Grand County School District Board of Education
REGULAR BOARD MEETING Minutes
Monday, April 8th, 2024
3:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Melissa Byrd, Kathy Williams, Ariel Atkins, DeeRay Wardle, Steve Kennedy, Matthew Keyes (Business Administrator), Pat Wilson (Administrative Assistant), NaShay Lange (Administrative Assistant)

In Audience: Michelle Searle, Jill Tatton, Todd Thompson, Kari Barnard, Jeremy Spaulding, Hank Postma, Sarah Henderson, Mike Estensen

Taryn Kay (Superintendent) is excused.

Melissa Byrd called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Action Items

I. Out of State Travel for members of the GCHS track team

Kathy Williams made a motion to approve the out of state travel for members of the GCHS track team.

DeeRay Wardle seconded the motion to approve the out of state travel for members of the GCHS track team.

Discussion: Todd explained that the event was a National Invitational and six students from GCHS were invited based on their times. Three of those students are going to school on scholarships. Kadence was seen at Arcadia by Oregon State (where she will be going to school). Todd and Jacob wanted this to be an experience these athletes could have. Moving forward, the policy is understood and a form is being created and the Board will be approached 60 days prior to out of state events for approval.

Pat stated that we have guidelines from risk management. Our risk management does not allow us to travel to California due to the unlimited liability in California. In order to travel to California, the trip would need to be chartered by an outside company because they have their own liability insurance for their business.

Vote 5-0 Pass.

Agenda Items for Discussion

I. 2024-2025 GCSD Trustlands Plans
   A. HMK
      1. will be focusing on increasing their test scores - this will be accomplished by creating the Teacher Leader positions
      2. There will be a Title I TA for each grade level. 2 will be full time; 2 part time to cover lunch and recess duty allowing teachers to collaborate during those times
      3. Kathy discussed Title I TAs previously being funded by SCC before; there may have been one last year
   B. MLHMS
      1. Looking at adding a Music Teacher
         a) Moab Music Festival would help pay for the position
         b) Discussion has taken place about splitting that teacher's time between the high school and middle school
      2. Wants to add a full time Art Teacher
         a) Discussion about paying the teacher as classified or certified and what the process would look like if they were hired as classified
         b) Pat added information regarding Cactus in order to be a certified teacher
      3. There will be focus on raising MOY test scores
   C. GCHS
      1. Todd explained that there haven't been changes to their Trustlands plans this year
      2. Discussed option of classified employees being paid a percentage of wages from Trustlands
      3. Discussion regarding Youth in Custody and funding coming from Trustlands
II. Budget Workshop with Pat
   A. Discussion regarding funding and grants that are available
      1. Need to move funds from one area to another
      2. May lead to more flexibility with spending money
      3. At Risk Student funding has increased but it has taken money from other areas

B. Tentative Budget Deadlines
    1. Due by May
    2. Approved by June 15th
    3. Tax Rate by June 22nd
C. The “Grow Your Own” funding is discontinued. We have enough to continue with the current cohort, but new cohorts will not be started
D. There is a lot of money available for the homeless community that we aren’t utilizing because we are missing the information
    1. With Powerschool it will be easier to mark a student as homeless than it is with Aspire so we can look into that funding more

III. Phase II/III of the 10 Year Building Plan
A. Pat goes over the phases
B. Pat explains the Local Building Authority (LBA)
    1. Allows the Board to borrow money
    2. The lease agreement terms are more or less determined by the Board and the least then becomes the collateral
    3. Payment comes from Capital Outlay
    4. We will bid out the projects before we would need the bond
C. DeeRay asks for Pat and Matt’s preference of moving forward
    1. The con to doing both phases is taking out the LBA and paying interest
    2. The pro is that we wouldn’t be paying for the inflation that is bound to take place
    3. Another pro is that the bid would be higher cost which would likely attract more bidders and potentially decrease the cost
D. Melissa talks about not maintaining our campuses as well as we should. Pat says that with the new plans we allow for better and easier maintenance

IV. District Funding and Position Priorities
A. Pat questions how the family liaison position will be funded
    1. Matt says that needs to be figured out and then brought to the Board
B. Pat questions the funding options for a Health TA position. Wants to know the ratio of students to nurse personnel in other areas to determine if we are off target
    1. Matt added that the State recommends 1 nurse to every 700 students
    2. Kathy wants to know the responsibilities of the Health TA

C. Kari would like to table her request at this time to allow more time to get more details figured out
D. Discussion surrounding an additional music teacher - if we want to have kids complete in music in high school they need to be starting by the 3rd grade. Current music is more vocal/choir focused. Needs more focus on instruments. The new position could be divided among multiple schools which would be a shared salary.
E. Ariel and DeeRay comment that more information is needed before bringing these positions back to the board.
    1. Kari and Michelle think this would be a 25/26 goal
F. Matt expressed the need for an Essential Needs Assessment for the district
G. Pat says that the district may need to bring another person in when it comes to the audit.

V. Board Goals and District Projects
    A. Job Descriptions need to match what the people in those roles are doing
        1. The evaluation committee will be doing these updates
    B. Board needs to review the goals document
    C. Keeping the webpage up to date
        1. Who is in charge and is it in their job description?

Steve Kennedy made a motion to go into recess.
DeeRay Wardle seconded the motion to go into recess.
Vote 5-0 Pass at 5:39 pm

Out of recess at 5:49 pm

VI. Executive Session

Ariel Atkins made a motion to go into the Executive Session for negotiations and legal.
DeeRay Wardle seconded the motion to go into the Executive Session for negotiations and legal.

Roll Call Vote: Steve - yes; DeeRay - yes; Melissa - yes; Kathy - yes; Ariel - yes
Executive Session started at 5:50 pm.
Recorder off at 5:51 pm.

NaShay Lange excused at 5:59 pm

DeeRay Wardle made a motion to come out of the Executive Session.
Steve Kennedy seconded the motion to come out of the Executive Session.
Vote 5-0 Pass at 6:09 pm

Recorder back on at 6:10 pm in open meeting.

Kathy Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
DeeRay Wardle seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.