

## RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS

The Groveport Madison School District Board of Education  
Special Meeting  
August 24, 2022

The Board of Education of the Groveport Madison School District Board met in a special session on Wednesday, August 24, 2022. The meeting was held at the Groveport Madison High School located at 4475 S. Hamilton Road, Groveport, Ohio 43125.

### **Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order by President, Chris M. Snyder at 7:00 P.M.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by Board President and recited by attendees.

### **Roll Call**

Responding to the roll call by Treasurer, Felicia Drummey, were Libby Gray, Chris M. Snyder, Kathleen Walsh, and Seth Bower. LaToya Dowdell-Burger was not in attendance.

- *Chris M. Snyder read statement prepared by Vice-President, LaToya Dowdell-Burger, offering regret for her absence due to business travel and expressed her sincere appreciation for our first responders.*

### **22-381 Amend Agenda**

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by Seth Bower to move item F(1) to E(1) and move item E(1) to E(2).

Yes: Libby Gray, Seth Bower, Kathleen Walsh, Chris M. Snyder.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

### **22-382 Agenda**

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

Yes: Libby Gray, Seth Bower, Chris M. Snyder, Kathleen Walsh.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

### **Police and Fire Updated Report**

- *James Grube, Superintendent, explained this report is to discuss the incident that took place on the evening of Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.*
- *Incident Commander, Josh Short, introduced by Groveport Police Chief, Casey Adams, presented a timeline and brief description of the events. Officer Short was unable to answer questions at this time due to the pending investigation.*
  - *Prior to the incident police broke up multiple fights and aggravated gatherings.*
  - *At 9:08 P.M. officers heard shots fired.*
  - *At 9:12 P.M. officers found and apprehended Mr. James Keyes who fired a gun from the career center parking lot. Officers also shut down Hamilton Road.*
  - *At 9:19 P.M. officers received a report of a shooter in the building.*
  - *By 10:10 P.M. officers had cleared the building and found no evidence of a shooter in the building.*
- *Fire Chief Perry York reported on the response of medics to the event. Chief York noted that training allowing response to be swift and smooth. He further mentioned there were only minor injuries that needed tending.*

### **Discuss Emerging Issues Surrounding Student Safety**

- *Paul Smathers, Deputy Superintendent, addressed the Board and those attending about the protocols for these events, including evacuation routes. Mr. Smathers noted he was pleased with the response and thankful that no one was seriously injured. Mr. Smathers detailed the actions which will be taken for the next football game, including no backpacks, increased officer presence, no entry after second quarter, and restricting tickers to GMHS and visiting team fans only.*
- *James Grube and Paul Smathers answered questions from the Board regarding details of actions to be taken. Mr. Grube reiterated that some safety plans are not so visible to the*

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*public and must remain confidential. Mr. Grube noted that all students had access to support services when they returned to school on Monday to address any fears or trauma resulting from the incident.*

- *Chris M. Snyder, President, detailed that he was in the parking lot when the incident took place. He was very pleased with the response from community members taking care of people and stepping up to do the right thing.*
- *Libby Gray expressed gratitude to the administrators and first responders. She also thanked members of the public who called 911 for their response.*

### **Public Participation**

- *Harold McCary addressed the Board and those present about the culture of the school, especially the violence. Kenneth noted serious concerns about academic performance and student safety.*

### **22-383 Recess**

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, seconded by Seth Bower for a five-minute recess at 8:09 P.M.

Yes: Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, Chris M. Snyder, Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

### **Public Participation**

- *Resumed from recess at 8:23 P.M.*
- *Brandy Walton expressed concern about overcrowding at that event and speculated that perhaps admission tickets were oversold. She also wondered if the Groveport student involved in one of the three fights would be allowed at future games. Ms. Walton also noted support of the no bags policy and extra police presence.*
- *Groveport Madison High School Senior, Winnie Bosecker, addressed the Board and those present noting that lack of communication makes students question if they are safe. She also expressed fear of using restrooms due to fights in the bathroom.*

### **Superintendent Agenda**

#### **22-384 Approve Additional Bus Purchase Resolution**

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by Seth Bower to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Resolution to purchase additional school buses.

- *Chris Reed provided an update on the current number of buses, as well as the plan going forward after the purchase of the last five buses, increasing the fleet to 56 buses.*

Yes: Libby Gray, Seth Bower, Kathleen Walsh, Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

#### **22-385 Approve Certificated Personnel Items**

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by Seth Bower to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Certificated Personnel Items.

Yes: Libby Gray, Seth Bower, Chris M. Snyder.

No: Kathleen Walsh.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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**22-386 Adjournment**

Motion by Libby Gray, seconded by Seth Bower to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 P.M.

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

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President

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Treasurer