

BOARD MEETING RECAP

Thursday, August 9, 2018

These notes are being provided as an unofficial recap of the Grant County Board of Education Meeting held Thursday, August 9, 2018, at Grant County Board of Education office. They are not and should not be interpreted as the official minutes of the meeting.

The Grant County Board of Education was called to order for its regular monthly meeting by Gene Nelson, Chairperson at 6:16 p.m. on Thursday, August 9, 2018, with the following present:

Present--Gene Nelson, Chair (District 4)

Present--Debbie Rogers, Vice Chair (District 5)

Present--Charlotte Schmidt, Member (District 1)

Present--Bryan Slaughter, Member (District 2)

Present--Lisa Smith, Member (District 3)

Also present: Matt Morgan, Supt.; Don Ruberg, Board Attorney; Linda Justice, Sec'y to the Board

The Mission statement was read by Gene Nelson:

**“The mission of Grant County Schools is to appreciate each student’s unique potential
and to advocate for excellence in every child.”**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Scott Shipp, Director of Operations.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS:

Construction Update: Scott Shipp reported that the T & M team has now moved into their new home on the Sherman campus; he offered a heart-felt thanks to the Board for their new facility. Mr. Shipp reported there will be some modifications to the fence and the blacktop on the east side to allow for more space should a bus be being towed to the garage – at no additional charge. Also, a low spot in the blacktop where water pools will be addressed, as well as a spot near the driveway at which water erosion is likely – again, at no cost. There are just a few minor installations and adjustments yet to come. It was noted that some of the sub-contractors have not yet been paid by the general contractor. Don Ruberg will draft a letter to the general contractor to address this.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:

(Unique business items will be listed in this recap first, with recurring/routine reports and business listed at the end.)

DRE PTT Fundraisers were approved.

Memorandums of Agreement for the provision of mental health services were approved with North Key, NECCO, Holly Hill, MEBS and Associates, and the Ridge.

The GCHS Yearbook contract with Heff Jones was approved.

ARC Chairperson designees were approved as follows:

CMZ: Ben Ruff / Nancy Livingood

DRE: Brandi Dunn / Bobbie Jo Pelfrey

SES: Michael DiMera / Jamie Kinmon

MCE: Lauren Charles / Leanne Adkins

GCMS: Jason Frilling / Craig Smith / Kathy Sheshull

GCHS: Clay Mattingly / David Schneider / Sonia Guffey / Cody Ryan / Scott Draud / Nicole Davis / Jodi Mulligan

Andrea Delaney / Penny Meredith / Allison Stone

Membership with the Northern Kentucky Education Council was approved.

Emergency Certifications were approved for the following teacher positions:

LBD teachers at CMZ, SES/DRE, MCE, and GCMS.

Preschool teacher at SES

2 Math teachers at GCHS

Also, potentially:

LBD Teacher positions at GCHS/DRE/SES

ELA position at GCMS

Health / PE position at MCE

5 extra days were approved for Elementary Curriculum Specialists for the 2018-2019 school year.

Funds will come from carryover Title I funds. Elementary curriculum specialists are currently contracted to work 192 days, after 5 days were cut from their contract several years ago due to budget cuts. Last year the Board approved 5 additional days for 2017-2018. This year's provision will, likewise, be only for 2018-2019.

Jamie Kinmon was appointed to the Certified Appeals panel, with Scott Draud as alternate.

A new job classification and salary scale was approved for the Drug Free Communities grant coordinator. The new job classification more accurately reflects the education and experience of the coordinator, and salary scale now more closely reflects the amount originally written in the grant. These funds are provided by the federal grant, and do not impact the district.

Insurance for 2018-2019 was approved as follows:

Liberty Mutual will provide Package, Auto, and Umbrella coverage;

KEMI will provide Worker's Compensation insurance.

Superintendent Contract: The Board approved an additional 5 days of vacation for Mr. Morgan, with the provision that he be allowed to roll over no more than 10 days.

Volunteer Handbook: The new, revised Volunteer Handbook was provided to the Board for review. [It is available here.](#) (Please take note of the sections highlighted in yellow.)

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Mr. Morgan reported that the **Braves Bash** will be Friday, August 10, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Grant County High School. We are expecting 600 or more students.

Opening Day will be Monday, August 13; doors will open at 7:30 a.m. with donuts being provided by the National Guard. The program will start at 8:30 a.m.

Staffing:

- Admin team: Mr. Morgan reported that Jason Frilling has been named Acting Principal at Grant County Middle School. Jacob Brown has been hired for one year as his replacement (as assistant). Mr. Brown brings with him a strong special education background. Cody Ryan has accepted a position in Boone County and has resigned his position at Grant County High School. His position is posted, but not yet filled. Despite the numerous staff changes, Mr. Morgan is impressed with the leadership and the work of our certified staff thus far.
- Positions yet to be filled include a couple special ed positions, 3 teacher assistants, and custodial. Bus routes are currently all covered.

Tax Information: Our tax rate is currently set at 57.4 on real and tangible property (with three nickels going to facilities). Because of higher real property assessments for 2018, the tax rate that would generate the exact same revenue as last year (the “compensating” rate) would drop to 55.9 on real property. If we, however, keep our current rate of 57.4, the increased assessments will generate approximately \$140,000 in additional funds, with \$134,000 going to the general fund and \$6,000 extra going to facilities. Mr. Morgan recommended maintaining the same tax rate of 57.4 on real and tangible property for the upcoming tax season. This recommendation requires a tax hearing (as does any tax rate above the compensating rate) with two consecutive weeks of advertising in the local newspaper preceding the hearing. The tax hearing was set for August 30. Mr. Morgan will arrange for advertising.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Mr. Slaughter reported that a contact with CitiBank expressed interest in providing a financial training program at GCHS.

Mr. Slaughter also expressed his desire that when appropriate, candidates for administrative positions be considered from within.

Mrs. Schmidt inquired regarding use of NKU-Grant County by our students and graduates.

Mrs. Schmidt inquired regarding additional conversation on Board Secretary position. Tabled.

MONTHLY RECURRING AND/OR ROUTINE BUSINESS / REPORTS:

Agenda for August 9, 2018, meeting of the Grant County Board of Education was approved with a correction to item 11 – adding 2 additional teachers for emergency certification.

Minutes from previous meeting(s): Approved as presented.

Claims (Accounts Payable): Approved as presented.

Superintendent's Travel: Approved as presented.

DPP Report: No report

Financial Report: Mr. Morgan reported that we are currently in the period of lowest revenue for the district (with there being virtually no tax collections this time of the year). Our financial audit will be performed by Barnes Dennig, and will begin next week. It was noted that we should have the payroll position filled within the next two weeks; details regarding the registrar position being finalized.

Energy Report: There was a slight increase overall in energy consumption/costs. At Sherman, AC systems ran 24/7 for a time due to desired conditions for waxing.

Personnel Actions: Acknowledged.

FINAL ACTIONS:

Meeting adjourned.