

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
April 16, 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 sixteenth day of April, 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  
Jared Tauber, School Attorney  
Kathy Carter, Superintendent's Secretary

**Prayer:** Interim Pastor Freda Scales from Griffith Lutheran Church provided the inspirational message/prayer.

**Superintendent's Remarks:** Dr. Morikis introduced the Boys Varsity Basketball Coach Gary Hayes who in turn introduced his players, who are the 2015 State of Indiana runners up in Class 3A basketball. Board President Raymond White presented Coach Hayes with a plaque congratulating him and his players on their accomplishment.

Dr. Morikis then introduced Coach Tom Golubeck. Coach Golubeck was the Girls Varsity Basketball Coach at Griffith High School for 13 years until he tendered his resignation recently. During the 2014-2015 season, Coach Golubeck achieved the 200<sup>th</sup> win of his career. Board President White presented Coach Golubeck with a plaque honoring this achievement.

**Delegations and/or Communications:** None

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Mr. White asked the Board to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2015 Board meeting. Mrs. Dildine motioned to accept the minutes. Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion, there being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Claims:** Mr. White asked for a motion to approve Regular Claims #19749 to #19888, Professional Leaves #1229 to #1253. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve and Ms. Megquier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

**Beiriger School Update:** Dr. Morikis introduced Beiriger Principal Ms. Ashley Cotton. Ms. Cotton shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board. The presentation included pictures of Beiriger students participating in everyday activities at school. These activities ranged from classroom instruction to PTC sponsored events.

**Wadsworth Roof Project Award Recommendation:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to award the Wadsworth roof project to Maris and Sons. Mrs. Dildine motioned to approve the request and Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Bus Bid Award Recommendation:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to award the bus bid to Midwest Transit. Mr. Potacki made motion to approve the request. Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Foodservice Management Award Recommendation:** Ms. Bapst introduced the committee members who were in attendance. The committee's recommendation to the Board was to reject the proposal received and make no award for foodservice management. Instead the committee recommended hiring a Foodservice Director and implementing a self-operated management system effective July 1, 2015. Mrs. Dildine motioned to accept the committee's recommendation. Potacki seconded the motion. There being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

**Athletic Trainer Services, Authorization to Issue RFP:** Dr. Morikis explained that we are at the end of the cycle with our Athletic Trainer Services; he asked the Board for authorization to issue a Request for Proposal for the athletic trainer services for the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Potacki motioned to authorize a Request for Proposal. Ms. Megquier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Milk, Bread and Third Party Purchasing, Authorization to Bid:** Ms. Bapst asked the Board for authorization to bid and seek proposals for milk, bread and third party purchases. Ms. Megquier motioned to give authorization. Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Settlement Agreement:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to approve the settlement agreement for pending litigation. The district is waiting on the signed documentation. Mrs. Dildine motioned to approve the agreement. Mr. Potacki seconded the motion. There being no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

**Resolution #616:** Ms. Bapst asked the Board to approve Resolution #616 as presented in the Board packet. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve Resolution #616. Ms. Megquier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Elementary, Middle School and High School Student Handbooks:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to approve the student handbook changes as submitted in the Board packet. Mr. Potacki motioned to approve the changes as presented. Ms. Dumezich asked for an explanation on the purpose of Saturday school in the Middle School handbook. Dr. Morikis asked Mr. Brian Orkis to speak on this concept. Mr. Orkis explained that is to help students to possibly make up a limited number of excessive absences over the 8 allowed per semester. The student would be able to attend Saturday school from 8:00 a.m. to Noon and make up a half day absence. This is also a change request for the High School handbook also. This will allow a student to make up absences and not lose credit in a class if they have exceeded the 8-day limit. Ms. Dumezich asked if the schools have tried working with the truancy officer from Lake County Indiana with their program for students with excessive absences. Mr. Orkis replied that there has been marginal success with the county program. After much discussion, the Board suggested that there be more specific language on the number of days a student could make up using Saturday school and when Saturday school would be offered as an option. Mr. Orkis told the Board that he could revise the changes to reflect what the Board is requesting. Mr. Potacki made a motion to accept the handbook changes. Ms. Dildine seconded the motion with the stipulation of more specific language. Mr. White requested a roll call vote of the Board. Ms. Dumezich voted no, Mr. Potacki voted yes, Mr. White voted yes, Mrs. Dildine voted yes, and Ms. Megquier voted no. Motion passed with a 3-2 vote. Mrs. Megquier asked to explain why she voted no. She stated she felt allowing sitting in Saturday school to replace being in a classroom was discounting the value of a teacher's lessons and education is about more than just a student's presence within the building's walls.

**English Textbook Adoption:** Mr. Borowiak introduced Janette Snelson, English Department Head. Ms. Snelson presented the Board with the recommendation to adopt the Springboard textbook published by the College Board. The Springboard textbook would only require a 1-year adoption period where the other textbook companies would require a 6-year period. The College Board would train our staff in using their textbook. The Springboard book would allow a teacher to teach any novel and be able to use the 23 reading and 14 writing strategies contained in the book. Every unit of the book has 2-3 benchmarking assessments. The special education department reviewed this book and agreed that it would be very simple to modify the lessons to their students. Ms. Dumezich asked how this book was chosen for recommendation. Ms. Snelson and Mr. Borowiak explained that there was information sent to the English department teachers that the textbooks were available for review and each teacher was given a form to rank and evaluate each textbook. Only 7 teachers returned the evaluation form. The evaluations were submitted anonymously. Three of the evaluations recommended Springboard, three of the evaluations recommended different textbooks and one evaluation had no opinion. Based on the split decision from Ms. Snelson's department, she made the recommendation of the Springboard book. After much discussion the Board decided to table the textbook recommendation until the May 14, 2015 meeting. At that time, the Board wants all teachers in the English department to have submitted an evaluation form along with their recommendation.

**Overnight Trip Requests:** Dr. Morikis asked the Board to approve the 3 overnight trip requests as presented in the Board packet. These trips include Basketball Semi-State, March 20-21, 2015, Indianapolis, Indiana, Basketball State, March 27-28, 2015, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Girls Softball Blackford Classic April 24-25, 2015, Hartford City Indiana. Mrs. Dildine motioned to approve the request, Ms. Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Personnel Action:** Dr. Morikis presented the Personnel Report, recommending the following personnel items:

**Assignments**

**Certified**

Kimberly Peirick	Secondary Business Teacher, effective 8-11-15
Julie Winston	Temporary Kindergarten Wadsworth, effective 4-13-15 to 6-11-15 for Rachel Bassick

**Classified**

Virginia Kallas	Elementary Interventionist, effective 4-13-15 to 6-10-15
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**Administrative**

Martha Silverthorne	Director of Foodservices, effective 7-1-15
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**Separations**

**Certified**

Victoria Buncek	Secondary Science Teacher, effective 6-11-15, resignation
Michelle Udchitz	Guidance Department Head, effective 4-6-15, resignation

**Classified**

Laurie Hilgeman	Foodservice Worker, effective 3-17-15, resignation
Cynthia Strong	Foodservice Worker, effective 4-8-15, resignation

**Administrative**

Jeannette Bapst	Assistant to the Superintendent, effective 6-30-15, retirement
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**Extra-Curricular**

Victoria Buncek	Varsity Swim Coach, effective 6-11-15, resignation
Victoria Buncek	Girls Assistant Varsity Track Coach, effective 6-11-15, resignation
Tom Golumbeck	Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, effective 3-27-15, resignation

**Other:**

Classified Personnel Schedule Update


Mr. Potacki moved for approval. Mrs. Dildine seconded the motion. Mr. White stated upon the recommendation of the Board that the Extra-Curricular assignments should be tabled until the Board discussed concerns with the assignments. After some discussion the

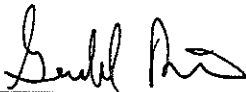
Board voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Report tabling the Extra-Curricular assignments until the May 14, 2015 meeting.

**Audience Participation:** None

**Good of the Corporation:** Mr. Potacki congratulated Coach Hayes and the basketball team on their accomplishments. Anthony and Tremell Murphy earned all-state honors by the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association. Mr. Potacki gave kudos to the Panther baseball team for splitting their series with Andean. Mr. White shared with those in attendance that our Robotics Team will be presenting at the Museum of Science and Industry during the week of April 4-12, 2015 to celebrate National Robotics Week 2015. Ms. Megquier reminded those present that the Drama department will be presenting "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" next weekend April, 23, 24, and 25, 2015.

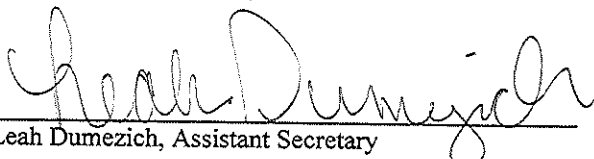
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

  
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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