

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,
August 10th, 2023**

GBE APPROVED 8/31/2023

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, August 10th, 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-Chair; Joyce Rice, Griswold BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr.; Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton and Scott Freyer, BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; and Jim Collins, GPS Director of Security.

ABSENT Martin Osga, Griswold BOE Member; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Director, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services and Griswold Alternative School; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; 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- June 26, 2023

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the regular meeting minutes of June 26th,2023, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of July 17th,2023, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of July 20th,2023, as presented.
Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Joyce Rice, Stuart Norman, Jr., Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Nays –
Abstain – Scott Freyer
Motion carried.

3. Communications

- A. July 12th, 2023, Letter of Inquiry from Eric Protulis, Director of EASTCONN
- B. July 12th, 2023, Letter of Condolence from Christopher Sanford, Headmaster Woodstock Academy
- C. July 19th, 2023, Letter to First Selectman Dana Bennett on 4th Quarter Financial Report

The Board received a copy of all communications listed above, A-C.

4. Public Comments – There were no requests for public comment.

5. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Suggested Topics and Associated Board of Education Meeting Calendar for the 2023/2024 School Year

MOTION

By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

To approve the suggested topics and associated Board of Education meeting calendar for the 2023/2024 school year.

Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Suggested Board of Education Subcommittee Dates for the 2023/2024 School Year

MOTION

By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

To approve the suggested Board of Education subcommittee dates for the 2023/2024 school year.

Motion unanimously carried.

- C. Review and Discussion on Developing Proposals for Re-Naming the Alternative School and the Concession Stand near the Community Multi-Purpose Field

- 1. The Concession Stand: The Superintendent reported that the Athletic Booster Club have informally discussed naming the concession stand. The name would be something in line with the Wolverine brand standards and concepts. There was a suggestion that this be put out to the students at GHS through a survey and then names would be forwarded to the Facilities subcommittee for review.
- 2. The Griswold Alternative School – The topic of changing the name of the Griswold Alternative School to something new has been discussed with different stakeholders and most of all with Chris Champlin, our Alternative School Principal. Given that the term “Alternative School” has fallen out of favor, there has been discussion about renaming the site.

6. Unfinished Business

- A. Pending Claim & Attorney Client Privilege Communication as it Relates to a Personnel Matter* - This item was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for discussion.

7. Administrator's Reports

- A. Audit Report for the 2022 Fiscal Year and Preparation for Upcoming Audit – The Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, Mrs. Deborah Martin, provided an update to the Board on where things stand with the 2022 audit. She also reported to the Board that she has started working with the auditors on the 2023 audit by providing grant and student activity fund information.
- B. Building Security & Electronic Access – Jim Collins, Director of Safety & Security* – This item was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for discussion.

8. Superintendent's Report

- A. Update, Discussion, and Questions and Answer Segment on the Community Multi-Purpose Field Project with Superintendent McKenna and Clerk of the Works, Wes Greenleaf - The Superintendent and Wes Greenleaf provided an update to the Board on where things stand with the Community Multi-Purpose field project. A grand opening is currently scheduled to take place on September 8th, 2023.
- B. Update, Discussion, and Questions and Answer Segment on the Conversion of the Senior Center/Alternative School Renovation Project with Superintendent McKenna and Clerk of the Works, Wes Greenleaf – The Board received an update from Superintendent McKenna and Wes Greenleaf on the conversion of the former Griswold Senior Center to the new location for the Griswold Alternative School. At this time, it was reported that the project is running on time.
- C. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received an update on recent vacancies/appointments/resignations.

9. Committee/Board Reports

- A. School Building Committee—Mary Beth Malin – Mary Beth had nothing to report as it was already discussed this evening under the Superintendent's report.
- B. Town Committee for Community Multi-Purpose Field—Mary Beth Malin - Mary Beth had nothing to report as it was already discussed this evening under the Superintendent's report.

10. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board - There was no other business to report on this evening.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To move into executive session at 6:20 PM for the purpose of discussing 7B under administrators' report – Building Security & Electronic Access, inviting Jim Collins to attend, and for the purpose of discussing 6A under unfinished business - Pending claims & attorney client privilege communication as it relates to a personnel matter, inviting Sean McKenna and Deb Martin to participate.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:47 PM with no action taken.

11. Adjournment

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To adjourn the Griswold BOE meeting at 6:47 PM.

Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna