

BOARD MEETING RECAP

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

These notes are provided as an unofficial recap of the Grant County Board of Education Meeting held Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at the 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 Lisa Smith at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, with the following present:

Present—Lisa Smith, Chairperson (District 3)

Present--Charlotte Schmidt, Vice-Chair (District 1)

Present—Lori Flerlage, Member (District 2)

Present—Gene Nelson, Member (District 4)

Absent--Debbie Rogers, Member (District 5)

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

The Board's Mission Statement was read by Lori Flerlage:

"The mission of the Grant County School Board is to join with community, parents, and staff to provide a safe, caring environment in a fiscally responsible manner. Our ultimate goal is to teach every child to "SUCCEED" at their highest potential through strategic policy decisions.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by GCHS Business students.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS:

"Act! On the ACT". Three of Mrs. Eberle's business students: **Cierra Whalen, Morgan Asher, and Kaitlynn Contreras**, provided a presentation to the Board and audience (which included all principals and curriculum specialists) regarding their experiences relative to the Junior ACT. In a polite, but honest evaluation/discussion of their experience, they shared that they felt their preparation was too little, too late, and ultimately there were disappointed – even embarrassed - by their scores. Factors they felt could have helped was a steadier focus on ACT goals from a much younger age, a better understanding of its importance, consistent and motivating messaging from staff, and preparation which included strategies, and more. They also shared the benefits for students individually and for the community at large when a school or district is recognized for high ACT scores. The business class is beginning a campaign focused on providing information, motivation, and doing whatever it takes to increase the ACT scores from GCHS. (Editor's note: If you should see social media posts or other appeals by this group, please do your part to share and support. This endeavor, if successful, would be a huge positive for our students and our district.)

ELEMENTARY & GCMS MAP SCORES / GCHS CERT PRESENTATION: Results from MAP and CERT assessments administered August 19-Sept 6 were shared with the Board. The various nuances of the test were discussed, as well as student motivation, anxiety, and the younger students' capacity for taking a lengthy assessment. Ultimately, however, it was acknowledged that intentional focus on improving core skills was a necessary next step at all levels of instruction.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:

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

Construction Updates: The Board approved **Pay Application #13 for Transportation and Maintenance** for \$25,000. This completes the T&M Construction project.

The Board approved **Change Order #1 for GCMS/GCHS Paving Project** in the amount of \$5,900.00.

A **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Eastern Kentucky University and Grant County Schools** was approved, providing for the placement of student teachers from EKU with properly qualified and certified teachers for teacher training inside Grant County Schools.

A **school-wide fundraiser for CMZ-PTT** was approved.

The Board approved a request from the **GCHS FFA to attend the National FFA Convention** in Indianapolis.

The Board approved the **emergency certification of a science position** at GCHS.

A Memorandum of Agreement (**MOA for services from Bluegrass Behavior**) was approved.

The Board approved the **creation of an additional preschool teacher position at CMZ** (due to class sizes being at cap).

The Board approved a new **stipend for a district PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) coach**. This action was recommended to help mitigate any loss of progress and momentum that may occur in our schools now that the state is no longer providing a regional PBIS coordinator.

The Board approved **a position for Speech Pathologist**. This person will work during a leave being taken by a current employee; the services provided will be billable to Medicaid.

Performance Discussion. The Board continued its previous discussions regarding the **utilization of an energy consulting firm to recommend and/or implement improvements which would reduce energy costs**. Previous questions asked by the Board had focused on what obligation the Board would have to proceed with the recommendations or what the Board's obligation would be if they Board decided not to implement any/all of the recommendations. The firm had responded there would be no obligation except for the costs associated with implementing the chosen recommendations. The Board voted to proceed with issuing a letter of intent to explore what recommendations might be made.

School Board Attorney: Mr. Ruberg has announced his plans to retire at the end of 2019. Discussion ensued regarding possible candidates and the process for selecting his replacement. Mr. Ruberg shared a number of questions and considerations the Board should explore. It was agreed the Board would start by requesting curriculum vitae from interested / potential candidates that focused on their experience in school law – then to follow with interviews of the top candidates.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Mr. Morgan reported there had been about 60 3rd graders in attendance at **Hay Read**, together with dozens of volunteers. For next year, coordinators are focused on ways to increase attendance and/or offer the program during the school day. The event provides very beneficial exposure to the career and tech center, but too few elementary students are experiencing it.

Truth or Consequences was held for 8th graders at GCMS on October 7. It was an excellent program which included a replica of the bus and information regarding the victims of the Carrollton bus crash, goggles that mimic impaired driving, consequences for poor substance use choices, etc. Special thanks to all of the community volunteers who helped make the event possible.

Let's Talk Turkey will be held at GCHS on Thursday, Nov 21. (Time TBA)

At the Work Session on November 7, **KPREP scores** will be discussed.

The **new security system and safety protocols** have been installed / implemented at the District Office.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Mrs. Schmidt inquired regarding the district's procedures for identifying / addressing dyslexia. Mr. Ruberg explained our legal obligations under Child Find, but also acknowledged that while services and an IEP could possibly be provided under a different qualifying diagnosis, Dyslexia is not a qualifying diagnosis in and of itself.

Mrs. Schmidt inquired regarding progress on the Historical Society's request to move the driveway at Sherman Tavern. Mr. Morgan nor Mr. Ruberg had received a formal (written) proposal / description of the request. Mrs. Schmidt will follow-up.

MONTHLY RECURRING AND/OR ROUTINE BUSINESS / REPORTS:

Agenda for Gene/Lori meeting of the Grant County Board of Education: Approved.

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

Claims (Accounts Payable): Approved as presented.

Superintendent's Travel: Approved as presented.

DPP Report: Mrs. Herald reported that school attendance intervention teams are meeting twice a month (with success), and that the attendance for 2nd month exceeded our goal. However, new challenges crop up daily.

End of 2nd month enrollment: 3515; Attendance: 95.32%

2nd Month/YTD attendance by school and district is as follows:

Attendance	CMZ	DRE	MCE	SES	GCMS	GCHS	District
2nd Month	96.25	96.61	95.78	96.86	95.11	93.87	95.32
YTD	96.02	96.78	96.31	96.25	95.16	94.27	95.42
Enrollment	471	420	271	388	900	1065	3515

Financial Report: Shared

Energy Report: Shared.

Personnel Actions: Acknowledged.

FINAL ACTIONS:

The Board adjourned into Executive Session, then reconvened and adjourned regular meeting.