

**GBE approved 6/12/2023**

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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 Mary Beth Malin, Chair of the Griswold Board of Education.

**PRESENT**

Mary Beth Malin, Griswold BOE Chair; Yvonne Palasky, BOE Vice-Chairman; Joyce Rice, Griswold BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr., (entered at 6:04 PM); Martin Osga, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, and Scott Freyer, BOE Members.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Director, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services and Griswold Alternative School; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; and Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal.

**ABSENT**

Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; and Jackie Love, GES Assistant Principal.

Pledge of Allegiance -The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of the Minutes
  - A. Regular Meeting- May 8, 2023

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To approve the regular meeting minutes of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as presented.  
Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Joyce Rice, Martin Osga, and Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton.  
Nays –  
Abstain – Scott Freyer  
Motion carried.

3. Communications
  - A. Letter of Thanks to Walmart-Lisbon for Providing a Free Clinic at Griswold Elementary School to Repair Eyeglasses for Students and Staff – The Board received a copy of a letter to Walmart-Lisbon, thanking them for providing free clinics for eye glass repairs to the GPS student body.
4. Recognitions
  - A. Honoring Griswold High School Music Teacher/Drama Advisor, Raymond Churchill, for the Successful Musical Production of *The Wedding Singer* - The Board, the Superintendent, administrators, and audience members recognized Ray Churchill for his great success with the recent spring musical, *The*

*Wedding Singer.* The Superintendent wished to take a moment to thank Mr. Churchill for all of his hard work and dedication to our students.

- D. Honoring Griswold High School Technology Teacher, Andrew Meislitzer, for being accepted to the GenCyber Teacher Academy at the University of New Haven - The Superintendent was pleased to report that Andrew Meislitzer was recently accepted into a summer teacher academy with a focus on Cyber Security, a growing field where students can begin learning more about it here at Griswold High School. The Superintendent would like to thank Andrew for his renewed interest in this field of technology and is looking forward to offering this new course to our students in the future.
- E. Thanking Walmart-Lisbon for Providing a Free Clinic at Griswold Elementary School to Repair Eyeglasses for Students and Staff - The Superintendent wished to publicly thank the Walmart – Lisbon Vision Center for providing free eye glass repair clinics to the students in the Griswold Public Schools. A letter signed by both the Superintendent and the BOE Chair will be mailed to thank them, with gratitude, for volunteering their time to our students.
5. Public Comments – There were no requests for public comment.
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 items listed under consent agenda this evening.
7. New Business
- A. Review and Discussion on New Bylaw, 9160—Student Representatives on the Board of Education—First Reading – The Board reviewed new Bylaw 9160 as a first reading and will add it to the next BOE meeting agenda for review, discussion, and action to approve.
- B. Review and Discussion on New Policy, 6162.51—Instruction—Surveys of Students (Student Privacy)—First Reading – The Board had a first reading of new policy 6162.51 and Stuart Norman, Jr. had a few questions related to the policy. This may go back to the Policy subcommittee for more review before forwarding to the full BOE as a second reading.
- C. Review and Discussion on New Regulation, 6162.51—Instruction—Surveys of Students (Student Privacy)—First Reading – The Board had a first reading of new regulation 6162.51 and will add it to the next BOE meeting agenda for review, discussion and action to approve.
- D. \*Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Agreement between Griswold Public Schools and STA (Student Transportation of America)-Connecticut\* - The Board referred this item to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for discussion and possible action.
- E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Setting Dates, Time, and Location for the Regularly Scheduled Meetings of the Griswold Board of Education for the 2023-2024 School Year—July, '23 – June, '24 – The Board approved the proposed BOE meeting dates, times, and locations for the 2023/2024 school year with a recommendation to meet on Thursdays at 6 PM in the GMS Café.

**MOTION**

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Scott Freyer

To accept the revised meeting schedule for the 2023/2024 school year of the Board of Education the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at 6 PM in the GMS cafeteria.

Motion unanimously carried.

- F. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Move the Existing Stone Sign on Campus to a Safe Location - The Board discussed and approved moving the existing stone sign on campus to a new location so they can mark the project as complete in front of the Griswold Public Schools.

**MOTION**

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Scott Freyer

To move the existing stone sign on campus to a new and safe location.

Motion unanimously carried.

- G. Review and Discussion on Athletic Participation Numbers - The Board received an update from the Superintendent on the participation numbers for spring sports. The Superintendent also reported that there will be a plan – should the budget prevail for next school year - to bring forward girls Lacrosse at GHS and GMS girls and boys soccer as official sports. They will no longer be considered spring sports.

- H. \*Review and Discussion on Superintendent’s Evaluation Report\* - This item was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for review.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Discussion on Scheduled Town Meeting Date for May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and for Town Referendum on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – The Board received a reminder from the Superintendent on upcoming important meeting dates regarding the 2023/2024 school and town budgets.

9. Administrator’s Reports

- A. Ensuring Equity Committee Update—Chris Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services – The Board received an update from Chris Champlin regarding the recent meeting that took place with the district-wide committee that meets regularly throughout the school year.

- B. Financial Update on the 2022-23 Budget—Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services – The Board received an update from Deb Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, regarding the current status of the 2022/2023 school budget.

- C. Financial Update on Student Activities Accounts—Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services – The Board received an update from Deb Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, regarding the student activity accounts for each school.

10. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – There were no vacancies, appointments, resignations, or retirements to report on at this BOE meeting.
- B. Timely Updates
  - 1. Alternative School Project – The Board received an update on the current alternative school project, which would include renovating the former Senior Center in town to the home of the new Griswold Alternative School.
  - 2. Community Multipurpose Field Project – The Board received an update on the current progress of the new community multi-purpose field project.

11. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Policy Subcommittee—Yvonne Palasky – The Board received an update from Yvonne Palasky on the work of the Policy subcommittee. She reported that tomorrow's Policy meeting will be canceled.
- B. Public Relations Subcommittee—Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton – The Board received an update on the work of the Public Relations subcommittee.
- C. Transportation Subcommittee—Mary Beth Malin – The Board received an update from Mary Beth Malin on the recent work of the Transportation subcommittee.
- D. Facilities Subcommittee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update from Marty Osga on the recent work of the Facilities subcommittee.
- E. School Building Committee—Martin Osga – The Board received an update on the recent work of the School Building Committee.
- F. Town Committee for Community Multi-Purpose Field—Martin Osga - The Board received an update on the recent work of the Town Committee overseeing the Multi-Purpose field project.

12. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board - Yvonne Palasky, BOE Chair, reported that she attended the art show that took place at Griswold Elementary School and what a great job they did.

Superintendent McKenna wanted to acknowledge that Walmart Lisbon Vision Center came this week and provided another free clinic for GHS students.

**MOTION**

By Yvonne Palasky  
Seconded by Joyce Rice  
To move into executive session at 6:24 PM for the purpose of discussing New Business - 7D - Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Agreement between Griswold Public Schools and STA (Student Transportation of America) - Connecticut and 7H - Review and Discussion on Superintendent's Evaluation Report.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Yvonne Palasky left the executive session portion of the meeting at 7:00 PM due to another commitment.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:15 PM.

7D

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Scott Freyer  
To forward the agreement between the Griswold Public Schools and STA (Student Transportation of America) Connecticut agreement.  
Motion unanimously carried.

13. Adjournment

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton  
To adjourn the Griswold BOE meeting at 7:16 PM.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna