

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 8, 2015**

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 eighth day of January, 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 of St. Mary's Catholic Church provided the inspirational message/prayer.

Induction of Board Members: Dr. Morikis introduced Mr. Rhett Tauber administered the oath of office to new Board members. Mr. White, Ms. Megquier and Ms. Dumezich completed their oath for the term 1-1-15 to 12-31-19.

Reorganization of the Board of School Trustees: Mr. White proposed the following slate of officers to serve the Griffith Public Schools Board of School Trustees for the 2015 term:

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

He then asked for other nominations. There being none, Mr. White asked for a motion to close nominations. Mrs. Dildine moved in favor and Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. White asked for a motion to accept the slate as presented. Mr. Potacki moved in favor and Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Committee Appointments: Mr. White made the following Board President appointments:

Lisa Megquier, Special Education Board Representative
Raymond White, Special Education Board Alternate
Leah Dumezich, Griffith Park Board Representative
Raymond White, School Board Delegate/Legislative Liaison
Gerald Potacki and Jennifer Dildine, Board Negotiation Team
Gerald Potacki, Town Redevelopment Committee

No vote was required.

Appointment of School Treasurer and School Attorney: Mr. White asked for a motion for the appointment of Ms. Jeannette Bapst as School Treasurer and Mr. Rhett Tauber to serve as Corporation Attorney. Mr. Potacki moved in favor and Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Remarks: Dr. Morikis congratulated and welcomed the new Board of School Trustees.

Delegations and/or Communications: None.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the Board meeting on December 18, 2014 and December 30, 2014 were presented. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

Approval of Claims: Mr. White asked for a motion to approve Regular Claims #19443 to #19480, and donations received #200 to #201, there were no Professional Leaves, Extra-Curricular Fund requests. Mr. White motioned to approve and Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Bapst presented the monthly Treasurer's Report. Ms. Megquier asked Ms. Bapst to explain the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Bapst gave an overview of the report.

School Resource Officer Presentation: Dr. Morikis introduced School Resource Officer Peter Ghrist who gave a Power Point presentation to update the Board on his duties in the school system. Office Ghrist not only serves as the SRO in the district, but he also does presentations about bullying, self-respect and respect of others to our students and children in various youth organizations and to children attending classes at the Griffith YMCA. He attends sporting events whenever possible. He works the middle school and high school lunch hours. He also makes visits to the elementary schools. Officer Ghrist maintains a school/work Facebook page on which he distributes information regarding school events and situations. The page is open and public to anyone and allows both students and parents to contact Officer Ghrist 24 hours a day 7 days a week if they need assistance with a serious problem or wish to pass along anonymous information. There are currently over 1,100 students and adults subscribed to the page.

Authorization to Bid – School Busses: Dr. Morikis asked the Board for authorization to bid for one school bus and one special purpose vehicle. Mrs. Dildine motioned in favor of approval and Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #615 - 2015 Board of School Trustees Regular Meetings: Dr. Morikis as the Board to approve Resolution #615. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve Resolution #615. Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. There being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

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

Assignments

Classified

Anthony Cruise
Tiara Howell-Asabre
Linda Schultz

Class III Custodian, re-assignment effective 2-2-15
Cafeteria Matron, effective 1-5-15
Bus Driver, effective 1-3-15

Extra-Curricular

Kristin Anderson
Kristin Anderson

Drama Music Director, effective 1-8-15
Drama Instrumental Coordinator, effective 1-8-15

Separations

Extra-Curricular

James R. Pickett Jr.
J.R. Ford

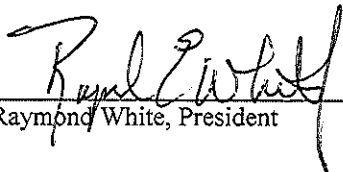
Varsity Football Coach, effective 12-18-14, resignation
Junior Varsity Football Coach, effective 12-16-14, termination

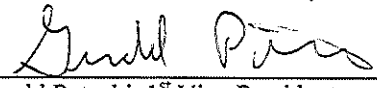
Mr. Potacki moved for approval. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

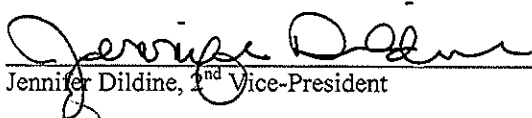
Audience Participation: An audience member asked how additional Board meetings were announced. Mr. Tauber responded that all Board meetings are advertised 48 hours prior to the meeting time with the newspapers and the information is posted on Central Office's bulletin board.

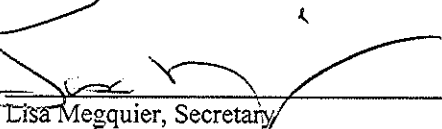
Good of the Corporation: Ms. Dumezich was contacted by a parent regarding students crossing through traffic at dismissal time at Wadsworth Elementary School. Ms. Dumezich had contacted Police Chief Mance, and she asked Office Ghrist what the status was on the situation. Office Ghrist responded that he has done some observations at dismissal time and has some ideas and that he would be meeting with Mrs. Lavin, Wadsworth Principal to put a plan in motion to rectify the issue.

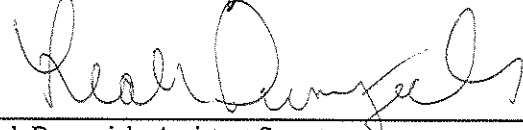
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.


Raymond White, President


Gerald Potacki, 1st Vice-President


Jennifer Dildine, 2nd Vice-President


Lisa Megquier, Secretary


Leah Dumezich, Assistant Secretary