

**SPECIAL MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,
November 9th, 2023**

DRAFT

1. A special meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, November 9, 2023, in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria, located on the first floor, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Mary Beth Malin, Chair of the Griswold Board of Education.

PRESENT

Mary Beth Malin, Griswold BOE Chair; Yvonne Palasky, Griswold BOE Vice-Chairman; Joyce Rice, Griswold BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr. (entered at 5:23 PM); Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton and Scott Freyer, Griswold BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT

Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Katy Sawaryn, GPS Family Services & Engagement Coordinator; Patricia Feeney and Jessica Gillespie, GPS Coordinators of Teaching, Learning & Innovation.

ABSENT

Martin Osga, BOE Member; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; 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- October 26th, 2023

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Joyce Rice

To approve the regular meeting minutes of October 26th, 2023, as presented.

Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Joyce Rice, and Martin Osga.

Nays –

Abstain – Scott Freyer.

Motion carried.

3. Communications - None.

4. Recognitions

- A. Recognition of Board of Education Members, Joyce Rice and Scott Freyer – Fellow BOE members, the Superintendent, administrators, and audience members, recognized and thanked two outgoing Griswold Board of Education members, Mrs. Joyce Rice and Mr. Scott Freyer, for serving the children, families, and faculty and staff of the Griswold Public Schools. They were each provided with a plaque to recognize and thank them for their service to the Griswold Public Schools.

- B. Recognition of Griswold Forward Recipient, GMS Teacher of English/ELA, Alexa Ondreicka – The Board, the Superintendent, administrators, and audience members recognized Alexa Ondreicka for the month of November as the recipient of the *Griswold Forward* recognition program. This award aims to honor a certified staff member who is willing to take risks, who is willing to pursue new possibilities for his/her students, and who maintains a positive or constructive approach to the work that attracts the attention of others.
- 5. Student Representative Reports
 - A. GMS Student Representative Report: Samiah Vincent – No report to share this evening.
 - B. GHS Student Representative Report: Amelia Stearnes & Max Brown – The Board received an update from GHS student representatives, Amelia Stearnes & Max Brown, from Griswold High School.
- 6. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed.)
 - A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Revised Policy 6140—Instruction—Curriculum

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Joyce Rice
To approve the consent agenda item, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

7. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Ratify the Contract Between the Griswold Board of Education and the Griswold Administrators Association, July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027* – This item will be discussed in executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting.
- B. Review and Discussion on Fall Aimsweb Assessment Data Presentation – GPS Assistant Superintendent, Glenn LaBossiere, and TLI Coordinators, Patricia Feeney and Jessica Gillespie, provided an update to the Board on the results of the Aimsweb Assessment Data from the fall testing cycle.
- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Griswold Youth & Family Services Request to host the Snow Flake Parade at Griswold Public Schools on January 5, 2024 – The Board approved the use of facilities between Griswold Public Schools and the Griswold Youth & Family Services to host the Snow Flake Parade on January 5, 2024.

MOTION

By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Scott Freyer
To approve the Griswold Youth & Family Services request to host the Snow Flake Parade on January 5, 2024.
Motion unanimously carried.

Stuart Norman, Jr. entered the Board of Education meeting at 5:23 PM.

8. Unfinished Business

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

MOTION

By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

To adopt the GPS Capital Requests for the 2024/2025 school year and move it forward to the Town's Capital Improvement Committee.

Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Review and Discussion on Alternative School Project – The Board received an update from Superintendent McKenna on the Alternative School renovation project and where things currently stand. He reported that we are very close to moving into the newly renovated building upon receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy.

9. Administrator's Reports

- A. November 7th, 2023, Professional Learning Offerings: Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent – The Board received an update from Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent, on the activities and professional learning opportunities that took place on the November 7th, 2023, professional development day for faculty and staff.
- B. District Safety and Wellness Committee Update – The Board received an update/overview from Jeff Parkinson, Chair of the District Safety and Wellness Committee on the results of a recent school climate survey that was offered to all students and staff in the Griswold Public Schools.

10. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received an update on recent vacancies, appointments, resignations, and retirements.
- B. Timely Updates
- i. Kindergarten Age Requirement Task Force – The Superintendent provided some information to the Board on a new task force that was established to address a new entry age requirement for Kindergarten students enrolling for the 2024/2025 school year.
 - ii. TVCCA Early Childhood Playground Update – The Board received an update from the Superintendent on the upcoming installation of a new early childhood playground by the Griswold Elementary School.

11. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Negotiations Subcommittee—Mary Beth Malin – Mary Beth Malin, Chair of the Negotiations subcommittee, indicated that this topic would be discussed in executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting as it relates to the negotiations between the Griswold Board of Education and the Griswold Administrators Association.
- B. Town of Griswold, Ordinance Committee—Mary Beth Malin – The Board received an update from Mary Beth Malin on a proposal that was discussed at a recent meeting of the Town of Griswold, Ordinance Committee.

At 5:40 PM, the Board of Education moved into executive session to discuss item 7A.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Joyce Rice
To move into executive session at 5:40 PM for the purpose of discussing item 7A.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 5:48 PM.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Joyce Rice
To approve the contract between the Griswold Board of Education and the Griswold Administrators Association, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

12. Adjournment

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Scott Freyer
To adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting at 5:49 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna