Grand County School District Board of Education
REGULAR BOARD MEETING Minutes
Wednesday, February 19, 2025
5:15 p.m.

In Attendance: Melissa Byrd, Kathy Williams, Dave Bierschied, Lauralee Green, Jenna Woodbury, Mike McFalls (Superintendent), Matthew Keyes (Business Administrator)

Also in attendance: Jill Tatton, Rae Lynn Mason, Jake Mason, Hank Postma, Emily Roberson, Jerry Shue, Jeremy Spaulding, Xandra Odland, Jacob Francis, Maddy Francis, Aracely Medina, Buffy Camps, Ron Thomas, Rosalee Thomas, Annie Thomas, Kari Barnard, Michelle Searle, Cari Caylor, Tatyana Knurbin, Mike Knurbin, Anabelle Knurbin

Melissa Byrd called the meeting to order at 5:18 pm.

This meeting was held in person and was available via Google Meet.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Jake Mason and Rosalee Thomas
Mission Statement read by Jenna Woodbury

1. Approval of Agenda
    Kathy Williams made a motion to approve the agenda.
    Dave Bierschied seconded the motion to approve the agenda.
    Vote: 5-0 Pass
2. Public Comments - none
3. Student Body President Report - by Aracely Medina
    a. Dodgeball tournament - student team won
    b. Youth Voices Speak Out
    c. Sold Crushes for Valentine's Day - approximately 120 crushes
    d. Next week starts spring sports - March calendar is full of games
    e. Prom is upcoming
4. Board Recognitions
    a. Students of the Month
        MLHMS
            Cedar Oldham - not present
            Anabelle Knurbin - present
        GCHS
            Travis Hirschfeld - not present (next month)
            Rosalee Thomas - present
            Jake Mason - last month Student of the Month - present
5. Information Items
    a. Legislative Update - Led by Matthew Keyes
        i. So far, it has been interesting to say the least
        ii. There are quite a few controversial items this year
        iii. Trying to get districts to increase pay for teachers without having extra funding to do so
        iv. Change with how property taxes are collected; as well as how local districts have control
        v. Earlier this year, we spoke about legislation that included pronouns - this is something the board was concerned about

vi. There has been discussion on merit pay
vii. Hank Postma adds that HB396 and HB408 are bills we should be watching

b. GCSD 25-26 Calendar Update
   i. Mike McFalls talked about the details of the calendar - emphasis was on instruction
   ii. If the board approves - he would like to take this template and apply it to the next 2-3 years with adjustments made for holidays
   iii. Cari says the feedback has been that staff feel they may be losing out on things; however when she has been able to explain it to them, they are getting what they were before
   iv. Michelle notes that Oct 16th doesn't indicate a half day for HMK. Cari will change that
   v. Matt says that parents have spoken to him about having concerns with the 4 days after Memorial Day
   vi. Discussion on legality of instructional days
      1. Hank adds that the law says there must be 180 educational services days

c. Youth Garden Presentation and Lease Agreement Revision - presented by Emily Roberson
   i. Focus is on out source for the community
   ii. Survey lead to increased accessibility as an area to focus on when making grounds improvement
   iii. Benefits to GCSD
      1. Student engagement
      2. Healthy school lunches leads to health kids
      3. State of the art facilities
   iv. Rationale for lease modifications
      1. Expanded programming
      2. Protect the community's investment - due diligence
      3. Enhanced partnerships
   v. Overview of major lease
      1. Extended primary team
      2. Defining GCSD's commitment
      3. Adjusting renewal terms
      4. Automatic renewal
   vi. Currently there are 11 years left on the lease
   vii. Emily and Matthew will meet
   viii. Lease has to go to the district's attorney before the Board can approve it

d. Beacon Presentation - presented by Xandra Odland
   i. Scores in the presentation are as of mid February
   ii. Attendance numbers are:
      1. HMK - 190 students
      2. MLHMS - 70 students
      3. GCHS - 75 students
   iii. Three 6th grade students will be teaching the student-led leadership club in quarter 4. This will include 3rd and 4th graders and Xandra will oversee the club
   iv. Estimated to need approximately $150k; they have raised $80k so far, and still need an additional $70k
   v. Asking for $18k from the board

e. ATSI/CSI Information
   i. Additional targeted support
   ii. Comprehensive school improvement
   iii. It is the state's perspective that they aren't telling us what to do. Their perspective is that they are holding us more accountable to our schools, as the LEA

        iv. ELL at HMK is close to getting off the list
            1. 3/7 is at the end of this test period but won't necessarily have the results until August
        v. ATSI is 3; have an opportunity to come off during year 2
        vi. Hispanic and students with disabilities are the other 2 groups in ATSI; but this is not with a cut off of this year
        vii. You have to hit the target goal during your second or third year - if you meet it the first year, it doesn't get you out of ATSI
    f. Proposed Policy FDAC
        i. Board reviewed the newly proposed policy
6. Staff & Community Reports
    a. Board Committee Reports
        i. Evaluation - test run for the parent survey
        ii. Finance/audit - Matt will update during his BA report
        iii. Great Coalition/Prevention - met yesterday
        iv. No reports/haven't met: Clinical Safety, Discipline, DTL/Technology, Facilities, Negotiations, Maturation
    b. Business Administrator Report
        i. There have been savings in the HMK and TSAC roof repairs ($155k at HMK and $40k at the TSAC)
        ii. Working on part 2 of the safety grant
        iii. Looking at the classified salary schedule
        iv. Working with the Superintendent on helping people hold their teams accountable
        v. Long term tech department goals
            1. Onward contract expires June 30th
            2. Most feasible to have some on ground support and some remote support
        vi. HMK remodel - All Weather si in town and working
        vii. Keeping up with the legislation
        viii. Keeping on eye on the lawsuit that is currently happening with insulin
        ix. Working through problems with food service
        x. Jeri Hamilton has hit the ground running
        xi. Recently learned we are not HIPPA compliant - for students or staff (policy, procedure and practice)
        xii. Venmo for the district is up and going - a phone was purchased and procedures have been created. QR Codes are being used for payments
        xiii. Melissa said that the community thinks that 6th grade is going to MLHMS next year and that 2nd grade will be split - wants the District to squash the rumors
    c. Community Coordinator Report
        i. Looking for clarification on the opt-in/opt-out. Parents do not need to opt-in for state testing, but we don't want them to opt-out
        ii. Saw laminated sheets at Mountain America Credit Union
    d. Superintendent Report
        i. Supercab met last week (meets quarterly)
        ii. CIPs are getting flushed out
        iii. Working on administrators handbooks
        iv. Working on the district yard sale and auctions
        v. Would like to see the high school cafeteria up and running for one to one and half months prior to the end of the school year so we can make adjustments, if needed, for next school year
        vi. Setting up a retreat for admin

vii. Krista and Matt are working on a district level training for substitute teachers for next year
viii. The Community Safety Forum is tomorrow night at the middle school
1. Melissa would like more detail on facebook and recommends putting out a parentlink notification as well
e. Monthly School/Department Reports
i. GPS/SpEd
1. Attendance is good
2. 15.6% of kids under 5 live in households where English is not the primary language
3. Big focus in preschool is language
ii. HMK
1. Homeless population is 57 students - this isn't necessarily more than last year, but it is easier to identify in PowerSchool than it was in Aspire
2. Enrollment as of today is 681
iii. MLHMS
1. 219 enrolled
2. Read Theory is new this year
3. Once monthly Friday activity was cancelled in January due to staff absences
iv. GCHS
1. State emphasizes ACT rather than SAT
2. In 2015, juniors started to be required to take the ACT and were not just taking it if they wanted/needed to for school
a. This may be the reason for lower scores
3. Aspire+ doesn't have continual progress
4. Teachers choose students for honors: currently teachers give letters to students but students don't give the letters to the parents

7. Consent Agenda
a. Minutes
i. 1-8-25 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
ii. 1-15-25 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
b. Personnel
c. Financial Reports
i. January 2025 Detailed Check Register
ii. January 2025 Expenditure Report
iii. January 2025 Revenue Report

Dave Bierschied made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Jenna Woodbury seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda.
No discussion
Vote: 5-0 Pass

8. Action Items
a. Approve Policy EEB - not ready this evening
b. Approve F and G Policies in Column 3

Jenna Woodbury made a motion to approve policies F and G in Column 3 of the USBA 2024 Model Policies Chart. Those policies are: FA, FAA, FABA, FBA, FBB, FBBB, FDACA, FDACD, FDACE, FDB, FDEA, FE, FFD, FGAB, FGAD, FH, FHA, FHC, FI, FK, GA, GCA, GCE, GE, GJ.
Lauralee Green seconded the motion.

No discussion.
Vote: 5-0 Pass

c. Approve to Post Policy FDAC

Dave Bierschied made a motion to approve to post policy FDAC on the District website for public comment.
Kathy Williams seconded the motion to approve to post policy FDAC on the District website for public comment.
No discussion
Vote: 5-0 Pass

d. Approve 25/26 SY Calendar

Kathy Williams made a motion to approve the 25/26 SY calendar as presented this evening.
Lauralee Green seconded the motion to approve the 25/26 SY calendar as presented this evening.
Discussion: High School is going to 5 periods per day next year. The schedule doesn't change quarters/semesters. They are not going back to trimesters.
Vote: 5-0 Pass

9. Communications
    a. Jenna mentioned things that she would like to see on the next meeting agendas. Melissa said that they couldn't speak about those things during this time because they are not formally on the agenda to be discussed but they can be brought up during the next agenda planning to add them to an agenda.
10. Advanced Planning
    a. Matthew will be joining Mike at the USSA April meeting.
11. Executive Session

Kathy Williams made a motion to go into Executive Session for Negotiations.
Dave Bierschied seconded the motion to go into Executive Session for Negotiations.
Roll Call Vote: Lauralee Green - yes, Jenna Woodbury - yes, Melissa Byrd - yes, Kathy Williams - yes, Dave Bierschied - yes
Executive Session began at 10:16 pm.

Recorder off at 10:16 pm.
Recorder on at 10:16 pm.

Kathy Williams made a motion to come out of Executive Session.
Dave Bierschied made a motion to come out of Executive Session.
Executive Session ended at 10:43 pm.

Recorder off at 10:43 pm.
Recorder on at 10:43 pm.

Dave Bierschied made a motion to Adjourn the meeting.
Kathy Williams seconded the motion to Adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 10:44 pm.