

RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS

The Groveport Madison School District Board of Education
Special Meeting
November 17, 2022

The Board of Education of the Groveport Madison School District Board met in a special session on Thursday, November 17, 2022. The meeting was held at the Groveport Madison District Service Center located at 4400 Marketing Place, Suite B, Groveport, Ohio 43125.

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by President, Chris M. Snyder at 7:33 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Board President and recited by attendees.

Review of Belief Statement and Board Norms

Recited by Board Vice President, LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Roll Call

Responding to the roll call by Treasurer, Felicia Drummey, were LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Chris M. Snyder, Kathleen Walsh, and Seth Bower.

22-440 Extend Public Participation

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, seconded by Libby Gray to extend public participation beyond the 30-minute limit to accommodate those 11-12 people who registered to speak.

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower, Kathleen Walsh, Chris M. Snyder.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

22-441 Agenda

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by LaToya Dowdell-Burger that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Yes: Libby Gray, LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Chris M. Snyder, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Public Participation

- *S Brad Wilson addressed the Board and those in attendance regarding the Golden Rule and teaching about faith, benevolence and penance.*
- *Strom Roly addressed the Board and those in attendance noting that he is a Christian and a Preacher. He has two students in the district and noted all Groveport students deserve better.*
- *Anthony Murphy, Lead the Way Learning Academy, addressed the Board and those in attendance regarding the students that are in the program and their willingness to meet with the Board.*
- *John Weston, parent, addressed the Board and those in attendance regarding his children and their fear of the weapons in school.*
- *Michele Rain, 2003 graduate and parent of elementary student, addressed the Board and those attending to ask if there is support staff available for students and how many kids are suspended.*
- *Joselyn Houk, parent of three Groveport students, addressed the Board and those attending regarding student safety and transparency from the District.*
- *Jennifer Silva, parent of GMHS student, addressed the Board and those attending to share that her son had his phone broken during a fight between two other students and now has fears about coming to school.*
- *Thomas Ridenhour addressed the Board and those attending regarding the security consultant presentation from the prior meeting.*
- *Katheryn McCormick, 1989 graduate, addressed the Board and those attending regarding the need for metal detectors and mental health resources.*
- *Harold McCarey addressed the Board and those attending to share his frustration regarding safety regulations and would like more security officers.*

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- *Brandy Laughton addressed the Board and those attending regarding the need for trauma resources and metal detectors.*
- *Paul Ensen, parent of GPE student, addressed the Board and those attending regarding student safety while crossing the street.*

Superintendent Agenda

Discuss Student Safety

- *Libby Gray asked Michelle Rain to email question to board so they can be addressed. She also thanked everyone who came out to speak stating it has been a hard time for the Board and community. She is thrilled that students came up with plans and can't wait to hear their recommendations.*
- *Seth Bower also thanked everyone who came out. He has students in the district and hears community concerns loud and clear agreeing that we must do something now.*
- *Kathy Walsh thanked everyone for attending. She asked when was the last time the District safety committee met and when was the last time it reported to the Board? Kathy suggested the board review policy 5772. Mrs. Walsh suggested the HS be closed next week for round table discussion and to work on a plan. She wanted to know more about the threat assessment team. Kathy is also in favor of metal detectors. She also expressed the need more security, especially female security*
- *Paul Smathers indicated that each school has a threat assessment team as well as a crisis response team who meet monthly.*
- *LaToya Dowdell-Burger thanked everyone for attending. She also has kids in district and has lived in Groveport since 2006. She suggested implementing a staggered start of no backpacks, starting immediately with seniors. They are mature enough to understand the need and Board members are willing to purchase clear bags for those who can't afford. She has a son who will move to High School next year and understands how important safety is to families. She asked her colleagues to set a date to address safety before the retreat so that immediate changes can be implemented. She doesn't oppose metal detector but use of dogs does concern her. She is a military veteran and understand safety regardless of race, gender, sexual preference. She also had a student call her and suggest a student advisory council that reports directly to the board. Later on she would also like to see a parent advisory board.*
- *Chris Snyder thanked everyone for being here. He acknowledged that it has been a long year. He wants to consider what everyone said and takes safety very seriously.*
- *Jamie Grube indicated that many levels of response are being planned. He advised that the District already has developed short, medium, and long-term action plans to be put into place. He said the District is not waiting till the retreat to address discipline and safety. Instead some changes have already been made and the District will continue to make changes as needed. He also liked the thought of getting the perspective of students stating that it is very important.*

22-442 Adjournment

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by LaToya Dowdell-Burger to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 P.M.

Yes: Libby Gray, LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Seth Bower, Chris M. Snyder.

No: Kathleen Walsh.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

President

Treasurer