The English scores are in need of improvement, and that is something that will be focused on for the 2014-2015 school year along with continued work within the Math department.

Delegations and/or Communications: Three audience members voiced concerns to the Board.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Mr. Muha made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 8, 2014 and May 30, 2014 Board Meetings. Mr. Dudlicek seconded the motion. There being no discussion motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Claims: Mr. Dudlicek made motion to accept Regular Claims #18340 to #18508, Professional Leaves #1131 to #1135, and donations #194-#196. Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Bapst presented the Board with the monthly Treasurer's report.

Technology Update: Dr. Morikis introduced Mrs. Robby Dragomer, Director of Technology. Mrs. Dragomer reported that a number of technical improvements have been made since school dismissed for the summer. Updates have been made to both software and devices that students and teachers use. Mrs. Dragomer and her department consist of herself and Mrs. Jody Tibbs who work fulltime in the technology department and Mr. Merv Barenie who works part-time for the department. On any given day the department deals with 1,400 devices that range from 190 staff laptops, approximately 325 computers located throughout the district in computer labs, and approximately 100 desktop computers for office staff, libraries and cafeterias. The newest devices being used by students are 20 Kindles and 60 iPads. Students in the Middle School and High School can check out a Kindle that is downloaded with Young Hoosier Books for the Middle School and Eliot Rosewater Books for the High School. The number of iPads will be increased to approximately 260 as the Science department will be using them for online labs and other curricular enhancement applications. Mrs. Dragomer shared that the District is working hard to have a one-to-one program in place in the near future for both elementary and secondary students. She also mentioned some of the software/web based programs that students and teachers will be using next school year. Some of these include Kahn Academy, Accelerated Reader, Study Island, Reading Eggs and Dreambox.

The District will again have online registration for the upcoming school year. Last school year was the first time that we used online registration and it went very well. The online portal for registration will open on July 14, 2014. Parents received their instructions for online registration with their student's report cards. The technology will also send a blast email to parents with their registration instructions a few weeks before the online portal opens.

NIPSCO License Agreement: Dr. Morikis asked the Board to approve the NIPSCO license agreement presented in their Board packet. Mrs. Dildine made motion to approve the agreement and Mr. Muha seconded the motion. Ms. Bapst explained that the agreement is for a small parcel behind the softball field. There being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Town/School SRO Interlocal Governmental Agreement: Dr. Morikis requested the Board to approve the annual agreement with the Town of Griffith for the assignment of our School Resource Officer. The officer is assigned to the district for 181 days. Mr. Potacki made the motion to approve the agreement. Mr. Muha seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #603, Rainy Day Fund: Dr. Morikis presented the Board with Resolution #603. Mr. Dudlicek motioned to accept Resolution #603 as presented in the Board packet. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. There being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Record Discard: Ms. Bapst asked the Board to approve the record discard as provided in the Board packet. This will allow the district to discard records in accordance with State guidelines. Mr. Dudlicek motioned to approve the record discard and Mr. Muha seconded the motion, there being no discussion motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #604, Temporary Transfer: Ms. Bapst asked the Board to approve the temporary transfer of funds. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve the transfer and Mr. Muha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Assignments

Certified

Christina Alvarez	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Jennifer Berzac	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Jeffrey (Matt) Bliss	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Heather Breclaw	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Michelle Brown	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Ciara Carter	Elementary Teacher, effective 8-20-14 (pending screening results)
Raymond Davis	Summer School Credit Recovery, effective 6-9-14 to 7-1-14
Tricia Dodson	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Sasho Dojcinovski	English Data Coach, effective 8-20-14 (pending screening results)
Laura Dykhuis	Elementary Teacher, effective 8-20-14 (pending screening results)
Katherine Garvey	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Linda Greichunos	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Benjamin Geffert	Physical Education Teacher, effective 8-20-14 (Pending screening results)
Elizabeth Hancock	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Susan Jordan	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Charlotte Joseph	Elementary Teacher, effective 8-20-14 (Pending screening results)
Rebecca Koonce	Summer School Credit Recovery, effective 6-9-14 to 7-1-14
Katherine McGuire	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Richard Morgan	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Marlena Rainey	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Sarah Sexson	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Briget Shiperek	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Laurie Simms	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Delincia Smith	Assistant to the High School Principal, effective 2014-2015
Delincia Smith	Assistant High School Principal, effective 2015-2016 (Pending completion of Building Administrator License)
Eric Steiner	Title One Elementary RTI Coordinator, effective 2014-2016
Eric Steiner	High Ability Coordinator, effective 2014-2016
Amy Wilhite	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Shelley Zahorsky	Summer School Teacher, effective 7-28-14 to 8-15-14
Anthony Zarndt	Elementary Teacher, effective 8-20-14 (pending screening results)
Victoria Zimmerman	Summer School Credit Recovery, effective 6-9-14 to 7-1-14

Classified

None

Extra-Curricular

Meagan Bence	Freshman Volleyball Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-8-14
Ryan Bridges	Freshman Football Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-28-14
Danielle Burge	Varsity Volleyball Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-8-14
Jenna Candiano	Drama Director – 50%, effective 2014-2015
Christine Chidichimo	Mathematics Department Head, effective 2014-2015
Donald Curtis	Girls Assistant Varsity Soccer Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-1-14
Benjamin Geffert	Physical Education Department Head, effective 2014-2015
Benjamin Geffert	Junior Varsity Football Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-28-14
Mark Harnew	Boys Varsity Tennis Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 10-24-14
Ron Knestrict	Boys Varsity Soccer Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-1-14
Wally Kudyba	Girls Varsity Soccer Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-1-14
Julie Martoccio	Senior High Cheerleading, effective 7-1-14 to 6-30-15
Sara Novak	Pantherette Sponsor, effective 7-1-14
Matthew Plawecki	Boys Assistant Varsity Soccer Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-1-14
Michael Rayson	Junior Varsity Football Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-28-14
Janette Vehrs-Snelson	Drama Director – 50%, effective 2014-2015
Janette Vehrs-Snelson	English Department Head, effective 2014-2015
Anthony Zarndt	Assistant Freshman Football Coach, effective 8-4-14 to 11-28-14

Terminations

Certified

Rita Gray Griffith High School PE Teacher and Department Head, Effective 8-12-14, resignation
Maggie Kreag Digital Curriculum Integration Specialist, effective 6-2-14, resignation
Holli Kostbade Beiriger Elementary Teacher, effective 6-2-14, resignation
Lisa Megquier Griffith High School English Teacher, effective 6-2-14, resignation

Classified

James Bratcher Class I Custodian, Middle/High School, effective 6-12-14, termination
Wayne Eichensehr Class III Custodian Wadsworth, effective 8-29-14, retirement
Bernadette Hardig Ready Elementary Recess Aide, effective 5-20-14, termination

Extra-Curricular

Stephanie Villarreal Assistant Co-Ed Swim Coach, effective 6-3-14, resignation
Jason Wolfe Junior Varsity Football Coach, effective 6-9-14, termination -retracted


Mr. Dudlicek motioned to accept the revised personnel report and Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. There being no discussion motion passed unanimously. Mr. Borowiak then introduced some of the new staff members present.


Audience Participation (Agenda Items): An audience member asked if the ISTEP scores that were shared at the beginning of the meeting took in to consideration the 162 days students and the rescore requests. Mr. Dustin Nelson stated that yes the Middle School scores did have the 162 days students factored in and that we are waiting for the results of the rescore request. Mr. Brian Orkis shared that the High School scores did in fact have 162 days students accounted for, but the rescore window for High School did not open until mid-July, but once the state allows us to ask for rescoring, the High School will submit the request.


Another audience member asked if staff members will be trained on all the software/web based programs that are available for student use. Mr. Borowiak stated that we have had ongoing staff training. He said that the Data Coaches will instruct staff on using web based programs and software to help students achieve. Mr. Borowiak also shared that for 2013-2014 there was \$80,150 spent on teacher professional development. He thanked the Griffith Public Schools Education Foundation for their contributions towards professional development of our staff.

Good of the Corporation: Ms. Bapst announced the summer feeding program currently underway at the YMCA, being provided thru a partnership with Griffith Public Schools and the United States Department of Agriculture. Free breakfast and lunch is provided to children of our community under the age of 18.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.


Raymond White, President


Richard Muha, 1st Vice-President


Jennifer Dildine, 2nd Vice-President


Gerald Potacki, Secretary


John Dudlicek, Assistant Secretary