

**GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 10, 2022**

The Board of School Trustees of the Griffith Public Schools met in regular session at the Griffith High School LGI Room, 600 N. Wiggs St. on the tenth of March, immediately following the Public Hearing, pursuant to the rules of the Board.

Emily Conner, President of the Board of School Trustees, called the meeting to order. On call of the roll, members were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Emily Conner, President
Jason Jaques, First Vice-President
John Volkmann, Second Vice-President
Kathy Ruesken, Secretary
Donald McCarter, Assistant Secretary

Others Present: Leah Dumezich, Superintendent
Terri Chance, CFO
Tracy Whitman, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Joseph C. Svetanoff, Attorney

Absent: None

1.3 Delegations and/or Communications: None

District Update

2.1 Superintendent Update: Mrs. Dumezich shared the following with the Board:

Tonight, I will ask the board to approve Summer Learning for students K-12, 2022-2023 registration dates. Meet the Teacher night for the 2022-2023 school year will be August 9th. This information will be on our website and posted on Schoology for reference.

Reminder: The May E-Learn date is May 3rd.....not May 4th.

COGAT results have been sent to parents or will be in the next week. This is an assessment that measure's cognitive ability. We use this as one data point to identify high ability students and gifted learners. We also use NWEA and teacher recommendations. Cut scores are determined by a committee of educators. Once student candidates are finalized, parents will be notified with an invitation. This typically takes place in the month of April. Please understand that how your child performed on one test on a given day does NOT give us the full picture of your child's abilities.

Please note that information will be forthcoming to families about the following: Second graders will be bussed to Beiriger for an opportunity to meet their new principal, wave to their 3rd grade teachers, and check out their new playground. Permission slips will need to be signed by parents.

5th graders will be walking over to the Jr-Sr high to check out their new school. Parent permission slips will need to be signed. In addition, Mr. Mik will be scheduling an important parent and student meeting prior to the school year starting. This will allow incoming 6th graders and parents an opportunity to understand expectations, opportunities, and walk freely through the building without other students present.

2.3 Director of Curriculum Update: Mrs. Whitman shared the following with the Board:

There have been several parent/teacher meetings regarding the adoption of books. Three of the meetings have resulted in decisions that will be presented to the Board in April, which include: Secondary Math, Secondary High Ability Math, and Language Arts. There will be two upcoming meetings for High Ability elementary Math and HS Spanish. Those decisions will hopefully also be presented in April as well.

2.6 Panther Spotlight: Mrs. Dumezich recognized all the Historical Society Volunteers that helped with clean up the previous weekend. March is Disability Awareness Month and Miss D's, and her students were recognized for their accomplishments.

2.7 Finance Update: Ms. Chance provided the following update to the Board:

For the months of January & February our expenditures in Operations and Education were higher than our revenues by \$577,414.66. For all funds, the expenditures were lower than our revenues by \$145,966.08.

2.8 Board Reports:

Park Board: Mr. Volkmann provided an update for the Town of Griffith Park Board. Many improvement projects are planned for Tot, Cheever, Woodland and Central Park. In addition, improvements are planned for the pickle-ball courts and bike trail.

Plan Commission: Mr. McCarter provided an update for the Town of Griffith Plan Commission. The property that was previously the old golf course is going up for sale.

3.1 – 3.9 Consent Agenda: Mrs. Conner requested a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. McCarter made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Ruesken seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mrs. Dumezich mentioned that Mr. Leber donated 25 chairs that were raffled off and recognized several new staff members.

The consent agenda contains the following items: Minutes from the 2-10-2022, Regular Claims: Dates 2-11-2022 through 3-10-2022, Professional Leave 2022-12 – 2022-16, Fundraisers 2022-19 to 2022-25, Donations, Agreements/Contracts, Grants and the below Personnel Report:

**PERSONNEL REPORT
March 10, 2022**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Certified</i>	<i>Replacing</i>	<i>Effective Date(s)</i>	<i>Pay Rate</i>	<i>Hourly, Daily, Seasonal, Yearly Contract</i>
Steven Crain	Permeant Sub - Computer Science	Nick Zivanovic	2/10/2022 Through end of 2022 school year.	\$232.24	Daily
Amanda Hudson	School Psychologist	Super Psych Contract Services	2022-2023 School Year	\$72,500.00	Contract
Megan Virosztko	Intense and Therapeutic Teacher MS/HS	New	2022-2023 School Year	\$62,500.00	Contract
Nicole Wells	Speech Pathologist District Wide	Contracted Speech Through Milestone Therapy	2022-2023 School Year	\$48,500.00	Contract
Alexandra Danielides	Speech Pathologist District Wide	Contracted Speech Through Milestone Therapy	2022-2023 School Year	\$48,500.00	Contract
<i>Administrator</i>					
Natalie Stork	Director of Special Education and Federal Grants	Leah Dumezich	7/1/2022- 6/30/2024	\$83,500.00	Contract
<i>Non-Certified</i>					
<i>Extra-Curricular/Athletics</i>					
Alana Anderson	Boys Middle School Head Track Coach	Matthew Bliss	3/11/2022- 5/1/2022	\$2,863.35	Seasonal
Joe Ramos	Junior Varsity Girls Track Coach	Shannon Schiedel	3/1/2022- 5/15/2022	\$3,499.65	Seasonal
Skyler Smith	Junior Varsity Boys Track Coach	Rob Robinson	3/1/2022- 5/15/2022	\$3,499.65	Seasonal
<i>Clubs</i>					
<i>Separations</i>					
Nicholas Zivanovic	Computer Science/Business	Resignation	3/11/22	\$48,472.10	Contract
Comron Fouladi	1st Grade Wadsworth	Resignation	3/2/22	\$42,000.00	Contract
Dede Denham	Terminated	Terminated	3/7/22	\$15.00	Hourly
<i>**Pending Screenings</i>					
<i>Other</i>					

Other Business

4.1 Special Education Presentation: Mrs. Stork, Director of Special Ed and Grants gave a presentation of the Special Education department that highlighted the Special Ed Teaching Team, students and various program.

4.2 Return to Learn Plan: Mrs. Dumezich presented the amended Return to Learn plan that now states children are no longer required to wear a mask on busses. Mrs. Dumezich asked the Board for approval. Mrs. Conner requested a motion. Mrs. Ruesken made a motion to approve the amended Return to Learn Plan with a second from Mr. Volkmann. Motion passed.

4.3 2022-2023 Registration: Mrs. Dumezich requested the Board's approval of the 2022-2023 Registration as follows: July 18th from 12 pm -7 pm, July 19th from 9 am-5 pm, July 20th from 8 am-12 pm and Appointment only after July 20th. Mrs. Conner requested a motion. Mr. Jaques made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Registration with a second from Mr. McCarter. Motion passed.

4.4 K-8 Summer Learning 2022: Mrs. Dumezich requested the Board's approval of K-8 Summer Learning 2022, as follows: June 6, 2022 – June 23, 2022, 8 am – 12 pm, Monday – Thursday. Mrs. Conner requested a motion. Mr. McCarter made a motion to approve K-8 Summer Learning 2022 with a second from Mrs. Ruesken. Motion passed.

4.4 GHS Summer School: Mrs. Dumezich requested the Board's approval of GHS Summer School, as follows: June 6, 2022 – June 23, 2022, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, Monday – Thursday. GHS Summer School is by invitation only and In-School Only. Mrs. Conner requested a motion. Mr. Volkmann made a motion to approve GHS Summer School with a second from Mrs. Ruesken. Motion passed.

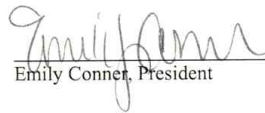
Audience Participation: An audience member asked for clarification on the YMCA rental fees. Mrs. Dumezich provided clarification.

Good of the Corporation: Mrs. Dumezich announced that GPS in collaboration with the YMCA will be hosting EGG-APALOOZA on April 2nd from 12 pm – 1:30 pm and there will be free pictures with the Easter Bunny! This event is open to GPS students in grades K-5 and their younger siblings.

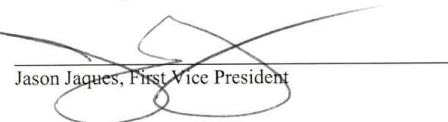
NHS Trivia Night is on 3/11/2022. Information on Kindergarten Round Up is listed on GPS website. Referendum presentations have been completed and information on the Referendum is posted on the GPS website.

Upcoming Board Meetings: The next regular School Board meeting will be on April 14, 2022, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the LGI room at the High School.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Conner requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jaques made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Mr. Volkmann. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



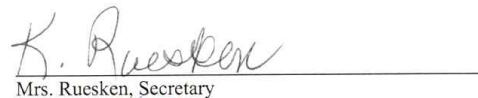
Emily Conner, President



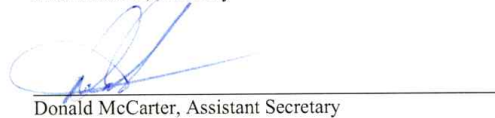
Jason Jaques, First Vice President



John Volkmann, Second Vice President



Mrs. Ruesken, Secretary



Donald McCarter, Assistant Secretary