

GBE approved 2/29/2024

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, February 22nd, 2024, 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, Griswold Board of Education Chair.

PRESENT Mary Beth Malin, Griswold BOE Chair; Yvonne Palasky, Griswold BOE Vice-Chair, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Griswold BOE Secretary; Stuart Norman, Jr., Martin Osga, 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; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; and Kyle Gunderman, GPS Director of Technology.

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

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

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To add under agenda item 8B, review, discussion and possible action on the Griswold Board of Education Capital Improvement Plan.
Motion unanimously carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – February 8th, 2024

MOTION By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To approve the regular meeting minutes of February 8th, 2024, with amendment to include a request from Yvonne Palasky to add another security card for the district to next year’s budget proposal.
Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Martin Osga, Jennifer Norman, and Cathy Waselik
Nays -
Abstain – Stuart Norman, Jr.
Motion carried.

B. Special Meeting – February 15th, 2024

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Martin Osga

To approve the special meeting minutes of February 15th, 2024, as presented.

Ayes – Mary Beth Malin, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Martin Osga, and Jennifer Norman

Nays –

Abstain – Stuart Norman, Jr., Yvonne Palasky, and Cathy Waselik

Motion carried.

4. Communications

A. February 15th, 2024, Letter to First Selectwoman, Tina Falck, Regarding 2nd Quarter Financial Report

B. February 15th, 2024, Letter to Scott Davis, Chair of the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance, with Three Timely Updates for the February 24th, 2024, Meeting

The Board received a copy of communications listed above A & B.

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 items on the consent agenda to take action on this evening.

7. New Business

A. Review and Discussion on New Policy #5142.5 – Students/Student Safety/Student Identification Badge System, First Reading – The Board had a first reading on new policy #5142.5 and will revisit this at the next BOE meeting for review, discussion, and action to approve.

B. Review, Discussion, and Action to Waive 2nd Reading of Revised Policy #4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To waive the second meeting requirement for revised policy

#4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity.

Motion unanimously carried.

- C. Review, Discussion, and Action to Approve Revised Policy #4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To approve revised policy # 4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity.
Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Review, Discussion, and Action to Waive 2nd Reading of New Regulation #4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To waive the second meeting requirement for new regulation #4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity.
Motion unanimously carried.

- E. Review, Discussion, and Action to Approve New Regulation #4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve new regulation # 4111.3/4211.3 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Increasing Educator Diversity.
Motion unanimously carried.

- F. Review and Discussion of Revised Policy #4117.6/4217.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified/Exit Interviews, First Reading – The Board had a first reading of revised policy #4117.6/4217.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified – Exit Interviews, and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for review, discussion, and action to approve.

- G. Review and Discussion of Revised Regulation #4117.6/4217.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified/Exit Interviews, First Reading – The Board had a first reading on revised regulation #4117.6/4217.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified/Exit Interview, and will bring it forward to the next BOE meeting for review, discussion, and action to approve.

H. Gifts/Donations

1. Donation of Two Chairs to the Student Services Department on Behalf of Griswold Board of Education Member, Jennifer Norman

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton

To accept the very generous donation of two chairs to the Student Services Department on behalf of Griswold Board of Education Member, Jennifer Norman, with gratitude.

Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Continuation of Review and Discussion on Griswold Board of Education Initial Budget Proposal for SY 2024/2025 – The Board, the Superintendent, and administrators continued review of the proposed 2024/2025 school budget. No action was taken on the budget at this time.
- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on the Griswold Board of Education Capital Improvement Plan – The Board received an update from Martin Osga on the recent meeting of the Capital Improvement Committee.

9. Administrator's Reports

- A. Financial Update, 2023/2024 SY – Deborah Martin – The Board received an update from Deb Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, on the current status of the 2023/2024 school budget.
- B. Technology Department Update – Kyle Gunderman, Glenn LaBossiere, and Sean McKenna – The Board received a Technology update from Kyle Gunderman, GPS Director of Technology.

10. Superintendent's Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received an update on recent vacancies, appointments, resignations, and retirements.
- B. Superintendent's Timely Updates
 - 1. Regional Meeting with State Senator, Heather Somers
 - 2. Griswold Middle School Expo & GHS Senior Showcase

The Board received timely updates from the Superintendent on the topics listed above, items 1 and 2.

11. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Town of Griswold, Board of Finance Update – Mary Beth Malin – The Board received an update on the recent Town of Griswold, Board of Finance meeting that took place on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 from Mary Beth Malin.
- B. Policy Subcommittee Update – Yvonne Palasky – Yvonne Palasky updated the Board on the work of the Policy subcommittee.

- C. Athletic Subcommittee Update—Martin Osga – Martin Osga updated the Board on the work of the Athletic subcommittee.

- 12. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board – The Superintendent informed the Board of the plan to hold a Public Hearing on the budget next Thursday, February 29th, 2024.

Jennifer Norman, BOE Member, read a letter, which included several requests for information.

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting at 7:15 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak