

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MINUTES OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting – September 1, 2021

The Grandview Heights Schools Board of Education met in special session in Room 2302 of Grandview Heights High School.

Call to Order: President Jesse Truett called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

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

Mr. Truett explained the purpose of the meeting is to review and share feedback on the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and that holding a work session for this purpose is new and not something that has been done in the past. He also explained this is also a coordinated effort to review the corresponding OSES and OTrES objectives.

Superintendent Andy Culp explained the intended outcomes for the work session included the following:

- To provide feedback on the district’s established CIP objectives;
- To provide feedback on the corresponding objectives contained in the Superintendent’s (OSES) and Treasurer’s (OTrES) annual evaluation work plans; and
- To provide feedback so as to improve the process.

He also explained that it is important to have unity in purpose and focus and that this facilitated process helps ensure that. Mr. Culp invited Ms. Jenny Hensley to facilitate this discussion as she facilitated a similar process with the district’s leadership team and he found tremendous value in that process.

Mr. Bode asked Mr. Culp if he could orient the Board with the CIP document as an introduction to the discussion.

Mr. Culp explained that the CIP is a sharpened version of the CIP that was in place last year. The leadership team reviewed the objectives and what was accomplished and updated the CIP for what the district hopes to accomplish by July, 2022. He explained that the first three objectives are very similar to those included in past years. Objective #4 was added around exploring a plan for addressing the athletic facilities and Stevenson Elementary.

Mr. Culp also explained that it is important to understand what is not included in the CIP. The CIP does not include a reboot of the strategic plan to dig into mission, vision, values, and goals. It also does not include a community-wide survey. The leadership team discussed both of these items and agreed that the timing was not right to pursue these ideas this year.

Ms. Jenny Hensley then led the group in the following:

- Exercise and discussion of norms of collaboration.
- Small group dreaming activity including what each group hopes to accomplish in the next 9 months and the next 9 years.
- Review of individual objectives in the CIP.

Discussion

Mr. Bode and Mrs. Gephart pointed out that the language and acronyms are somewhat difficult to understand as non-educators.

Mr. Culp explained the CIP as follows:

- First two pages of the CIP were developed as a summary of the branding process held several years ago. It includes the district’s mission, beliefs, and characteristics.
- Next two pages are an outward-facing high-level summary of the objectives.
- The final 4 pages are more detailed internal education language for the educational practitioners.

Mr. Gusé asked about how the district handles parent requests for alternative or independent work.

Mrs. Ullum explained that allowing alternative work when parents elect not to have their child participate in a specific lesson or assignment is something that is outlined and permitted in our Board policies. In those situations, teachers work with the families to develop alternate educational opportunities, which allows the teacher to continue with their original plans for all other students.

Mr. Culp asked the Board specifically to review and provide feedback on Objective 3.1 regarding planning for the athletic and Stevenson Elementary facilities.

Mr. Truett thanked Mr. Culp for bringing this up as there seemed to be differing views about next steps following the recent Board work session to discuss facilities.

Mr. Bode explained his recollection of that meeting. He feels that the athletic facilities and Stevenson Elementary are two very different projects that likely may require different design professionals and not necessarily one professional to do both. He recalled the Board's intent to have further discussions around the process and options including possibly consulting with Mr. Steve Turkes from Perkins + Will for some guidance.

Mr. Truett explained that when the district started the facility planning process about seven years ago, several Board members and administrators visited schools in other areas. The advice from those districts was to focus on a process and not the building itself. Mr. Truett explained that the district is currently working with a design professional from Perkins + Will that everyone is very happy with and it makes sense to talk to him about what the process would look like moving forward. At this point, not all board members agree on the first steps of a process, so asking for guidance from Mr. Turkes may be very helpful.

Mr. Bode agreed that there needs to be more discussion about the process. He stated that the Board could revisit the original plan, throw it out and start over, or just continue with the original plan. He feels like the Board should re-evaluate the original plan and discuss whether that plan still makes sense.

Mr. Truett explained that he believed the Board should move forward with the original plan and, therefore, thinks it is a good idea to meet and discuss the process with Mr. Turkes.

Mr. Truett also explained that for purposes of the CIP, he does think it would be a good idea to move forward with putting together a plan for Stevenson with the help of our current design professionals.

OTrES Objectives

Ms. Collier shared her OTrES work plan objectives and explained that those objectives directly align with the CIP objectives that were discussed.

Mr. Truett explained that he believes it is important for the Board and Finance Committee to continue to evaluate levy cycles, which is included in the OTrES objectives.

Mr. Bode also shared his belief regarding the importance of upcoming negotiations and in particular, evaluating health care plan trends, another item included in the OTrES objectives.

Motion 22-018 (Adjourn) Mr. Gusé moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Wassmuth 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:

President

Treasurer