

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**MINUTES OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting – May 8, 2024**

The Grandview Heights Schools Board of Education met in regular session in the Larson Middle School Media Center.

**Call to Order:** President Emily Gephart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

<b>Roll Call</b>	Members Present: Eric Bode Emily Gephart Kevin Gusé Katie Matney Molly Wassmuth	Members Absent:
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The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

***Board Meeting Minutes***

**Recommendation for Approval (Motion 24-073)** Mr. Bode moved to approve the following meeting minutes

1. Regular Meeting, April 10, 2024

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**Recognitions/Celebrations**

**Start Talking Grandview Prevention Advocate Award – Presented by Jane Miller**

Mrs. Jane Miller recognized and presented the Start Talking Grandview Prevention Advocate Award to Mr. Louis Essig.

**Student Garden Club – Advisor Mrs. Bobbie Penn and Members Ella Krouse, Megan Carini, Madi Barger, Ruthie McCain, Emily Warren, and Ellie Bills**

Mrs. Bobbie Penn and student garden club members recognized and thanked the following garden volunteers: Melissa Garland, Dave Garland, Maggie Yates, Mara Yates, Carmen Mendoza, Nickie Evans, and Dr. Rusty Lawyer.

**Retirements – Tom Gilbert, Bev Kaufman, Carrie O'Mara, Bobbie Penn, and Lisa Zag**

Mrs. Lisa Sullivan, Mr. Rob Brown and Mr. Shawn Hinkle recognized and thanked Grandview Heights Schools retirees Tom Gilbert, Bev Kaufman, Carrie O'Mara, Bobbie Penn, and Lisa Zag, for their years of service and dedication to the school district.

**Dot Keil**

Mr. Eric Bode recognized and thanked Mrs. Dot Keil for her support and consistent attendance at school board meetings.

**Recognition of Guests and Hearing of the Public**

Mr. Matt Palmisciano read the following statement to the Board of Education:

On the agenda this evening is a recommendation to approve the administrative contract for the athletic director. This contract would take effect on August 1<sup>st</sup> and extend for three years. I am asking that the decision on this contract be deferred pending a more detailed review and updated recommendations by the principal and superintendent. In my email to the Board this past Friday, I suggested that this was an excellent opportunity to review the performance of the athletic department over the past eight years under our current director's leadership. I was not aware until the agenda publication Friday that this contract will be up for vote this quickly. Earlier this week I had scheduled a meeting with the administration and the athletic director to review my questions and concerns. This meeting is actually scheduled for tomorrow morning. The delay in the award will allow the administration the time to hear concerns, ask questions, and determine if those concerns are valid and substantive, while still allowing time to make a recommendation prior to the first of August. Renewing this contract when there are some valid questions around performance seems rushed. If, however, for some administrative reason, the contract must be renewed tonight, I would ask the board to vote for a one-year contract renewal. This reduced time would preclude the district from being locked into a long-term commitment should the administration agree with my viewpoint. Thank you for your consideration.

Mr. John Ionno addressed the Board as follows:

I am here actually in support of the extension of the athletic director's contract. I've had the privilege to work with him through his tenure and even before here. As some of you may know, I have worked in youth sports here and coaching. All of you have a very difficult job. Every day, you hear things about, this could be better, this could be better, this could be better, but yet very often no one steps forward to volunteer to make things better. And in my experience with the athletic department, they strive to try to help improve what we do with athletics here. Is it perfect? No. There's always room for improvement. There's improvement with anything that is done at this school. All of us have room for improvement but I would like you to consider to move forward with that vote today. And thank you for this opportunity.

Mr. Bob Ghiloni addressed the Board as follows:

I am the boys' basketball coach here. I've had the privilege of being here for one year. I've lived in Grandview for 26 years and I don't know anybody. I spent 15 years at Bishop Ready High School. I spent 20 years at Denison University. And my daughters went to Bishop Ready under my guidance for better or worse. So, I didn't know a lot of people in the community. And, last spring, about a year ago, I accepted the position here and I've had the privilege of coaching basketball here for a year. And I've been working for Brad Bertani. And Brad has had a way of welcoming me to the community and making me part of the community, making sure I met people I needed to meet, whether they were part of the athletic department, they were part of the academic community, just good people in the community that you need to know these people. This is part of who we are, this is what we do. So, he's made me feel very welcome and he's been very supportive. We haven't agreed on everything. I can be a disagreeable person and I ask a lot of questions and I probe a lot and why are we doing this and how are we doing that? But there's always been respect both ways. And, what I've found with Brad, things are never contentious. It's always, okay, we've got to agree to disagree on this one, Bob. And I found that it's refreshing in a world where everything is contentious. And, quite honestly, it's been a privilege to work here and I've enjoyed working for Brad and I think I'm just here in support of him continuing to work here. Thank you.

**Presentation: Safety and Security – Presented by Director of Operations Jim Buffer and Assistant Principal Matt Wion**

Mr. Jim Buffer and Mr. Matt Wion presented to the Board of Education on Strategic Plan Priority #3, Providing a safe and secure learning environment and responsibly managing financial resources, human resources, and facilities to meet the needs of today's learners. A copy of the presentation is attached to this record of the meeting minutes.

**Discussion**

Mrs. Emily Gephart thanked Mr. Buffer and Mr. Wion for the presentation. She stated that she feels very comfortable with her kids every day in the schools. One question she asked was how students are trained for response to a safety incident not just within the building walls, but outside the building walls, such as at recess or during a field day when you can't really control as much what's happening outside.

Mr. Wion explained that what staff tell students is if something would happen when you are not in your normal classroom surroundings, go to where you feel the most safe. Outside the building, one of the places many students identify with is the public library. Also, many of our students live within very close proximity as a safe place. But, Mr. Wion also explained that when students are outside the building, there is always a strong staff presence to whom they can look to for direction.

Mrs. Gephart stated that there are concerns expressed about playground being in a public park and having parents feel a sense of confidence that their children know how to react in the event of a safety incident is important.

Mr. Buffer explained that with young elementary students, there's a balance in preparing them for possible safety incidents. He stated that the students and staff have safety drills where they evacuate and walk to a designated local safe place. In the park, at recess, though, it's a matter of staying vigilant. The district also has a new radio system for enhanced communication among staff members that has the capability to directly reach police dispatch.

Mr. Gary Sigrist, the district's safety consultant, joined Mr. Buffer and Mr. Wion and explained that he has met with every Stevenson staff member to discuss and address safety concerns including recess in the public park. He explained that without divulging details, certain procedures have been implemented to address the concerns. The district uses the safety incident command system which is what police and fire use, designing plans to address almost any type of security event. Teachers know their roles in those situations and children as young as K-3 are likely not even going to be aware of anything going on. Staff members wear vests outside so that children can easily identify them and other people can see that the district has a lot of adults watching what is going on. Mr. Sigrist explained at a high level he has spent days in all three buildings meeting with every teacher to discuss and problem solve their safety concerns. Mr. Sigrist stated that he would be comfortable with his own grandchildren attending school at Stevenson and commended the district for the culture of safety that exists. More important than locks and cameras is the culture and the sense of belonging that students feel in the school buildings.

The Board members and Mr. Culp thanked Mr. Buffer, Mr. Wion, and Mr. Sigrist for the work they are doing to help establish a culture of safety by building relationships and providing supports for students.

Mr. Gusé stated that he heard feedback from several parents following the bomb threat evacuation last year regarding the limited information provided to students during the incident. Thinking of best practices and reflecting on that incident, Mr. Gusé asked if there has been any discussion on how that could be handled in the future.

Mr. Sigrist explained that following the event, the district met with police and fire for an after-action review to discuss things that went well, things that can be improved upon, etc... He stated that while changes have been made, communication with students is always tough but the safety team is going to continue to work with local police and fire authorities to assess threats and respond appropriately without creating an overresponse.

**Agenda Modification (Motion 24-074)** Mr. Eric Bode moved to amend the agenda to vote on Personnel Item A.3. (employment contract for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Teacher, Chase Sandbloom) at this time.

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

### ***Personnel***

**Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-075)** Ms. Wassmuth moved to approve the following:

1. One-Year Certified Contracts  
Recommend the Board approve the following certified contracts effective for the 2024-2025 school year; pending successful results of background checks:
  - a. Chase Sandbloom; 7th Grade ELA Teacher, MA, Step 10, \$80,952

Mr. Bode seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

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

#### **Teaching and Learning – Celebrating Student Engagement**

This is both National Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week and National Nurses Week, and a special time to celebrate our amazing staff and retirees! ***With a combined 135+ years*** of service to Grandview Heights Schools students and the community, my hearty congratulations and gratitude to Tom Gilbert, Bev Kaufman, Carrie O'Mara, Bobbi Penn, and Lisa Zag! And many thanks to our PTOs and volunteers for celebrating and treating our staff well all week long!

During the month of May, learning often occurs outside the classroom as much as inside the classroom along with some beloved traditions. At Stevenson Elementary, a kindergarten clean-up at Pierce Park celebrated Earth Day. All Arts Day took place on April 26 with the support of many parent volunteers. The theme was Fairy Tales and there were various activities planned for students to work with musicians, dancers, and various artists in and around the building.

Third graders will soon travel up the hill to visit and prepare for their move to Larson Middle School. Plans are underway for Larson Middle Schools Fifth and Sixth Grade Outdoor Education Camps. The Class of 2024 will soon take their final walk through the buildings, known as the Senior Walk, as Grandview Heights Schools students. Our 109<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremony will take place Sunday, May 26, at 3 p.m. in the GHHS Auditorium.

Thank you to our grades K-6 PTOs, Brian Petit, Morgan Metcalf, Lisa Sullivan, and Carl Acton for making the Bobcat Revue comeback such a success! Our students had a blast!

Larson Middle School students experienced both virtual and future realities when Columbus City Schools Career Technical Education representatives visited our classrooms and shared 23 career industry options via 3D virtual reality glasses. Students “experienced” what careers in architecture, construction, health sciences, IT, public safety, manufacturing, transportation, and medical engineering would literally look like.

Grandview Heights High School held their second annual Poetry Slam event in which students from every grade level read their pieces to the entire student body. It was a great event that is inclusive and enriching to our entire school community. GHHS inducted 40 students into the National Honor Society recently for their commitment to the four pillars aligned with NHS: Character, Scholarship, Leadership, and Community Service.

Kids' Club Summer Program looks to educate and enrich 96 children this summer with a creative activity schedule and full staffing in place. We are proud to offer our students continued education throughout the summer!

### **District Wide**

Welcome to our new Mental Health Specialist Andrea Subler! Well-being is a Strategic Plan priority for Grandview Heights Schools and we are excited for Andrea to join us. We also welcome Chase Sandbloom, our new Grade 7 ELA teacher!

### **Community Engagement**

On Monday, May 20, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the Board of Education will hold a community meeting to inform and educate the community regarding exploring future possibilities for Stevenson Elementary and the K-12 Athletic Complex. A postcard invitation was mailed to every residence and business in Grandview Heights and Marble Cliff. A recording of this community meeting will be posted to our district's website as well.

Larson Middle School, in their last Bobcat Group meetings of the year, adopted gratitude as its focus. The groups traveled around town, handing out thank you notes to various businesses and services throughout the community and buildings. The day was capped off with a pep rally designed by the LMS Student Council which included a DJ volunteer from the local School of Rock.

The GHHS Best Buddies Club participated in the Best Buddies Friendship Walk and were well-represented by our students and supporters.

## ***Business and Finance***

### **Finance Presentation**

Treasurer Beth Collier presented the following financial highlights:

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

- General Fund Revenues
  - Taxes –100.03% of budget.
  - State Funding – 86.7% of budget.
  - State Share of Local Property Tax – 96.0% of budget.
  - Grandview Yard – 102.4% of budget.
  - Other Revenue – April Interest 80,369.45, (602,519.75 FYTD): \$110,218 Non-School TIF Revenue.
- General Fund Expenditures
  - FYTD Budget: 10 months (83.3%)
  - Total FY Expenditures: 83% of budget
- General Fund Investments
  - US Bank Investment account: average yield to maturity 3.04%
  - Star Ohio Yield – 5.47%

#### **Permanent Improvement Fund (003):**

- Unreserved Fund Balance: \$100,678.05
- Upcoming/ongoing projects:
  - Track Replacement
  - Stevenson master programming

Ms. Collier also presented the district's updated 5-year forecast with the following highlights:

#### **Forecast Uncertainties**

- State budget
- Proposed Legislation – Property Taxes
- Interest Rates
- Labor contracts
- Grandview Yard development PILOT's

#### **Changes Since May Forecast**

- 2023 Franklin County property reappraisal

#### **Overall Summary**

- Forecast is stable
- \$8.9 million cash balance in FY 2028
- \$5.5 million unreserved balance in FY 2028

- Overall, little change in projected revenues and expenditures

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Bode and Ms. Wassmuth reported the Finance Committee met on April 29<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following:

- 5-year forecast;
- Bond issue estimates;
- Threshold cost application submission to ODEW; and
- Permanent improvement fund budget.

### **Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-076)** Ms. Wassmuth moved to approve the following:

1. April Financial Reports  
Recommend the board approve the April 2024 financial reports.
2. 5-Year Forecast  
Recommend the Board approve the 5-year forecast.
3. Budget Adjustments  
Recommend the Board approve the following budget adjustments:

#### *Estimated Revenue*

Facility Donations (003-9002)	\$1,000.00
Class of 2024 (200-9134)	9,690.00
Class of 2025 (200-9135)	2,500.00
Middle School Band (300-9202)	3,800.00

#### *Appropriations*

Facility Donations (003-9002)	\$1,000.00
High School Student Council (200-9111)	2,000.00
Class of 2024 (200-9134)	8,000.00
Class of 2025 (200-9135)	6,000.00
Middle School Band (300-9202)	3,800.00

3. Then and Now Certification  
Recommend the Board approve the following then and now certifications:

PO 42931, College Board, online workshop  
 PO 43137, Davis Clock Services, repairs  
 PO 42907, Solartex, safety supplies  
 PO 43119, Jazz Arts Group, guest artist  
 PO 43167, Mary Ann Stephens, accompanist  
 PO 43169, Kristy Mason, softball supplies  
 PO 43171, Tractor Supply Co., supplies  
 PO 43112, VISA, supplies  
 PO 42954, VISA, supplies  
 PO 43173, VISA, supplies  
 PO 43198, Becky Lee, professional development  
 PO 43193, EMS LINQ (Titan), online payment fee  
 PO 43232, META, zoom meeting license  
 PO 43216, Educational Publisher, printing  
 PO 43226, State Security, fire inspection  
 PO 43222, Tyler Fitzgerald, baseball Spring Break trip rental car reimbursement  
 PO 43237, Baker Tilly, capital financial planning  
 PO 43262, Dooley Designs, softball apparel  
 PO 42203, City of Columbus Recreation Department, pool rental

4. Prodigy Travel Contract  
Recommend the Board approve a contract with Prodigy Student Travel for the 2024 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington D.C. trip.

5. Geotechnical Consultants Contract  
Recommend the Board approve a contract with Geotechnical Consultants, Inc., for construction observation and materials testing services for the Bobcat Stadium track replacement project, in the amount of \$9,000.
6. DJ Bern Entertainment Contract  
Recommend the Board approve an agreement with Ernest Paige, aka DJ Bern, for DJ services for the 2024 Grandview Heights High School Prom.
7. Mills James  
Recommend the Board approve an agreement with Mills James for consultation and installation of video studio equipment.
8. MA Design Proposal  
Recommend the Board approve a proposal from MA Design for experiential design and branding services for the following projects.
  - a. MS and HS Office Entrances
  - b. Graduation Portraits
  - c. Classroom Communication Boards
9. Resolution of Necessity  
Recommend the Board approve the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION DECLARING NECESSITY OF BOND ISSUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,525,000 AND TO  
SUBMIT THE QUESTION OF SUCH BOND ISSUE TO THE ELECTORS  
(Ohio Revised Code Section 133.18)**

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary to finance the construction and acquisition of certain permanent improvements to the School District's facilities through the issuance of general obligation bonds (the "Bonds," as further defined herein) for "one purpose" (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 133.01(Z)(4)) as described hereinbelow, which Bonds the School District has the power and authority to issue; and

WHEREAS, a resolution declaring the necessity of levying a tax outside the ten-mill limitation to pay the debt charges on the Bonds (and any securities issued in anticipation thereof) must be passed and certified to the County Auditor of Franklin County, Ohio (the "County Auditor") in order to permit the Board to consider the levy of such a tax, and must request that the County Auditor certify to the Board the current total taxable value of the School District and the estimated average annual property tax levy, expressed in mills for each \$1 of taxable value as well as in dollars for each \$100,000 of the "county auditor's appraised value" (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.01(P)), that the County Auditor estimates will be required to pay the debt charges on the Bonds (and any securities issued in anticipation thereof) over the stated maximum maturity of the Bonds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Grandview Heights City School District, Franklin County, Ohio, a majority of all of the members thereof concurring, that:

Section 1. It is necessary for the purpose of constructing school facilities and renovating, repairing, improving and expanding existing school facilities; furnishing and equipping the same; improving the sites thereof; and acquiring real estate and interests therein as necessary in connection therewith, to issue and sell bonds of the School District in the amount of \$69,525,000 (the "Bonds"). It is further necessary that there shall be annually levied on all the taxable property in the entire territory of the School District a tax outside of the ten-mill limitation to pay the debt charges on the Bonds and any securities that the Board may determine to issue in anticipation thereof. The Bonds shall be dated approximately December 1, 2024; shall have an estimated net average rate of interest of 5.00% per annum; and shall have the principal be paid over a maximum period not to exceed 36 years, as calculated under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 133.

Section 2. As authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 133.18, the question of issuing the Bonds shall be submitted to all of the electors in the entire territory of the School District at the election to be held on November 5, 2024. All of the territory of the School District is located in Franklin County, Ohio.

Section 3. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 133.18(C), the Treasurer of this Board is directed to immediately certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor so that the County Auditor may promptly

certify to the Board the current total taxable value of the School District and the estimated average annual property tax levy, expressed in mills for each \$1 of taxable value as well as in dollars for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, that the County Auditor estimates will be required to pay the debt charges on the Bonds (and any securities issued in anticipation thereof) over the stated maximum maturity of the Bonds.

Section 4. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

10. State Consents and Special Needs Approval  
Recommend the Board approve the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING STATE CONSENTS AND SPECIAL NEEDS APPROVAL  
TO ISSUE BONDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED  
\$69,525,000 AND TO SUBMIT THE QUESTION OF SUCH BOND ISSUE TO THE ELECTORS  
(Ohio Revised Code Section 133.06)**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED and hereby determined by the Board of Education of the Grandview Heights City School District, Franklin County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. It is necessary for the purpose of constructing school facilities and renovating, repairing, improving and expanding existing school facilities; furnishing and equipping the same; improving the sites thereof; and acquiring real estate and interests therein as necessary in connection therewith, to issue and sell bonds of the School District in an amount not to exceed \$69,525,000 (the "Bonds").

Section 2. The School District requests consents of the Tax Commissioner of Ohio and the Director of Education and Workforce to issue bonds in excess of 4% but not to exceed 9% of the tax valuation of said School District, all in accordance with Ohio Revised Code ("Revised Code") Section 133.06.

Section 3. The School District is hereby declared to be a "special needs" district within the meaning of Revised Code Section 133.06(E) because the student population of the School District is not being adequately serviced by the existing permanent improvements of the School District, and the School District cannot obtain sufficient funds by issuing securities within the net indebtedness limitations of Revised Code Section 133.06(B) to provide additional or improved needed permanent improvements in time to meet such needs.

Section 4. The School District requests consent and certification as an approved special needs district from the Tax Commissioner of Ohio and the Director of Education and Workforce to issue bonds in excess of 9% of the tax valuation of said School District, all in accordance with Revised Code Section 133.06.

Section 5. The Board intends to submit the question of issuing the Bonds to the electors of the entire territory of the School District at the election to be held therein on November 5, 2024. All of the territory of the School District is located in Franklin County, Ohio.

Section 6. The Treasurer of this Board (the "Treasurer") is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Director of Education and Workforce and to the Tax Commissioner of Ohio. The Superintendent of the School District and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to prepare, sign, and file such applications, forms, and other documents as may be necessary or appropriate in their judgment to accomplish the intent of this Resolution.

Section 7. All formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Revised Code Section 121.22.

11. Donations  
Recommend the Board accept the following donations:

- a. \$500 to the LMS Softball Team from Michael Moore/KRM Capital
- b. \$300 to the LMS Softball Team from Terry Wheeler

- c. \$160 to the GHHS Cedar Point Senior Trip from Nicole Donovsky
- d. \$666 to LMS for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp scholarships from the Grandview Civic Welfare Club

Mr. Gusé seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

**Agenda Modification (Motion 24-077)** Ms. Wassmuth moved to amend the agenda to move all remaining Personnel items to the end of the meeting.

Mrs. Matney seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

### ***Board Policy and Procedure***

**Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-078)** Mr. Gusé moved to approve the following:

1. Board Policies – Final Reading  
Recommend the Board approve the following policies on final reading.
  - a. IGEBA-R – Reading Skills Assessment and Intervention
  - b. KMA-R – Relations with Support Organizations
  - c. GBCB – Staff Conduct
  - d. IGAC – Teaching about Religion
  - e. IND/INDA – School Ceremonies and Observances/Patriotic Exercises
  - f. EBC – Emergency Management and Safety Plans
  - g. IGCH-R (also LEC-R) – College Credit Plus
  - h. IGDJ – Interscholastic Athletics
  - i. IGDK – Interscholastic Extracurricular Eligibility
  - j. KMA – Relations with Support Organizations
  - k. LEC-R (also IGCH-R) – College Credit Plus

Mrs. Gephart seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

### **First Reading**

1. Board Policies – First Reading  
Recommend the Board consider on first reading the following policy.
  - a. JED – Student Absences and Excuses

Mr. Bode asked how this policy was different than the existing policy.

Mr. Gusé explained that this policy has a stated number of days (17) while the existing policy did not.

Mr. Culp explained that this policy establishes more consistency district-wide and gives administration some additional leverage to address chronic absenteeism. It does provide exceptions for a student with a doctor's note.

### ***Curriculum and Instruction***

#### **Teaching and Learning Committee Report**

Mr. Gusé reported the committee met and discussed the following topics:

- Virtual Reality Career Day
- Possible collaboration with University of Cincinnati for students to earn college credit hours in high school
- ELA curriculum options
- Cell phone policy

### ***Co-Curricular Activities and Extra-Curricular Activities***

**Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-079)** Ms. Wassmuth moved to approve the following:

1. Volunteers  
Recommend the Board approve volunteers, as presented.



Mr. Bode seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

### ***Discussion Topic – HB 250 Cell Phones***

Mr. Culp explained that the Ohio Legislature is considering a bill that would require school districts to adopt a student cell phone use policy. While the bill has not yet been passed, it is likely that it will eventually pass. If passed in the current form, it would take effect 90 days later and would require districts to adopt the policy before the following July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Gephart added that all legislation, unless accompanied by an emergency clause, becomes effective in 90 days.

Mr. Culp explained that there is nothing that would prevent the district from adopting a policy prior to that. He also explained that the advice from the Ohio School Boards Association is that such a policy would be broad and would provide protections for the Board (e.g. giving Administrators the authority to confiscate phones if needed, and the Board not being responsible for lost phones). The recommendation would be for the policy to remain broad and the student code of conduct to include more specificity.

Mr. Culp also explained that the district administration has been discussing student cell phone issues for some time, even before the legislation was proposed, and the overall view is that there is a desire for more restrictions on cell phone use in grades k-8, while the view at the high school level is to encourage students to use phones responsibly.

Mr. Bode asked what the current guidelines are for student cell phone use.

Mr. Culp explained that the district does not currently have a board policy on cell phone use. However, in practice, there are guidelines and expectations surrounding cell phone use in all three buildings and, in particular at the high school level it varies somewhat among teachers.

Ms. Wassmuth asked if there are any guidelines or policies regarding academic freedom. For example, would teachers have the autonomy to use cell phones for an academic lesson despite having a policy that restricts use.

Mr. Culp explained that the policy would allow school districts the autonomy to develop the practices they see fit. He also explained that anything that could be done on a cell phone could also be done on a student chrome book.

**Motion 24-080 (Executive Session)** Ms. Wassmuth moved to enter into Executive Session for the following purpose:

- a. To consider the employment contract of personnel.

Mrs. Matney seconded the motion.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

The Board of Education entered into Executive Session at 8:54 p.m.

The Board of Education returned to Regular Session at 9:47 p.m.

### ***Personnel***

**Recommendations for Approval (Motion 24-081)** Mr. Gusé moved to approve the following:

1. Certified Resignations  
Recommend the Board accept the following certified resignations, effective end of the 2023-2024 school year:
  - a. Marissa Osborn; Spanish Teacher
  - b. Julia Grawemeyer; ELL/French Teacher
2. Classified Separation of Employment  
Recommend the Board accept the following separation of employment:
  - a. Shaquille Jefferson; Custodian, effective 4/25/2024
3. Classified Substitute  
Recommend the Board approve the following classified substitute for the 2023-2024 school year:

- a. Edward Jackson-Williams; Substitute Custodian, \$17.52 per hour, pending successful results of background checks
4. Classified Summer ESY  
Recommend the Board approve the following classified staff for 2024 summer ESY:
  - a. Xiamara (Myra) Bombay; Substitute Paraprofessional, \$17.14 per hour
  - b. Aja Price; Paraprofessional, \$20.65 per hour
5. Certified Teacher Position Change  
Recommend the Board approve the following certified position change for the 2024-2025 school year:
  - a. Alexandra McKahan; Teacher, from Kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
6. Degree Advancement  
Recommend the Board approve the following degree advancement for the 2024-2025 school year:
  - a. Jenny Callif; Masters +45
7. Administrator Contracts  
Recommend the Board approve the following administrator contracts:
  - a. Sam Belk; High School Principal, \$122,004, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2027
  - b. Brad Bertani; Athletic Director, \$115,962, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2027
  - c. Jim Buffer; Director of Operations, \$118,000, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2026
  - d. Shawn Hinkle; Middle School Principal, \$111,395, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2027
  - e. Denise McGee; Student Services and Information Coordinator, \$55,697, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2027
  - f. Nichole Smith; Assistant Director of Kids' Club, \$48,000, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2025
  - g. Matt Wion; Assistant Principal (LMS & GHHS), \$90,640, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2027
  - h. Angela Ullum; Chief Academic Officer, \$137,016, effective 8/1/2024 – 7/31/2027
8. Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Contract  
Recommend the Board approve a one-year contract for Hayley Head, \$62,597, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, effective July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, as contained in the appendix.
9. Administrator/Supervisor Salaries  
Recommend the Board approve the following administrator/supervisor salaries, effective 8/1/2024:
  - a. Kristina Brannon; Human Resources Coordinator, \$82,400
  - b. Robert Brown; Chief Student Growth and Development Officer, \$129,692
  - c. Chris Deis; Chief Technology Officer, \$137,610
  - d. Amy Gardner; Kids' Club Director, \$58,527
  - e. Kyle Mahan; Food Service Director, \$63,095
  - f. Jamie McClary; EMIS Coordinator, \$67,073
  - g. Matt Mowry; Systems Administrator, \$87,838
  - h. Lisa Sullivan; Elementary School Principal, \$109,273
10. Certified Staff for Reappointment  
Recommend the Board approve the following certified staff for reappointment:  
  
One-Year Limited Teacher Contracts  
Isabelle Buerger; 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Joan Grundey; 1-year (Retire/Rehire)  
Jane O'Shaughnessy; 1 year (.5 FTE), (Retire/Rehire)  
Kelly Berlin; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Amanda Graver; 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Kelly Haire; 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Emily Mascia; 3<sup>rd</sup> year

Alexandra McKahan; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Elizabeth Hughes; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Jennifer Olis; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Kyle Precht; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Anna Roth; 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Emmalee Sima; 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Adam Smale; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Andrea Subler; 1<sup>st</sup> year  
Sophie Turner; 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
JoLynn Wheatley; 3<sup>rd</sup> year  
Anthony Wappner; 3<sup>rd</sup> year

Two-Year Limited Teacher Contracts

Lindsey Harper  
Thomas Stanley  
Carrie Szlag

Three-Year Limited Teacher Contracts

Jessica Fields  
Allison Kukura  
Elizabeth Mora  
Olivia Nunner  
Sarah Feeney

Five-Year Limited Teacher Contracts

Dan Colahan  
Brian Petit  
Brittny Sharma

11. Non-Certified Stipends

Recommend the Board approve the following non-certified stipend for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp for the 2023-2024 school year:

- a. Blake Pettit; \$600

12. Extended Days for the 2024-2025 School Year

Recommend the Board approve the following extended days for the 2024-2025 school year:

- a. Marc Alter, Explore Program Director – 3
- b. Stephanie Doran, Counselor – 3
- c. Amy Elliott, Nurse – 15
- d. Jessica Fields, 21st Century Learning Coach – 15
- e. Kristi Jump, Media Specialist – 3
- f. Erin Engle, Media Specialist – 2
- g. Abby Keller, School Psychologist – 8
- h. Abby Mally, Counselor – 10
- i. Jane O'Shaughnessy, Counselor – 3
- j. Bryan Stork, Counselor – 20
- k. Kelly Berlin, Psychologist – 5
- l. JoLynn Wheatly, Mental Health Specialist – 1
- m. Allison Kukura, Teacher, New Teacher Foundations Training – 1
- n. Andrea Subler, Mental Health Specialist – 1

13. Orton-Gillingham Summer Instruction

Recommend the Board approve the following staff to provide Orton-Gillingham summer instruction at the rate of \$60 per hour:

- a. Elizabeth Weaver

14. Job Descriptions  
Recommend the Board approve the following updated job descriptions, as contained in the appendix.
- a. JV Boys Golf
  - b. Career and Workforce Coordinator
15. Kids' Club Personnel  
Recommend the Board approve the following Kids' Club new hire:
- a. Gracie Davis; Recreation Leader, \$15.20 per hour, effective 5/27/2023
16. Kids' Club Personnel Changes  
Recommend the Board approve the following Kids' Club personnel changes:
- a. Peyton Hunt; Recreation Leader to Substitute, \$15.99 per hour, effective 5/27/2024
17. Kids' Club Resignations  
Recommend the Board accept the following Kids' Club resignations:
- a. Stephanie Adams; Summer Team Leader, effective 4/1/2024
  - b. Sam Delio; Substitute, effective 4/15/2024
  - c. Serenity McCardle; Recreation Leader, effective 4/11/2024
18. Kids' Club Supplemental Yoga Instructor  
Recommend the Board approve the following Kids' Club 2024 summer program supplemental position:
- a. Aja Price; Yoga Instructor, 5 hrs per week at a rate of \$45.00 per hour, total not to exceed \$1,912.50

Mrs. Matney seconded the motion

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

Motion carried 5-0.

### ***Adjournment***

**Motion 24-082 (Adjourn)** Ms. Wassmuth moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gusé seconded the motion.

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

President Gephart declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

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President

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Treasurer



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SCHOOLS

# Safety and Security

Strategic Priority 3  
Safety and Resourcing

*May 2024*

# Strategic Priority Goal

Provide a safe and secure learning environment and responsibly manage financial resources, human resources, and facilities to meet the needs of today's learners.

# Desired Outcomes

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Develop a system to provide oversight and supervision of facilities during non-school hours.

- The middle school athletic director now coordinates staff coverage of all non-school events on the weekend.
- A Grandview staff member is present throughout the event to monitor and to ensure the facilities are secured upon completion of the event(s).
- This has proven to be a successful initiative.

# Desired Outcomes

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Conduct regular safety audits with a team of experts and provide additional training to ensure all are prepared for an emergency or security incident.

- The District has contracted with Safeguard Risk Solutions to review and collaboratively enhance our safety training and procedures.
- Part of this work has been collaborative, constructive meetings between District and building administrators with the leadership of the City of Grandview Heights Police and Fire.
- One outcome of this partnership is the attendance of fire and police officials at our school emergency drills so that they can offer their expertise.



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# Current Practices\*

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- Safety Day:
  - The purpose of Safety Day was to prepare staff and students with the knowledge necessary if an emergency situation were to occur.
- Exercises:
  - Conduct mandated drill requirements throughout the school year.
- Local Police, Fire, and District Security Consultant:
  - Invite to all exercises providing an opportunity to observe, reflect and debrief.
- Facilities:
  - Implementation of safeguards to keep people out of the building that do not belong.

\*These measures are evaluated and enhanced on an annual basis.

# Culture and Connections

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How do we intentionally create a culture that makes all kids feel like they belong?  
Students who feel a sense of belonging and acceptance are far less likely to carry out violent ideations.

- Bobcat groups
- ROX (Ruling Our Experiences—female empowerment)
- MTSS (Counselors and Mental Health Specialists K-12)
- Clubs
- Mentors
- Student lead initiatives - hs students tutoring ms students.
- Arts Day
- Field days and Super Games
- Staff in hallways for transitions
- Small group counseling sessions
- Responsive classroom practices at Stevenson



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# Questions and Discussion