

**REGULAR MEETING  
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,  
November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**GBE approved 12/14/2023**

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, November 30, 2023, in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Sean McKenna, Griswold Superintendent of Schools.

**PRESENT**

Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga; Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik, Griswold BOE Members.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubeck, GMS Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Thomas O'Connor, GPS Food Service Director; and Thomas Verville, GPS Facilities Director.

**ABSENT**

Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; and Jackie Love, GES Assistant Principal.

2. Pledge of Allegiance -The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of the Minutes
  - A. Special Meeting- November 9, 2023

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Mary Beth Malin  
To approve the special meeting minutes of November 9, 2023, as presented.  
Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Stuart Norman, Jr. and Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton.  
Nays –  
Abstain – Martin Osga; Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik.  
Motion carried.

B. Special Meeting – November 14, 2023

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Mary Beth Malin  
To approve the special meeting minutes of November 14, 2023, as presented.  
Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Martin Osga and Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton.  
Nays –  
Abstain – Stuart Norman, Jr., Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik  
Motion carried.

4. Communications

A. November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, MEMO from Superintendent McKenna to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance – The Board received a copy of the memo to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance.

5. Public Comments - None.

6. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed.) – There were no consent agenda items to review this evening.

7. New Business

A. Election of Officers of the Newly Elected Board of Education: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson; and Secretary – The Superintendent read the following statement:

The election of officers will be consistent with Robert’s Rules of Order. Nominations will come from the floor (from the Board). Nominations do not require a second. Once it becomes certain that nominations have ended for a particular office, the individual running the meeting will ask 3 times if there are any additional nominations. Providing that there are no more nominations for a particular office, the nominations will close. Board of Education bylaw 9120 stipulates the Board will elect by “roll call.” Once a nominee has received a majority vote, that vote will prevail. Once a chair prevails, the Superintendent will turn the meeting over to the chair who will conduct the nominations for Vice Chair and Secretary.

At this time, the Superintendent opened the floor and called for nominations for Board Chair. Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton nominated Mary Beth Malin. Martin Osga nominated Stuart Norman, Jr. After three calls for any more nominations in which there were none, the Superintendent closed the nominations and the Board voted as follows:

Stuart Norman received votes from Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, and Jennifer Norman.

Mary Beth Malin received votes from Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, and Cathy Waselik. **Mary Beth Malin prevailed** and was named Chair of the Griswold Board of Education. The Superintendent turned the meeting over to Mrs. Malin to continue on with the meeting.

Griswold BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin, opened the floor for nominations for Board of Education Vice – Chair. Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton nominated Yvonne Palasky. Stuart Norman, Jr. nominated Marty Osga. After three calls for additional nominations in which there were none, the BOE Chair closed the nominations for Vice Chair and the Board voted and follows:

Yvonne Palasky received votes from Yvonne Palasky, Mary Beth Malin, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton and Cathy Waselik.

Martin Osga received votes from Martin Osga, Stuart Norman, Jr., and Jennifer Norman.

**Yvonne Palasky prevailed** as Griswold BOE Vice-Chair.

Griswold BOE Chair, Mary Beth Malin, opened the floor for nominations for Board of Education Secretary. Yvonne Palasky nominated Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton. Stuart Norman, Jr. nominated Jennifer Norman. After three calls for additional nominations in which there were none, the BOE Chair closed the nominations for Secretary and the Board voted as follows:

Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton received votes from Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton and Cathy Waselik.

Jennifer Norman received voted from Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, and Jennifer Norman.

**Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton** prevailed as Griswold BOE Secretary.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Proposed Jewett City Electric, DPU, GHS LED Lighting Retrofit Project – The Board approved a proposal from the Jewett City DPU for an LED lighting retrofit project at Griswold High School.

**MOTION**

By Stuart Norman, Jr.

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To approve the Jewett City DPU LED Lighting Retrofit Project for GHS, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Capital Committee Project Proposals for the 2024-2025 School Year – The Board reviewed and revised the list of Capital requests for the 2024/2025 school year and approved them as prioritized.

**MOTION**

By Jennifer Norman

Seconded by Martin Osga

To accept the Capital Committee Proposal requests for the 2024/2025 school year, as discussed.

Motion unanimously carried.

9. Administrator's Reports

- A. Food Services Department Report – Tom O'Connor – GPS Food Service Director, Mr. Tom O'Connor, provided an update to the Board on the progress of his department.
- B. Financial Update, 2023/2024 SY—Deb Martin, Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services – The Board received an update on the current financial status of the 2023/2024 school budget from Deb Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services.

10. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Board received an update on recent vacancies, appointments, and resignations.
- B. Superintendent's Timely Updates
- i. Alternative School Move from Route 201 to Soule Street
  - ii. Kindergarten Age Requirement for the 2024/2025 School Year
  - iii. Budget Development Booklet (separate document)

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The Board received some timely updates from the Superintendent on the topics listed above, items i. through iii.

**11. Committee/Board Reports**

- A. Facilities Subcommittee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Martin Osga on the work of the Facilities subcommittee.
- B. Town of Griswold, Capital Committee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Martin Osga, who serves as the Board of Education member appointed to the Town of Griswold, Capital Committee. He provided feedback on their most recent meeting.
- C. Town of Griswold, Board of Finance—Sean McKenna – The Board received an update from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, on the recent Town of Griswold, Board of Finance meeting that took place.

**12. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board** – Mary Beth Malin asked all Board members to e-mail her by December 6, 2023, to inform her of the subcommittees they would be interested in serving on.

Yvonne Palasky congratulated Sean McKenna on a job well done with a recent presentation he gave at this year's CABA/CAPSS Convention.

The Superintendent gave a shout out to congratulate the GHS football team for a great season.

**13. Adjournment**

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton  
To adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting at  
6:56 PM.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak