

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
MINUTES OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting – October 7, 2020

The Grandview Heights Schools Board of Education met in regular session via video conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Call to Order:** President Jesse Truett called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and read the following statement:

Good evening, I'd like to call to order this meeting of the Grandview Heights Board of Education on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 7:01 p.m.

We are holding this meeting using videoconferencing technology. The Ohio General Assembly and Attorney General have approved the use of virtual meetings as a viable alternative to conducting public hearings during this time, and the district's alternative complies with the new statutory directives.

We will be broadcasting this meeting via our Grandview Heights YouTube channel. The link to the YouTube Channel is currently available on the district's website. The live-stream of this meeting is being recorded and will remain available on the district's website.

<b>Roll Call</b>	Members Present:	Members Absent:
	Eric Bode	
	Emily Gephart	
	Kevin Gusé	
	Jesse Truett	
	Molly Wassmuth	

**Public Comments**

Ms. Caroline Koebler addressed the Board of Education regarding COVID-19. In particular, she asked if the school district would sponsor a public forum to further discuss the current state of the pandemic. She also discussed the following topics:

- An email she sent to Franklin County Public Health with specific questions about the data and statistics it releases;
- Pandemic-related policies of St. Andrews Episcopal School in Maryland where the President's son attends school;
- Global Teacher Status index and the impact of COVID-19;
- Chad Dorrill, a college student from Appalachian State University, who died from COVID-19; and
- Former CDC Director William Foege's recent letter criticizing the White House's handling of COVID-19.

**OSBA Business Honor Roll Presentation**

Superintendent Andy Culp recognized and congratulated the following businesses which were nominated and recently received the OSBA Business Honor Roll Awards for their support and partnership with the Grandview Heights Schools:

- Gallagher Benefits
- La Tavola
- Giant Eagle Market District, Grandview Yard
- Knotty Pine Brewing

Following her recognition, Ms. Maggie Neely, Area Vice President, from Gallagher Benefits presented the district with the Arthur J. Gallagher Best in Class Award for healthcare cost control. This award was based on a national benchmarking survey of more than 4,000 private companies and public entities. Only 2% of participants qualified for this distinguished award.

**Presentation – Construction Update**

Mr. Jay Tadema, Corna-Kokosing/Elford (CKE) Project Manager, reported that September was a good month for the construction project. Following are some of the recent highlights of the project:

- Topped out structural steel;
- Water connection on Oakland Avenue; and
- 8 out of 12 total concrete pours completed.

The following work will be upcoming as the construction team prepares for the winter months:

- Exterior walls will be erected around the middle school;
- Mechanical systems will begin being installed;
- Trusses will be added on classroom wings; and
- New main electrical service to the building will be installed in the next couple weeks.

Mr. Tadema also confirmed that there have been no COVID-19 related issues.

### **CATS Presentation – Dr. Elisabeth Root**

Superintendent Andy Culp introduced Dr. Elisabeth Root, an epidemiologist at Ohio State University. Mr. Culp and the district leadership team has been working with Dr. Root over the past six weeks to analyze COVID-19 data within the school district boundaries that she has been tracking and reporting.

Dr. Root reported that as an epidemiologist at the Ohio State University's College of Public Health, she is currently embedded in the Ohio Department of Health to help improve the department's surveillance activities using the COVID-19 data from all the different data structures available. As part of that effort, Dr. Root and her colleagues at Ohio State University developed a tool called the CATS (COVID-19 Analytics and Targeted Surveillance) system. CATS is a tool for schools to use to do their own surveillance to determine how COVID-19 is impacting their own communities. She stated that this system uses the exact same data that she uses at the Ohio Department of Health to prepare reports and the exact same data that Franklin County Public Health uses to prepare reports sent to school districts. The CATS system simply cuts the data up in a way that is more useful for schools.

Dr. Root explained that the purpose of CATS is for schools to use the system to analyze COVID-19 data and use that data as a way to make decisions on what learning mode should be used throughout the pandemic. Each district needs to work with the researchers to develop a framework recognizing the nuances of each district, that determines the specific mode of learning based on the data. This helps each district develop a school-based response to the pandemic that can be shared with parents and community members so they understand how the district will move between learning modes based on the data.

Dr. Root explained that the data for the CATS system comes from the Ohio Department of Health's Disease Reporting System (ODRS), which is where every positive COVID-19 case is reported as COVID-19 is a legally mandated reportable disease. She is then able to break-down that data into more specific information by county, by school district, and by age. Dr. Root explained that data is also extracted from the Grandview Heights Schools ProgressBook data system including student absences, staff absences, and school nurse visits. She explained that this data is often particularly valuable because it is more timely than the state data that lags by at least a week.

Dr. Root explained that this data can then be analyzed at the County level, at the school district boundary level, and even at the individual school building level. She shared that there are two versions of CATS that have been developed: a public facing version and a secured version which contains more specific data.

Dr. Root shared a visual presentation with the Board showing what each version of CATS looks like. While the public facing version includes information on cases numbers county-wide and within the district and individual buildings, the secured version contains more specific information that she believes will be helpful to the district in making educational decisions, including the following:

- 2 week running average case rate by school district within the county (with Grandview Heights Schools currently the highest in the county);
- Specific case data for Grandview Heights Schools based on physical address, age, and when the cases were reported; and
- Specific student and staff absence data.

Dr. Root explained that after understanding the data, it's important to understand what the next steps should be. The district will need to work with Dr. Root to develop a framework, or transparent set of guidelines, which will be used by the district to assist in deciding when to pivot from one learning mode to another.

Dr. Root explained that she would now answer any questions from the Board.

Mr. Truett explained that he envisioned the Board members asking any questions they may have of Dr. Root and providing their feedback, and then having Superintendent Culp take any feedback from the Board to develop a recommended framework that he would then bring back to the Board for consideration at a later date.

#### *Presentation Questions:*

Mr. Bode: He thanked Dr. Root and stated that he thought the charts in the system were very helpful. He also asked her to talk more about looking at Grandview Heights Schools data in isolation of surrounding areas when many residents work, shop, and attend functions in surrounding areas of Columbus, Upper Arlington, and other closely situated communities.

Dr. Root: She explained that the Grandview Heights Schools data is just one tool to evaluate and should not be evaluated in isolation of other data, such as Franklin County. She stated that in establishing the guidelines for the framework, she does think one of the guidelines should be the Franklin County numbers. One aspect of the Grandview Heights data that she thinks

will be particularly helpful is the age data in Grandview Heights. That will help the district understand if the cases are in the school age children range, or within the older population.

Mr. Gusé: He thanked Dr. Root for the presentation. He asked Dr. Root how much she is willing to assist the district in analyzing this data.

Dr. Root: She explained that she, along with her team at Ohio State University, is happy to help the district in this capacity.

Mr. Gusé: He stated that based on our small population, a small change in the number of cases could have a significant impact on our district numbers.

Dr. Root: She recognized the challenge of our small size and the fact that the numbers will really bounce around, but stated that she is using certain techniques to smooth the data. She also stated that she believes our district is higher risk in general because of our density and our location very closely situated within and around other communities. She said this needs to be taken into consideration in developing our framework.

Mr. Gusé: The Governor has made recent comments that cases in rural areas are increasing. Are you more concerned about the density of Columbus rather than rural areas?

Dr. Root: Density is definitely one of the driving factors in COVID-19 spread. Rural areas in Ohio are currently seeing an upward trend in cases due in large part to noncompliance with recommended practices. But on the flip side, Franklin County has been much higher than all the other urban areas of Ohio throughout the entire pandemic in terms of case rates. Researchers are not sure why this is, but this fact puts our district at a higher risk overall.

Mr. Truett: He believes that there is a perception that we are doing better than we actually are and is in particular grateful to have Dr. Root to help the district analyze the numbers. He asked if the City leaders have this same information at their disposal to assist them in making decisions to help fight COVID-19 on a city-wide basis. He also stated that he feels there is a certain level of reluctance by politicians and leaders to make directives or recommendations based on COVID-19 data.

Dr. Root: She explained that with her experience embedded in the Ohio Department of Health for the past six months, she is very aware of the politics associated related to the pandemic. She said there is a hesitance from the top to make mandates and each level appears to be passing the buck to the next. The state is reluctant to issue mandates and is passing decision-making off to local authorities. Local health departments are also passing the decision-making on to individual communities and school districts to make. Dr. Root does not feel like school districts are equipped to make those decisions on their own. What that means is school districts like Grandview Heights need help from researchers like Dr. Root.

Mr. Truett: He wants to keep the focus on our school district, but with Franklin County having one of the highest case rates in the state, and with Grandview Heights Schools having the highest case rate in Franklin County, we need to evaluate what this means for our district and community as a whole.

Dr. Root: Early on in the pandemic, the fear was that the pandemic was going to overturn our hospital health systems. But what we have learned is that our public health system can handle it. The focus was so heavily on the public health system that people were not focused enough on community spread and how that was occurring. She emphasized that Franklin County is at a very high level of community spread currently and people don't realize that. She said the numbers for Franklin County are currently on par with third-world countries that have no public health system.

Mr. Truett: Some of our neighboring districts are evaluating going back to school full time but this data suggests otherwise.

Dr. Root: We are doing ok in our school district currently. We have had a few cases, but we are managing this pretty well with the social distancing, and other guidelines that have been put in place. She would not recommend going back to full traditional learning. The hybrid processes and precautions put in place are the reason we are doing ok and managing it. Other districts are making decisions to go back to full traditional learning after getting to a point where they are handling it. But eliminating the hybrid precautions and going fully back to school is likely going to result in a greater increase in cases within a 2-3 week timeframe.

Mr. Bode: Pushing the decision-making to the local level has been an interesting situation with the return to school. Districts across the state were pretty even split between distance, hybrid, and traditional learning. He asked Dr. Root to talk about what has been learned from the districts starting out in these different models, and asked whether there have been results to evaluate at this point.

Dr. Root: She explained that her team at Ohio State is currently evaluating case rates among districts that started the school year in different learning modes. Because of the delay in identifying, testing, and reporting the data, she stated that researchers have only about four weeks of data to evaluate at this point so it's too early to know. Indiana schools went back to school a full month before Ohio schools so they are also evaluating that data. So far, going back to school in rural areas with sparse populations seems to be fine. There is typically less disease circulating in rural areas. All of the major urban school districts opened in distance learning so they have not seen any effect on the case rates. There is not much data yet about what happens when a large urban school district returns to traditional learning. One thing that she feels was a positive aspect of Grandview Heights Schools hybrid learning plan is that it is half-day every day, so students only have to wear a mask for three hours per day instead of six hours per day, which is more realistic especially for younger children. Dr. Root also explained that we are not in an equilibrium state of spread. Any minor change to the structure of what we are doing will totally change the epidemic curve. Events such as reopening restaurants and other businesses, implementing a state-wide mask mandate, and bringing students back to colleges and universities are all things that are having a dramatic impact on the case rates.

Mr. Truett: He stated that he feels like we are doing pretty well managing the pandemic with the return to hybrid learning. We have not had to send a whole grade level home or close any buildings. But if we go back fully traditional, we will lose the ability to maintain six feet of social distancing. In looking at New Albany School district, which plans to go back to full traditional learning, they have 30% of their population enrolled in a virtual option. With the larger size of their classrooms, their students would have more square footage per student in full traditional learning than Grandview Heights Schools students currently have in hybrid learning.

Dr. Root: Based on that information, they may not have a huge spike, but it's hard to believe they will not see increases in their case rates. Being in a classroom for six hours per day and keeping a mask on is going to be difficult. The two factors that impact spread are distance and time. The more time you spend in a location with a person that has COVID-19, the more likely you are to get it even if you're wearing a mask. She explained that this is a complicated situation and there are so many factors that impact COVID-19 spread and case rates.

Mrs. Gephart: When you get the cases by zip code, is that based on where individuals report their address?

Dr. Root: The case data is actually all done by residential address, not just zip code. One challenging aspect in the positivity data reported, however, is determining which address is being used when a patient visits a hospital to get their test.

Mrs. Gephart: She is less concerned about moving forward from hybrid to full traditional and more concerned with moving backward to distance learning based on the data which shows that the district is managing the situation relatively well.

Dr. Root: She agrees that we are managing it well. She recommended to Mr. Culp to keep doing what is being done. When thinking about setting up a framework, one of the things to consider is how many cases have been identified in our district and how many of those have led to other cases. That can be done by building so that if a problem is identified in one building, the learning mode can be changed for just that building. One new measure that is going to be coming online with the state reporting system is the number of cases that have been developed from other known cases. If your known cases can be pinpointed to occurring from other cases, you're doing a good job and there is no reason to change necessarily what you're doing. The bigger concern is if you have a large number of cases and you have no idea where they came from.

Mrs. Gephart: When a student calls off from school due to illness, what does our district do to follow-up to determine if the illness is COVID-19 related?

Mr. Culp: The school district does follow-up and ask for the reason for any student who is absent. But we cannot force someone to tell us if they have COVID-19 symptoms. He also explained there needs to be consistency in the CATS system in terms of tracking school nurse visits. Either all nurse visits should be reported or only COVID-19 symptom visits should be reported. Mr. Culp has asked the school nurse to evaluate this and ensure consistency.

Mr. Bode: The CATS system will be a developing tool and we'll be building it as we go along. It also needs to be well thought out to ensure consistency and usefulness. There is a balance between getting the system shared with the community as soon as possible but also making sure it is ready to be shared in terms of having consistent processes and procedures. Mr. Bode stated that he is in favor of getting that system out to the community as soon as possible. He thinks it is wonderful to have this data for individuals to be able to make their own informed decisions. He asked what the expected timeline on getting this ready to share would be.

Dr. Root: The Ohio State University team knew that some districts would want to share this data with their communities. The timing on releasing the system to the public would depend on what data the school district wants to include on the public facing system. However, she believes that within a week or two the data should be ready to share.

Mr. Culp: He recommended that he and the leadership team continue to work with Dr. Root to analyze the data and establish a framework and garner feedback from the Board. While having that framework and data will be very important, he also thinks it is also important to have flexibility to make decisions outside of predetermined framework numbers that best meet the needs of our students and community.

Dr. Root: You can have a framework and still has some flexibility worked into it. You can develop a range rather than hard numbers that still provides transparency to the community showing how you are making decisions.

Mrs. Gephart: One family in Grandview Heights contracting COVID-19 could be enough to cause case rates to hit a certain target because of our very small community size, so it is important to maintain the flexibility to make decisions that are best for our students.

Mr. Truett: Part of the benefit of having this data is the age component information so that we can determine if we have the information on student-aged cases that are being reported to the Ohio Department of Health.

Dr. Root: Researchers are starting to see stigmas associated with having the virus. So, having the ability to see the multiple levels of data will help us ensure that we are seeing the full picture in our district.

Mr. Truett asked the other Board of Education members if they have any other feedback to provide Mr. Culp before he goes back to work with Dr. Root and the leadership team in developing the CATS system framework for our district.

Mr. Gusé: He asked Mr. Culp if he has a group of panelists he would consult with in addition to Dr. Root.

Mr. Culp: He consults with other Franklin County Superintendents and has gotten some sample frameworks to evaluate and to discuss with and garner feedback from the Board. This will be something that likely will change as we continue to learn and see additional data.

Mr. Truett: He commented how pleased he is that our students have gone through the recent assessment processes and looks forward to using that data to help make some longer-term educational decisions.

**Motion 21-034 (Minutes)** Mr. Bode moved to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- a. Special Meeting, September 9, 2020
- b. Regular Meeting, September 9, 2020

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

### **Department Reports – Discussion**

Mr. Bode stated that most specifically at the middle school, we had noticed a subset of students who were not connecting or not completing work in this hybrid model. In light of the request for additional engagement from the experience in the spring, he asked Mr. Culp and Dr. Lusher to help the Board understand the extent of those deficiencies and talk about what is being done to address that.

