

GBE approved April 4th, 2024

1. A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 28th, 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, 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; and Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal.

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

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

3. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Regular Meeting – March 14th, 2024

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To approve the regular meeting minutes of March 14th, 2024, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Special Meeting – March 18th, 2024

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of March 18th, 2024, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications
 - A. March 5th, 2024, Letter to Superintendent Sean McKenna from Killingly Agricultural Education Program
 - B. March 14th, 2024, Letter from Tina Falck to Martin Osga, Chair, Alternative Needs Space Committee
 - C. Invitation to the 2024 National Junior Honor Society Induction: Thursday, April 18th, 2024
The Board received a copy of communications listed above A & C.

5. Recognitions

- A. GPS Employee of the Quarter: Shirley Wade, Lead Custodian, Griswold Middle School – The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members were pleased to recognize Shirley Wade, Lead Custodian at Griswold Middle School, as the Griswold Public Schools choice for “*Employee of the Quarter*” for 2023/2024.

6. Public Comments – There were no public comments this evening.

7. 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 New Policy 6161.1 Instruction/Evaluation of Instructional Materials to the Full Board, Second Reading
B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Regulation 6161.1 Instruction/Evaluation of Instructional Materials to the Full Board, Second Reading
C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Revised Policy 1330 Community Relations/Community Use of School Facilities to the Full Board, Second Reading
D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Regulation 1330 Community Relations/Community Use of School Facilities to the Full Board, Second Reading

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To approve the consent agenda, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

8. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Set the Griswold High School Proposed Graduation Date for Thursday, June 13th, 2024 – The Board approved the Griswold High School proposed graduation date for Thursday, June 13th, 2024.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To set the Griswold High School graduation date for Thursday, June 13th, 2024, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Set the Griswold Middle School 8th Grade Promotion Date for Wednesday, June 12th, 2024 – The Board approved the Griswold Middle School, 8th grade promotion date for Wednesday, June 12th, 2024.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To set the Griswold Middle School, 8th grade promotion date for Wednesday, June 12th, 2024, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Participate in the Healthy Food Option – The Board approved the participation for Griswold Public Schools in the Healthy Food Option.

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

That Pursuant to C.G.S. 10-215f, the Griswold Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the CT Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any funding activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

Motion unanimously carried.

- D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Whether to Allow Food and Beverage Exemptions – The Board voted to allow food and beverage exemptions.

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

That the Griswold Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

Motion unanimously carried.

- E. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Re-Appoint Mr. Richard Campbell and Mrs. Rebecca Campbell as Representatives from the Town of Griswold to the Killingly Regional Agricultural Education Center’s Consulting Committee for a Three Year Term

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
That the Board re-appoint Mr. Richard Campbell and Mrs. Rebecca Campbell as representatives from the Town of Griswold to the Killingly Regional Agricultural Education Center’s consulting committee for a three-year term.
Motion unanimously carried.

- F. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the GPS Communications Plan – The Board voted to approve the GPS Communications Plan. The Superintendent wished to publicly thank Kayla Hedman who took the lead on this communication plan.

MOTION

By Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the GPS Communications Plan.
Motion unanimously carried.

- G. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Recommend a Preliminary Tuition Revenue Number to the Town of Griswold, for School Year, 2024-2025 – The Board voted to approve a tuition revenue number of 3.5 million dollars to the Town of Griswold for school year 2024/2025.

MOTION

By Stuart Norman, Jr.
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To approve a preliminary tuition revenue number of 3.5 million dollars to the Town of Griswold for school year 2024/2025.
Motion unanimously carried.

- H. Review and Discussion on Fiscal Audit, 2022 – The Board reviewed and discussed the results of the state and federal Fiscal Audit, 2022.

9. Unfinished Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on the Initial Budget Proposal for the 2024/2025 School Year – The Board had no further discussion or adjustments to the initial budget proposal for the 2024/2025 school year at this time.
- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on the BOE-Approved Capital Committee Plan for the 2024/2025 School Year – The Board had no changes to discuss at this point and time for the proposed Capital Committee Plan.

10. Administrator’s Reports

- A. Updates from the Assistant Superintendent—Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent
1. New Educator & Leader Evaluation & Support Plan
 2. Spring Athletic Participation Numbers

Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent, provided an update to the Board on items 1 & 2 above.

- B. Audit, Fiscal Year '23—Deb Martin, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services – The Board received an update from Deb Martin, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, on the status of the audit for FY 2023.

11. 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. TVCCA Sponsored Playground Update
 2. New Scoreboard for Griswold Softball Field

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

12. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Facilities Subcommittee—Martin Osga – An update on the work of the Facilities subcommittee was provided by chair, Martin Osga.
- B. Town of Griswold, Capital Committee—Martin Osga – An update on the work of the Town of Griswold, Capital Committee, was provided by Martin Osga.
- C. Town of Griswold, Board of Finance—Mary Beth Malin - An update on the recent meeting that took place with the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance, was provided by Mary Beth Malin.
13. Other Business That May Properly Come Before this Board – The Board was reminded that there is a Board of Education meeting next Thursday, April 4th, 2024, at 6 PM. It will be a short meeting followed by a retreat with Nick Caruso, from CAFE.

14. Adjournment

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting at 6:41 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak