

RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS

The Groveport Madison School District Board of Education
Regular Meeting
April 12, 2023

The Board of Education of the Groveport Madison School District Board met in a regular session on Tuesday, April 12, 2023. The meeting was held at 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, LaToya Dowdell-Burger at 7:02 P.M.

Roll Call

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Board President and recited by attendees.

Review of Belief Statement and Board Norms

Recited by Board Vice President, Seth Bower.

23-550 Amend Meeting Agenda

Motion by Seth Bower, seconded by Chris M Snyder to amend the agenda by adding Superintendent's Agenda item G-10 MOU with GMLEA regarding last teacher work day.

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

23-551 Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Motion by Seth Bower, seconded by Libby Gray that the Board of Education approve the agenda as amended.

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

Public Participation

Mr. Shawn Cleary, City of Groveport Council Member and Groveport Madison class of 1978 graduate, announced details regarding the alumni banquet and Rarey Award. He also offered praise for the board's selection of Jeff Altman as the new high school principal.

Recognitions

Recognize March 15-April 15 as National Deaf History Month [Attachment](#)

Board member Walsh praised the Board for supporting the deaf community and suggested adding closed captions or a loop system to the Cruisers notes video. The Board agreed to look into the feasibility of implementing these changes.

Recognize Best of Show and Superintendent's Choice Art Award Winners from State of the Schools Art Show

The district's annual art show was held on March 14, 2023, during the State of the Schools Celebration. The event was well-attended, with over 750 people in attendance. The artwork of 300 students was displayed, showcasing the creativity and talent of the district's students.

The following students were selected from each building as "best in show" and will be awarded a certificate and a \$100 gift card to purchase additional art supplies:

- Little Cruiser Academy – George Matthews
- Asbury Elementary – Jaycie Wilson

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- Dunloe Elementary – Siamaris Lebron Velazquez
- Glendening Elementary – Hector Rivera Rangel
- Groveport Elementary – Aleya Lawrence
- Madison Elementary – Karolina De La Torre
- Sedalia Elementary – Angelique King
- Groveport Madison Middle School Central – Izais Johnson
- Groveport Madison Middle School North – Kieyann Walden
- Groveport Madison Middle School South – LaMaya Graves
- Groveport Madison High School – Mame Jarra Guisse
- Superintendent’s Choice- Akeela Spears

Recognize Columbus Art Council and Franklin County Commissioners' Arts and Scholars

Superintendent Grube shared with the Board the recent recognition of high school students by the Franklin County Commissioners Artists and Scholars program. The program recognizes students who exemplify excellence in studio performing arts and academic disciplines and holds an annual breakfast for selected students and their instructors to celebrate their talents and skill. Out of the 24 students selected from Franklin County, two students from Groveport Madison High School were chosen. GMHS art teacher Jeremy Miller congratulated seniors Godfred Frimpong and Donald Yeo for their outstanding achievement and expressed their pride in the students' exceptional talent, discipline, and artistry.

Recognize Ms. Dowdell-Burger - Education Finance Certification

Superintendent Grube informed the Board that Board President Dowdell-Burger recently completed a certificate in education finance from Georgetown University. This certificate reflects her commitment to understanding how financing works in education.

Board Items

Discuss Treasurer Search Process

The Board discussed the matter of the Treasurer position and the need to decide soon. Board member Libby Gray expressed her desire to move forward with the decision-making process. Board member Kathleen Walsh suggested extending the term of current Treasurer Felicia Drummey beyond her last day of July 31, 2023, until a successor is appointed.

Presentation - OSBA Treasurer Search

Terri Morgan from the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) joined the Board to discuss the process for the search for a new Treasurer. Ms. Morgan emphasized that OSBA has helped the district find successful candidates many times over the years and provided an overview of how the search would work. MS. Morgan reiterated that the Board would make all decisions regarding the selection of the new Treasurer, and OSBA would act as consultants to help facilitate the search process.

23-552 Contract with OSBA

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by Seth Bower to contract with the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) for \$7500.00 plus expenses to aid in the search for a new district Treasurer.

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

23-553 OSBA Treasurer Search – OSBA Pre-Work Planning

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, seconded by Seth Bower to move forward with the OSBA planning pre-work in order to formally begin the Treasurer Search

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

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Presentation – Levy Workshop by Bricker & Eckler [Attachment](#)

Becky Princehorn shared her history with the district, having worked with Groveport Madison since 1981. She then discussed a pivotal moment in the district's past, specifically the passing of a 13-mil levy in 1991, which helped the district overcome a fiscal emergency and avoid a potential merger with Columbus City Schools. Paul Rutter reviewed different options for levies, specifically emphasizing the importance of a neutral, informational, and verifiable approach. He also noted that the Board President should be the one to discuss any potential cuts and that a higher functioning levy campaign committee would be necessary to present information to civic groups in a neutral, informative, and verifiable way. Board President Dowdell-Burger emphasized the need to have the levy campaign committee meet outside of school buildings and to present information in a way that is not overly emotional. She also noted that any committee members who take time off work to participate should document it as paid leave or vacation time.

2023 Student Advisory Council Update

- Formal Committee Meeting during the day works best and Board President Dowdell-Burger will coordinate the exact meeting time.
- Superintendent Grube passed out the student advisory council purpose, requirements and responsibilities for board review and feedback.

Disability Discussion

The Board discussed concerns related to disabilities and how to improve services and accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

Strategic Planning for June

Board member Libby Gray suggested moving the date out so the new Treasurer can participate. The Board will revisit the date after the new Treasurer is hired so availability can be determined.

Levy Modeling [Attachment](#)

District Treasurer Felicia Drummey presented and modeled various financial scenarios based on the 5-year forecast

23-554 Recess

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, seconded by Chris M Snyder for a five-minute recess at 9:31 P.M.

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

Reconvene Open Session

The Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education reconvened open session at 9:39 P.M.

Superintendents Agenda

Facilities Update

Director of Business, Chris Reed provided a facility update to the board. He highlighted that Primary One Health Center is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 15, 2023. Mr. Reed also stated that the \$1.6 million GMP for safe and secure entrances district-wide was approved, but it is currently being reviewed by the legal team. Mr. Reed also expressed his excitement about the scheduled closing of the building purchase at 4500 South Hamilton Road on May 1, 2023.

Transportation Update

CBS CEO Terry Thomas provided an update to the board about the transportation department. He mentioned that the workforce is growing, and they have six interviews scheduled for the following day. Mr. Thomas also announced that a "rodeo" competition will be held where 10 drivers will participate in a maneuverability assessment with obstacles. Ohio Schools Bus Driver

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Appreciation Day is coming up on May 1, 2023, and a picnic has been planned to celebrate the drivers at the end of the school year.

Human Resources Update [Attachment](#)

- Director of Human Resources, Matt Cygnor, presented the board with an updated list of available positions. Board President Dowdell-Burger requested clarification on which positions are currently filled and unfilled, as well as current vacancies.
- Board Member Gray inquired about the reasons for the resignations, to which Mr. Cygnor indicated that staff members are burnt out and often move on to other districts or careers.
- Board President Dowdell-Burger suggested conducting a survey to identify reasons for leaving in order to identify areas for improvement to increase retention rates.

23-555 Approve Employee Severance Plan Resolution [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the ESP - Employee Severance Plan Resolution in order to reduce costs while maintaining the highest possible educational standards.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by Seth Bower.

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

No: Kathleen Walsh

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-556 Approve Employee Severance Plan MOU with OAPSE [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Employee Severance Plan MOU with OAPSE.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Chris M Snyder.

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

No: Kathleen Walsh

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-557 Approve Actively Learn Curriculum Platform [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Actively Learn Curriculum Platform at a cost of \$117,820.20. Actively Learn is a curriculum platform that will supplement our English Language Arts curriculum.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Review Experience Management Institute's Proposal for Strategic Planning [Attachment](#)

Deputy Superintendent Smathers explained that this program facilitates strategic planning by engaging the community, parents, students, and staff to develop a shared vision of what a graduate should look like.

23-558 Approve the Purchase of New Chromebooks for the 2023-2024 School Year [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the purchase of 1,625 Chromebooks (and licensing) for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$580,125

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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First Read of 2023-2024 Student Handbook [Attachment](#)

Dr Jana Alig, Director of Teaching and Learning explained all handbook changes have been highlighted and also included suggestions from Board member Walsh regarding school bus discipline

23-559 Ratify MOU and Grievance Settlement with GMLEA regarding training on Friday, May 26, 2023 [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education ratify and approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Grievance Settlement between Groveport Madison Local Board of Education and the Groveport Madison Local Education Association regarding training on Friday, May 26, 2023.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Treasurer's Agenda

Monthly Financial Reports [Attachment](#)

Presented by Treasurer, Felicia Drummey

Approve Resolution and Certificate of OFCC Project Completion Close Out [Attachment](#)

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the resolution and certificate of project completion to close out the 2014 Classroom Facilities Assistance Program

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Chris M Snyder

Final Resolution: Motion Died; Board Member Walsh made motion to postpone until next meeting

23-560 Motion to postpone Treasurer's Agenda Item 2

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by Seth Bower to delay the approval of the Resolution and Certificate of OFCC Project Completion Close Out item until the upcoming board meeting on May 10, 2023.

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by Seth Bower.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Consent Agenda

23-561 Executive Session

Motion by Latoya Dowdell-Burger, seconded by Seth Bower that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education enter executive session at 11:20 P.M to discuss consent agenda item concerns

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Reconvene Open Session

Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education reconvened open session at 11:30 P.M.

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23-562 Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda according to recommended action.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-563 Approve the March Meeting Minutes [Attachment](#)

The Treasurer recommends the Groveport Madison Local Board of Education approve the minutes for the March meetings as follows: March 7, 2023 - Regular Meeting and March 14, 2023 - Special Meeting.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-564 Approve Certificated Personnel Items [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Certificated Personnel Items

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-565 Approve Non-Certificated Personnel Items [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following Non-Certificated Personnel Items:

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-566 Approve Payment-In-Lieu Transportation Reimbursement

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve payment-in-lieu of transportation reimbursement. The Ohio law allows for public school districts to determine the impracticality of transporting resident students attending schools not located within the district after consideration of a number of factors. Upon that determination, the school district is permitted to offer payment-in-lieu of transportation to the parent/guardian. The Transportation Department has completed studies and residents in affected areas will be offered payment-in-lieu of for the 2022-2023 school year. The initial list of families being offered payment-in-lieu-of transportation is attached as Executive Content since it lists students' names.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-567 Approve Broadstone OP Ohio, LLC Purchase Agreement [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education ratify the Broadstone Purchase and Sale Agreement as executed by the Board President and Treasurer in accordance with the March 14, 2023 Board Resolution 23-548 authorizing the purchase of real property from Broadstone.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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23-568 Approve Bus Driver Certificates [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the attached bus driver certifications for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-569 Approve Washington DC Trip [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the high school students' trip to Washington, DC.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-570 Approve Middle School Band Trip to Kings Island [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Middle School(s) Band Trip to Wilmington High School and Kings Island.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-571 Approve MSC Trip to Pro Football Hall of Fame [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve Middle School Central's trip to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-572 Approve Online Policy Manual Changes - Second Read [Attachment](#)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the revisions to Board policy

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

23-573 Executive Session

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session at 11:34 P.M. for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline or demotion of a public employee of the School District, and for the purpose of considering the sale or purchase of property at competitive bidding, since disclosure at this time would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to person(s) whose personal, private interests are adverse to the general public interest.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Reconvene Open Session

Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education reconvened open session at 12:46 A.M.

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23-574 Adjournment

Motion by Libby Gray, second by Chris M Snyder to adjourn the meeting at 12:47 A.M.

Motion by Seth Bower, second by Libby Gray.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

President

Treasurer