Mr. Culp reported that in a general way, we have seen challenges in the completion of assignments and related grade deficits. Dr. Quint Gage engaged his MTSS leadership team and devised a plan to begin study tables at EI/LMS to help address that issue. Since the inception of the study tables, the numbers have been drastically reduced.

Dr. Lusher stated that she thinks it is one of those things where we look at not only maintaining the integrity of a year's worth of growth but also, when you think about the adolescent brain, you think about a 10 year old, 11 year old, 12 year old, 13 year old, 14 year old and eight periods of a day, completing work in an online and hybrid setting. We met with the middle school team and they have just done phenomenal work. We were upwards of 50+ missing assignments total when you look at the range between 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Then we looked at ineligibility reports and some of the metrics. We really took a deep look at some of the structural things that we could do and then also at some of the reporting pieces too. For example, if I have an assignment in ProgressBook and I haven't updated my gradebook, is that populating as a lower grade for students. So, we have done some things internally too and really cleaned up. So, as Andy outlined, in 7<sup>th</sup> grade we had zero students that were on the ineligibility report and only three students that were on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade ineligibility report. Also, we have been reaching out to families as critical friends to give us some feedback of what a day in the life of a student looks like and we are working towards some videos to be able to provide to the Board to give you some more feedback of what the student experience is truly like. As Andy talked about, in our hybrid model, we definitely feel like pedagogy and instructional practice

is sound and it is definitely a superior model, but we always have to put on that lens of what it feels like for students. So, that is where we are trying to create more of a feedback loop with families and also through our MTSS process. So, I am really proud of how we have been able to approach this as learners but then also work as a staff to be able to adjust and adapt to meet the needs for our students. I think we are in a much better place and will continue to improve. One of the things that we have really held onto is this idea of making sure our students don't lower the bar of being able to really continue to maintain the integrity of those grade level standards. As Mr. Truett talked about, we are looking at our MAP data and I am happy to say we did not see a lot of regression in English/Language Arts. We stayed static and our students maintained their skills. We were really worried about the effect size of really missing instruction from March until August. We did see a bit of a dip with math wavering between three and four writ points which really is not that bad when you consider the linear way that math curriculum is developed. And our students have had a pause in their access to instruction. We are looking at that data in a very normed way. MAP was normed in 2015. There are new norms that are out in 2020 and our MTSS teams are looking at those. I think that it is not just work completion but making sure that students are growing and working collaboratively to make sure they are focusing on the right things. I have to give credit to our related arts staff. For many years they fought and advocated for the importance of a robust related arts program and a global languages program. They've had to really step back and think about what is realistic as we focus on some of those core academic skills and what that feels like in a student day. And you can see that represented if you have children at RLS and you see how they are really focusing on math and the literacy portions of their day and integrating the science and social studies. Then the related art team is really working on some interspace engaging asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities but also stepping back and thinking about what is realistic for students in terms of work completion. So, it is definitely a work in progress, but I feel like we are continuing to learn and I feel like our feedback loop is a real positive one that is helping us improve every day.

Mr. Bode asked if the study tables are real study tables or virtual study tables.

Dr. Lusher said they are three days per week, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, in the EI/LMS Commons from 8:45 to 9:45. They are open to any student at the middle school who would like to receive some support and have some structure for work completion or just extra homework help. But it is also a requirement for students that are missing assignments. Dr. Lusher also thanked the Grandview Heights Public Library for working to incorporate a resource called Brainfuse that will provide universal access to students for homework help and study support from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to any student in any grade level to be able to access one-on-one homework support. That is a work-in-progress too that our students will have access to in addition to the layers of MTSS and the study tables at the middle school.

Mrs. Gephart asked for an update about the crossing guard situation.

Mr. Culp reported that a student safety patrol program has been started in collaboration with the City where we have empowered our students as a leadership opportunity to serve as safety patrols and crossing guards. The City had been struggling to fill those positions and so this is really a win-win for our students and our community. Mr. Culp thanked Assistant Principal Shawn Hinkle for his leadership in working with our students to get this program off the ground and running.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Beth Collier presented to the Board on the following:

#### ***August, 2020 Financial Reports highlights:***

##### **General Fund (001):**

- General Fund Revenues
  - **Taxes** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2020 settlement received; 47.9% of budget.
  - **State Funding** – 28.7% of budget; includes first half Casino Revenue of \$15,608.06 (approx. half of normal settlement due to COVID-19 closure of casinos)
  - **Property Tax Allocation** – Delayed due to 45-day delay in tax settlement; expected in October.
  - **Grandview Yard** – Received 2<sup>nd</sup> half, \$1,921,780; calendar-year total = 103.28% of projection. Homestead/rollback on 2<sup>nd</sup> half still pending.
  - Interest Earnings (**Other Revenue**) for September, 2020: \$24,488.13.
- General Fund Expenditures
  - 3 months (25%) into FY 2021
  - **Total FY Expenditures:** 25.2% of budget

##### **Bond Retirement Fund (002-9019)**

- 4.45 mill collection for 2020. (4.48 mills in 2019 for both bond levies)

##### **Construction Fund (004):**

- Interest Earnings for September, 2020: \$88,190.86.
- 46.8% of Soft Costs have been spent.
- 7.8% of Construction Costs have been.
- Current Fund Balance: \$48,124,001.34.

#### **Permanent Improvement (PI) Fund (003-0000):**

- Current Fund Balance: \$578,108.79.
- WiFi Replacement project – \$95,523.45 paid; \$8,620 pending.
- \$3,252.10 balance owed on long jump/pole vault/track repairs
- 5 Year Capital Plan in progress

#### **Other Financial Updates:**

- 2019-2020 annual financial audit is underway;
- Proposed property value settlement agreement for 855 Grandview LLC

#### **Five Year Forecast**

Treasurer Collier presented the 5-year forecast and highlighted the following:

- Forecast Uncertainties
  - COVID-19
  - State budget
  - Expiring labor contracts
  - Grandview Yard development PILOT's
- Revenue Changes Since May Forecast
  - Property taxes & preliminary triennial update
  - State funding & HB 164 offset
  - Grandview Yard projections
  - Other Revenue (All-Day-Kindergarten tuition, interest revenue, building rentals)
- Expenditure Changes Since May Forecast
  - Salaries & Wages – new positions
  - Purchased Services – new technology contractor
  - Supplies – PPE
  - Transfers-Out – Athletics and Food Service

**Motion 21-035 (Treasurer's Reports)** Mrs. Gephart moved to approve the September, 2020 Treasurer's reports and accept payment of the September 2020 bills for all funds.

Mr. Bode seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

##### **Teaching and Learning**

- At Stevenson Elementary, 93% of our first graders, 85% of our second graders, and 95% of our third graders are on track to meet the requirements of the Third Grade Guarantee.
- October is a busy month at Stevenson Elementary with International Walk to School Day (October 7), Fire Safety Education activities, the PTO Move-A-Thon, and the Halloween Parade.
- At EILMS study tables have been created for students to come to school on their off time in the AM/PM for an hour to complete schoolwork.
- EILMS now has a student Safety Squad (think Safety Patrol) to help support students who walk or bike to school. This is also a great leadership opportunity for students.
- GHHS has two students who are named commended National Merit Scholars. Commended Scholars are those who are in the top 3% of all PSAT test takers in a given year. Last year, 1.5 million students took the PSAT; therefore, we have two students who scored in the top 50,000 of all test takers. There will be a celebration ceremony with the students and their families on Friday, October 15 (outdoors, distanced).
- Kudos to GHHS! Through the first six weeks of school, compared to the first six weeks of 2019-2020 GHHS tardies have *decreased* by 92% and absences have *decreased* by 52%.
- Students in grades 9-12 took the 'connect survey' at the end of September to ensure every single student has 1) at least one trusted adult in the building and 2) is connected to a club, sport, and/or activity outside of

academics. Connection beyond academics is very important, so teachers and students are collaborating and finding creative ways to keep clubs, activities, and events moving forward.

### District Wide

- Syntero is partnered with Grandview Heights Schools to offer a free, virtual parent workshop titled **Navigating School Re-Entry and Your Child's Well-Being** on Monday, September 28. This workshop was staffed by Syntero school-based clinicians, and provided education and practical strategies parents can use at home to support children of all ages as they navigate school re-entry for both hybrid and remote learning.
- We have released our 3rd "Hard Hat Video" update to our community.
- New Chromebooks have been assigned to students in grades 4, 7, and 10.

### COVID-19 General Update:

- I continue to meet with FCPH each Tuesday morning regarding COVID-19 positivity rates, new case rates, and color-coded systems along with their recommendations. The numbers in Franklin County and FCPH's recommendation (as of October 2) have not changed. They recommend districts stay in a hybrid model of learning.
- Additionally, the Leadership Team and I have been meeting with Dr. Elisabeth Root, an epidemiologist, and a team from The Ohio State University (OSU) regarding a special project called: **CATS Data - COVID-19 Analytics and Targeted Surveillance**.
- Grandview Heights Schools is a part of this pilot project with OSU that will provide us with specific data on what is happening within our school district's specific school boundaries regarding COVID-19 cases, spread rates, attendance, etc. This will provide the Board of Education and our district with yet another layer of information that will help the Grandview Heights Schools (GHS) make the best decisions possible as we move forward. The data specific to GHS will be updated every Friday.
- A webpage with CATS Data information is currently in development and should be published soon.
- Currently, Grandview Heights Schools district boundaries, based on the CATS Data, and case count is one of the highest of the 15 districts in Franklin County.

### Winter Sports Update:

- The latest update regarding winter sports was sent to all schools on October 2. The message we've received is that everything is on, but that OHSAA and ODH are reviewing potential protocols for Wrestling and Swimming. OHSAA sent out a survey to schools on October 2 regarding Swimming. Many schools currently do not have access to pools. It appears that OHSAA are possibly considering delaying the season start and/or changing swim meet formats.
- With the tournament season just beginning for some fall sports and other sports concluding regular seasons, it won't be long before winter sports will be starting. Here is the schedule for the beginning of practices and contests for the OHSAA's winter sports:

Girls Basketball - First Day of Practice – Friday, Oct. 23 / Scrimmages with Other Schools – Can begin when practice begins / First Contest – Friday, Nov. 20

Boys Basketball - First Day of Practice – Friday, Oct. 30 / Scrimmages with Other Schools – Can begin when practice begins / First Contest – Wednesday, Nov. 25

Bowling - First Day of Practice – Friday, Oct. 30 / Scrimmages with Other Schools – None permitted / First Contest – Friday, Nov. 13

Swimming & Diving - First Day of Practice – Friday, Oct. 30 / Scrimmages with Other Schools – None permitted / First Contest – Monday, Nov. 30

Wrestling - First Day of Practice – Friday, Nov. 13 / Scrimmages with Other Schools – Can begin when practice begins / First Contest – Thursday, Dec. 3

- As was done for fall sports, the OHSAA staff is working to finalize sport-specific requirements, recommendations and modifications for schools when conducting interscholastic competition in winter sports. When completed, links to these sport-specific documents will be posted on the OHSAA website.
- Although science and medical professionals are predicting that COVID-19 cases will increase as we get later in the fall as more people move indoors combined with the beginning of flu season, there currently are not any major modifications and/or restrictions expected for the winter sports seasons. However, as with nearly everything else with the pandemic, the Governor's Office could modify this in an instant. Currently, the Governor's Office issues weekly recommendations for individuals to quarantine for 14 days if they are returning to Ohio from "hot spot" states. Other states may have further restrictions regarding travel from Ohio into their states. With that in mind, the OHSAA

is advising schools to proceed with caution and recommends competition within your geographical area and all of the Ohio Health Director's Orders must be followed. The latest Order (updated on September 25) can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2RWa1jh>.

### **Community Engagement**

- Homecoming Week 2020 kudos to the GHHS Student Council and Adviser Kevin McCarthy. The Council maintained traditions as much as possible amidst COVID-19, while also creating new, more inclusive ones that are sure to go forward.
- Coffee & Conversation with Superintendent Andy Culp - Residents, parents, and community members are invited to pour a cup of coffee and join Grandview Heights Schools Superintendent Andy Culp for a virtual Coffee & Conversation from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on the following Fridays, September 25, 2020; November 20, 2020; February 19, 2021; and April 16, 2021. Visit [www.ghschools.org](http://www.ghschools.org) for more information.
- The Fall 2020 District Newsletter, which is mailed to all residencies within the district's boundaries, is in the final stages of editing and will be off to the printer soon. The Financial Prospectus 2020 is being drafted. The district continues to post updates and information to the district website social media.
- ThisWeek News – Sports - Quick Reads:

<https://www.thisweeknews.com/story/news/local/grandview-heights/2020/10/05/grandview-heights-roundup-cate-stanleys-hard-work-lands-her-first-singles/5874964002/>

<https://www.thisweeknews.com/story/sports/local/friday-night-live/2020/10/06/friday-night-live-divisions-iv-vii-first-round-playoff-previews/5900245002/>

### **Buidling Hybrid Learning Updates**

Mr. Culp asked each Principal to share with the Board of Education a status update on how hybrid learning is going in their buildings:

Mrs. Angie Ullum stated that when thinking about what is going well, it would be the excitement of the students and staff to be at school. She stated that you can feel the energy of the students and they are very excited to be there. She and her staff worried about the youngest learners having to wear a mask for 3 hours per day, but said they are doing amazing with wearing their masks. She is also very happy with how well the students are handling the changes in classroom setup. Mrs. Ullum also commended the School Nurse and Nurse's Aide for the procedures they have set up for students when they need to visit the nurse's office. One thing that Mrs. Ullum said they are continuing to work on is the balance of workload for students at home.

Dr. Quint Gage started by commending the staff and saying how proud he is of the work they have done for students. He also stated that the return to school in hybrid learning is going very well and everyone was excited to get back into the buildings. Teachers have reported that the smaller class sizes in hybrid learning have translated into more individualized attention and better outcomes for students. There are also fewer disruptions during the school day. Dr. Gage explained that the physical distancing protocols are going well. Paraprofessionals assist with cleaning and sanitizing the building during the lunch period. Dr. Gage also echoed that he believes the AM/PM model is very good, especially for the younger students, as it is very important to see them and have a consistent schedule every day. Dr. Gage reported that they are still working to find balance with students in terms of workload during the portion of the day they are learning remotely. He stated that they are expected to be participating in asynchronous learning opportunities. He stated that teachers have reported that the mid-year MAP data will be an important measure in assessing how the student learning experience is going.

Mr. Rob Brown stated that students are very excited to be back in school. He stated that he was very concerned for the mental and emotional impact on students of being in full virtual learning and feels like they are very happy and excited to be back to school. Teachers have also done a really great job of reshaping and rethinking what their content areas look like in the new hybrid model. Mr. Brown reported that he had similar issues with certain students struggling to complete assignments and he feels like this is magnified with half of the student day being at home. He is working with teachers to think creatively about how they can help meet students' needs. While the lunch period is focused on cleaning and sanitizing the building, he stated that they are also looking at allowing students to stay at school in study hall for extra time and extra help with completing assignments. Mr. Brown said that while the high school doesn't have MAP data to assess students, teachers have reported that they are very close to being on schedule compared to where they were last year. Mr. Brown also reported that he has noticed a significant improvement in student attendance since the beginning of hybrid learning. He believes that is due in part to the shorter 3-hour school day.

Mr. Deis thanked all of the technology staff for their tremendous teamwork in returning to the hybrid learning model. Because technology is so essential during hybrid learning, the technology staff is working long hours and long days and is strategically working to streamline technology support to the maximum extent possible to support teachers, students and families. During

this time of the school year, the technology staff typically has 30-40 help desk tickets and Mr. Deis reported that they have struggled to get below 150 tickets but are doing their best to address them as quickly as possible. He explained that the district is looking to hire a temporary technology assistant through the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio to help with student and staff support during this time of hybrid learning. He stated the technology team supports more than 100 different technology applications throughout the district.

Dr. Jamie Lusher stated that it has been a great opportunity as a team to spend the last several months planning and implementing the hybrid and virtual learning models. We currently have 70 students in the Florida Virtual Learning program and will be looking at some families transitioning to and from that learning model as we approach the end of the first 9 weeks. The district is also looking at assessment data as a team to shape how we continue to work meet the needs of students. Dr. Lusher also recognized the unique positive opportunities that this pandemic has provided for the district and for students.

### **Recommendations from Superintendent to the Board of Education:**

**Motion 21-036 (Board Policy and Procedure)** Mr. Gusé moved to approve the following:

1. Board Policy (Final Reading)  
Recommend the board approve the following policies on final reading.
  - a. AC – Nondiscrimination
  - b. ACA – Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex
  - c. ACAA – Sexual Harassment
  - d. ACAA-R – Sexual Harassment Grievance Process
  - e. AFAC-1 (Also GCN-1) – Evaluation of Professional Staff (OTES)
  - f. GCN-1 (Also AFAC-1) – Evaluation of Professional Staff (OTES)
  - g. IND/INDA – School Ceremonies and Observances/Patriotic Exercises
  - h. JED – Student Absences and Excuses
  - i. JEGA – Permanent Exclusion
  - j. JFCF – Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)
  - k. JFCF-R – Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)
  - l. JGD – Student Suspension
  - m. JGDA – Emergency Removal of Student
  - n. JGE – Student Expulsion
  - o. KG – Community Use of School Premises (Equal Access)
  - p. KLD – Public Complaints About District Personnel
  - q. KLD-R – Public Complaints About District Personnel
  - r. EBEA – Use of Face Coverings
  - s. GCPD – Suspension and Termination of Professional Staff Members
  - t. GDPD – Suspension, Demotion and Termination of Support Staff Members
  - u. JF – Student Rights and Responsibilities
  - v. JG – Student Discipline
  - w. KJA – Distribution of Materials in the Schools (Version 1)

Ms. Wassmuth seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion 21-037 (Business and Finance)** Mrs. Gephart moved to approve the following:

1. Five-Year Forecast  
Recommend the board approve the five-year forecast.
2. Property Value Settlement Agreement  
Recommend the board approve a property value settlement agreement with 855 Grandview, LLC.
3. Increase in Estimated Revenue and Appropriations  
Recommend the board approve the following increase in estimated revenue and appropriations:

(300-9118)	Girls Tennis, \$540
(018-9053)	GH/MC Education Foundation Grants, \$1,385

4. Then and Now Certifications  
Recommend the board approve the following then and now certifications:
  - a. Daniel York, baseball field fertilizer, PO #35892
  - b. Canal Winchester High School, Cross Country invitation fee, PO #35954
  - c. Northmoor Athletic Boosters, football team meal reimbursement, PO #35938
  - d. Geotechnical Consultants, construction vibration monitoring, PO #36013
  
5. Fund Transfer  
Recommend the board approve the transfer of \$3.19 balance from the High School Science Olympiad Fund (200-9109) to the Middle School Science Olympiad Fund (200-9204).
  
6. Fund Transfer  
Recommend the board approve a transfer of \$10.50 per student member into the Key Club Fund for the 2020-2021 school year.
  
7. E-Rate Services Contract  
Recommend the board approve a contract with AdTec, Inc., for e-rate services.
  
8. OSBA Services Agreement  
Recommend the board approve a service agreement with OSBA for the purpose of providing an Ohio Policy Service (OPS) Client Website Update.
  
9. Adaptive Physical Education Services Agreement  
Recommend the board approve a service agreement with Amy Tiefenthaler for the purpose of providing adaptive physical education services to students.
  
10. Statement of Work – Mental Health Specialist Services  
Recommend the board approve a statement of work with the Educational Services Center of Central Ohio for mental health specialist services.
  
11. The Bonner Academy at Cross Creek Contract  
Recommend the board approve a contract with The Bonner Academy at Cross Creek for day treatment services.
  
12. The Bonner Academy at Rosemont Contract  
Recommend the board approve a contract with The Bonner Academy at Rosemont for day treatment services.
  
13. Eagle Wings Academy Service Agreement  
Recommend the board approve an agreement with Eagle Wings Academy for special education instruction and services.
  
14. The Ohio State University Data Use Agreement  
Recommend the board approve a data use agreement with The Ohio State University for the purpose and receipt of research data.
  
15. Item for Disposal  
Recommend the board approve the following item for disposal:
  - a. #006668 Benchtop Autoclave Steam Sterilizer Worn connections/seals, outdated, unsafe
  
16. Change Order  
Recommend the board approve the following construction change order #5:

Drawing Changes	\$36,319.50
Additional demolition	\$16,609.90
Relocate unit heater in basement	\$3,653.73
Total	\$56,583.13

17. Julian & Grube Engagement Letter  
Recommend the board approve the letter of engagement with Julian & Grube for the 2019-2020 annual financial audit.
  
18. Donations  
Recommend the board accept the following donations from the Bobcat Boosters to support athletics:
  - a. \$47.32 to the Athletic Trainer for fall supplies
  - b. \$86.55 to the Athletic Trainer for fall supplies
  - c. \$3,200 to the Girls MS Soccer Team for uniforms
  - d. \$400 to the Boys Varsity Football Team and Cheer Team for gator masks
  - e. \$15.06 to the Athletic Trainer for fall supplies
  - f. \$752.92 to the Girls and Boys HS Cross Country Team for timing services
  - g. \$32.58 to the Athletic Trainer for fall supplies

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion 21-038 (Personnel)** Mr. Gusé moved to approve the following:

1. Degree Advancements  
Recommend the board approve the following degree advancements for the 2020-2021 school year:
  - a. Nicole Wainscott – MA+45
  - b. Lisa Colahan – MA+45
  - c. Doug Page – MA+45
  - d. Brittney Sharma – MA+30
  - e. Andrew Grega – MA+30
  
2. Home Instruction  
Recommend the board approve the following licensed employees to provide home instruction for the 2020-21 school year:
  - a. Maria Murphy, \$38.13 per hour, not to exceed five hours per week
  - b. Sara Hager, \$43.10 per hour, not to exceed five hours per week
  - c. RaeAnna Wieland, \$43.10 per hour, not to exceed five hours per week
  
3. Supplemental Contracts (GHEA, Article X, pg. 34-40)  
WHEREAS, the Board of Education has offered the following position(s) to those employees of the District who are licensed individuals and no such employee(s) qualified to fill the position(s) have accepted them/(it); and  
  
WHEREAS, the Board of Education advertised the following positions as available to any licensed individual who is qualified to fill the position and who is not an employee of the Board, and no such person has applied for and accepted the position(s);  
  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of Grandview Heights Schools hereby employs the individuals to fill the following positions for the 2020-2021 school year:
  - a. Josh Bellman; Wrestling, JV Coach, Class IV-1-2, \$3,005.31
  - b. Michael Dodge; Wrestling, Head Coach, Class I-2-9, \$6,225.29
  - c. Jeremy Evans; Wrestling, MS Coach, Class V-1-2, \$2,575.98
  - d. Kristi Mason; Cheerleader, Head Coach, HS, Winter, Class V-1-2, \$2,575.98
  - e. Chris Panknin; Wrestling, Assistant Varsity Coach, Class IV-1-2, \$3,005.31
  
4. Supplemental Contracts (GHEA, Article X, pg. 34-40)  
Recommend the board approve the following supplemental contracts for licensed employees for the 2020-2021 school year:
  - a. Ashley Artrip; Cheerleader, Varsity Assistant Coach, Winter, Class VI-1-3, \$1,717.32

- b. Rob Ballinger; Site Supervisor, Winter, \$2,200
  - c. Chris France; LPDC Coordinator, Class V-3-M, \$4,293.30
5. Licensed Stipends  
Recommend the board approve the following licensed stipends for the 2020-21 school year:
- a. Roni Pettit; LPDC Building Representative, \$1,500
  - b. Angela Pharion; LPDC Building Representative, \$1,500
6. Rescind Approval  
Recommend the board rescind approval of the following:
- a. Chris Herrmann; High School Musical Pit Orchestra, \$400
7. Contract Addendum  
Recommend the board approve the contract addendum for Jennie Clifton, Assistant Treasurer.
8. Kids' Club - Corrected Effective Dates  
Recommend the board approve the corrected effective date of September 1, 2020, for the following Kids' Club changes:
- a. Stephanie Adams; Team Leader – Intermittent Staff to Team Leader
  - b. Mackenzie Baily; Team Leader, \$14.03 per hour
  - c. Anne Brown; Team Leader, \$14.03 per hour
  - d. Juno Curtis-Odden; Recreation Leader, \$13.83 per hour
  - e. Jacqueline Dunn; Recreation Leader, \$14.03 per hour
  - f. Jaelynn Filio; Recreation Leader, \$12.72 per hour
  - g. Nate Lombardo; Team Leader, \$14.16 per hour
  - h. Kelly Miller; Program Specialist, \$20.83 per hour
9. Kids' Club Staff Changes  
Recommend the board approve the following Kids' Club staff change:
- a. Jack Kunkle; Intermittent Staff to Team Leader, effective September 3, 2020
10. Kids' Club Resignation  
Recommend the board approve the following Kids' Club resignation:
- a. Kylee Ramey, Intermittent Staff, effective September 16, 2020
11. Kids' Club Calendar  
Recommend the board approve the Kids' Club calendars for the 2020-2021 school year.

Discussion: Mr. Bode asked about contracts for winter sports coaches. In particular, there was some uncertainty with whether wrestling would move forward as a winter sport. Mr. Bode asked whether the district is comfortable moving forward with recommending contracts for wrestling coaches.

Mr. Culp reported that he had recently received information from OHSAA that wrestling was going to be full-go for the winter.

Mrs. Gephart seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion 21-039 (Other)** Mr. Truett moved to approve the following:

- 1. 2020 Capital Conference  
Recommend the board the following delegate and alternate delegate to the 2020 OSBA Capital Conference:

Delegate: Molly Wassmuth

Alternate: Kevin Gusé

Mrs. Gephart seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion 21-040 (Adjourn)** Mr. Gusé moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bode seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bode, aye; Mrs. Gephart, aye; Mr. Gusé, aye; Mr. Truett, aye; Ms. Wassmuth, aye.

President Truett declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

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President

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Treasurer