

BOARD MEETING RECAP

Thursday, December 12, 2019

These notes are being provided as an unofficial recap of the Grant County Board of Education Meeting held Thursday, December 12, 2019, at the Grant County Board of Education District 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 Thursday, December 12, 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)

Present--Debbie Rogers, Member (District 5)

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

The 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 Boy Scout Troop 712.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Fall Sports Recognition:

Mr. Michael Camacho, GCHS Boys Golf Coach, shared highlights of the Boys and Girls 2019 Golf seasons, after which the following students were recognized for their region and state achievements.

Boys Golf: Tyler Mitts, Kyle Lewis, Lucas Allnutt, Bryce Spencer, and Cedric Hoehn were recognized for their FIRST PLACE team finish in the 8th Region, and their 12th place State finish – together with various individual achievements.



L to R: Coach Michael Camacho, Cedric Hoehn, Lucas Allnutt, Tyler Mitts, Charlotte Schmidt

Girls Golf Team: Victoria Camacho, Laura Tatum, Aryanna Slaughter, Lydia Smith, and Maddi Hudson were recognized for their FIRST PLACE team finish in the 8th Region, and their 7th place State finish – together with various individual achievements.



Laura Tatum



Lydia Smith



Maddi Hudson

Cross Country: Cross Country athletes Katelyn Wilson and Audrey Shelton were recognized for their respective 23rd and 16th finishes in Region 5, and their state meet participation.



National Board Certification Recognition



Teachers, Mrs. Donna Calhoun (Left) and Miss Elizabeth Crotty (Right) were recognized upon their successful completion of the program of studies for National Board Certification.

Don Ruberg Retirement Recognition



Board Attorney, Don Ruberg, was honored upon his retirement – after serving 29 years as the Board Attorney for Grant County Schools.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS:

No construction report.
No principal report.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS:

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

A fundraiser for CMZ PTT was approved.

A trip to New York City in the spring of 2021 was approved for the GCHS Choir.

The Board approved a Preschool Special Education one-on-one Instructional Assistant position at Crittenden-Mt Zion Elementary.

The Board approved a Preschool Instructional Assistant position at Crittenden-Mt. Zion Elementary. This position is necessary due to increased enrollment that has warranted the opening of a new classroom.

The Board approved an update to the Food Service Procurement Plan based upon USDA requirements.

The Board approved the purchase of a food truck by the Food Service department (with their funds that are separate from general funds and earmarked for food service purposes). The truck will be a 2019 Ford, spec'd to food service needs, and will be available for summer feeding, field trips, and more.

The Board approved a change to the elementary attendance zones for Dry Ridge Elementary and Mason-Corinth Elementary. The change involves moving Baton Rouge Road from MCE's attendance zone to DRE's. There are currently no elementary students on Baton Rouge Road, but the change will make transportation more efficient if/when elementary student transportation is needed.

Old Business:

Hiring of Board Attorney: After lengthy discussion regarding duties, qualifications, availability, fees, general terms of contract, accountability, and more relative to the Board Attorney position at large, and then specific to the respective candidates, the Board voted to contract with Crawford and Baxter. Mr. Ruberg plans to help with the transition.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Mr. Morgan reported that the Jani-King contract for cleaning services at CMZ will expire in January with no plans for renewal. We will be seeking to fill those positions with our own (new or existing) employees.

Mr. Morgan announced the upcoming Christmas concerts / performances. Also, baking with Kindergartners at SES Friday, Dec 13, at 8:15 a.m.

BEAR reading will start in January. Interested volunteers should contact Becky Boden.

KASS/Nickel Taxes: Mr. Morgan reported that he had attended the KASS conference this past Sunday-Tuesday. While there, a group of Superintendents (Grant County included) met about the "nickel" taxes each has in their district. Grant County has 3 nickels (meaning, on three separate occasions, Grant County was able to add 5 cents to the tax rate for the purpose of construction / bond

payments. (Grant County's current tax rate is 57.7 cents, 15 cents (+/-) of which must be used for construction / bond payments.) The state equalizes two of those nickels, but in 2003, when we acquired our 3rd nickel, the state did not equalize. In the most recent state budget cycle, districts qualifying for **new** nickels **were** equalized by the state, leaving about 20 districts with an unequalized nickel. Matt distributed a list of those districts to the Board members. The value of this missing equalization (for us) is \$681,000, which turns into \$9.5 million in bonding potential. There will be a joint effort by the superintendents of these 20 districts to petition for the equalization of these remaining nickels in the upcoming state budget. It would be a win-win for the local districts and the state as a \$13 million investment on the part of the state would turn into \$189 million in assets. If successful, a lot of the mandates of the safety bill could be funded with this money. Also, this would help towards our unmet facilities need, which at the conclusion of our most recent facilities meeting was \$59 million, with a current bonding potential of only \$8.5 million.

January Board meetings are Jan 9 (Regular Board Meeting) and Jan 23 (SBDM Reports, starting at 5:00).

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

The Board extended their thanks to Linda Justice for her assistance in preparing and distributing the cards and hot chocolate to staff from the Board.

MONTHLY RECURRING AND/OR ROUTINE BUSINESS / REPORTS:

Agenda for the December 12, 2019, meeting of the Grant County Board of Education was approved, with the addition of Board Attorney selection placed under Old Business.

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

Claims (Accounts Payable): Approved as presented.

Superintendent's Travel: Approved as presented.

DPP Report: End of 4th month enrollment: 3493; Attendance: 93.75%

4th Month/YTD attendance by school and district is as follows:

	CMZ	DRE	MCE	SES	GCMS	GCHS	District
4th Month Attendance	94.19	95.60	94.33	95.06	93.40	92.46	93.75
YTD Attendance	95.59	96.19	95.66	95.86	94.58	93.48	94.81
4 th Month Enrollment	473	426	267	381	904	1042	3493

Calendar survey results and recommendations will be shared in January.

Financial Report: Brian Linder reported that tax money is coming in. Our auditors will be present at the next board meeting to share results of audit.

Energy Report: Acknowledged.

Personnel Actions: Acknowledged.

FINAL ACTIONS:

No Executive Session. Linda will have a board calendar ready for approval at the January meeting.
Mr. Nelson / Mrs. Rogers motion to adjourn. Motion carried.