

**SPECIAL MEETING  
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,  
January 30, 2023**

**GBE approved 2/13/2023**

1. A special meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Monday, January 30<sup>th</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; Joyce Rice, Griswold BOE Secretary; Martin Osga; Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton; and Scott Freyer, Griswold BOE Members.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Director, Teaching, Learning, and Innovation; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director (entered @ 6:29 PM); Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services and Griswold Alternative School; Deborah Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Jeff Parkinson, GMS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Jackie Love, GES Assistant Principal; Katy Sawaryn, GPS Community Relations & Special Projects Coordinator; and Tom Verville, GPS Facilities Director.

**ABSENT**

Yvonne Palasky, BOE Vice-Chairman; Stuart Norman, Jr., Griswold BOE Member; and Louis Zubek, GMS Principal.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
That the Board move up 9A - GPS Celebrations and Recognitions; and 6E – Review, Discussion and Possible Action on GHS Trip Proposal to Washington DC, after 4A – Communications.  
Motion unanimously carried.

2. Pledge of Allegiance -The Board performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of the Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To approve the regular meeting minutes of December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

B. Regular Meeting – January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To approve the regular meeting minutes of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications

A. The Griswold Times, December 2022 Edition – The Board received a copy of the Griswold Times, December 2022 edition.

5. Consent Agenda

A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Revised Regulation 4118.112.4218.112 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace – Second Reading

B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Revised Policy – 1205 – Community Relations – Participation by the Public – Agenda Format/Preparation and Dissemination – Second Reading

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To approve the items on the consent agenda, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

6. New Business

A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Tuition Rates and Program Fees for the 2023-2024 School Year – The Board set and approved the tuition rates and program fees for the 2023/2024 school year.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To set the tuition rates and program fees for 2023/2024, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Tuition Rates for Faculty and Staff for the 2023-2024 School Year – The Board set the rate for tuition rates for faculty and staff for the 2023/2024 school year at the current rate of 30% and following policy 5118.111, as presented.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To accept the tuition rates for faculty and staff for 2023/2024 following policy 5118.111, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

C. Review and Discussion on the 2023-2024 Fixed Costs/Contractual Obligations Budget – The Superintendent began the budget process for the 2023/2024 school year with an overview of the Fixed Costs/Contractual Obligations. There will be more budget discussions to come in future BOE meetings.

- D. \*Review and Discussion on the Superintendent’s Mid-Year Evaluation – This item was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for discussion.
- E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on GHS Field Trip Proposal to Washington DC – The Board approved a field trip proposal to Washington DC.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To approve the GHS trip proposal to Washington DC, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

- F. Review and Discussion on New Policy 6148—Instruction—FAFSA Completion Program—First Reading – The Board had a first reading of new policy 6148 and will review take action at the next BOE meeting to approve.
- G. Review and Discussion on Revised Policy 6159.1 Instruction—Instructional Arrangements/Paraeducators—First Reading – The Board had a first reading of revised policy 6159.1 and will take action at the next BOE meeting to approve.

H. Gifts/Donations

- a. Town of Griswold, Parks & Recreation Department/Griswold Youth & Family Services - GES - \$925.00; GMS - \$810.00; GHS - \$895.00 – The Board accepted the donations from the Town of Griswold, Parks & Recreation Department/Griswold Youth Services, to GES, GMS and GHS, with gratitude.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton  
To accept the generous donations from the Town of Griswold, Parks & Recreation Department/Youth & Family Services, with gratitude, as presented.  
Motion unanimously carried.

- b. Wolverine Media Donation to GPS for \$250.00 – The Board accepted a donation from Wolverine Media in the amount of \$250.00, with gratitude.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice  
Seconded by Martin Osga  
To accept the generous donation from Wolverine Media in the amount of \$250.00, with gratitude.  
Motion unanimously carried.

- c. Lisbon Centennial Lions Club Donation to Teachers at Griswold Middle School, Totaling \$197.20
- d. Lisbon Centennial Lions Club Donation to Teachers at Griswold High, Totaling \$1079.99

The Board accepted the generous donations from the Lions Club to teachers at GMS and GHS, with gratitude.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To accept the generous donations from the Lisbon Centennial Lions Club to teachers at GMS totaling \$197.20, with gratitude.

Motion unanimously carried.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To accept the generous donations from the Lisbon Centennial Lions Club to teachers at GHS totaling \$1079.99, with gratitude.

Motion unanimously carried.

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Review and Discussion on Multi-Field Project - The Superintendent provided a brief update to the Board on the multi-field project. He reported that a referendum is scheduled for February 1 on this project.

8. Administrator’s Reports

- A. The GHS Capstone Experience—Erin Palonen, Griswold High School Principal – GHS administrators and faculty members provided an update to the Board on the GHS Capstone experience for students attending Griswold High School. Those who presented were Erin Palonen, Laureen Anthony, Melissa Wooten, Kiley Flynn, Jodene Bromley, Greg Schoen, and Logan Tonucci.
- B. Department of Facilities Updates—Tom Verville, Director of Facilities – Tom Verville, GPS Director of Facilities, provided an update to the Board on facilities work. This was a second update to the Board this year.

9. Superintendent’s Report

A. GPS Celebrations

- 1. Celebrating GPS Employees of the Quarter
  - a. Karen Vargo, GES
  - b. Laurie LaBossiere, GMS
  - c. Kathy Caisse, GHS

The Griswold BOE, the Superintendent, administrators, and audience members celebrated those nominated and chosen for our outstanding employees of the quarter for the 2022/23 school year. Those honored were Karen Vargo from GES, Laurie LaBossiere, GMS, and Kathy Caisse, GHS.

B. Timely Updates

- 1. Adjusted Budget Development Schedule - The Superintendent provided the Board with an adjusted budget development schedule of upcoming meetings.

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2. Senior Center Renovation Update - The Superintendent provided an update to the Board on where things currently stand with the senior center renovation project, which will be the home for the future Griswold Alternative School.
  3. NESDEC Annual Enrollment Study – The Superintendent reviewed the NESDEC annual enrollment study that was provided to us.
- C. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Board received an updated list of our current vacancies, appointments, and resignations.
10. Committee/Board Reports
- A. School Building Committee - Martin Osga
  - B. Capital Committee Update - Martin Osga
  - C. Policy Committee - Yvonne Palasky
  - D. Transportation Committee – Jaimee O’Neal-Eaton
  - E. Public Relations Committee – Jaimee O’Neal-Eaton
  - F. Negotiations Committee – Mary Beth Malin

The Board received an update from all chairs on the recent work of their respective subcommittees A-F.

**MOTION**

By Joyce Rice

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To move into executive session at 7:02 PM for the purpose of review and discussion of the Superintendent’s mid-year evaluation.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:21 PM with no action taken.

**MOTION**

By Martin Osga

Seconded by Scott Freyer

To adjourn the special meeting at 7:21 PM.

Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak