

Board of Education Regular Meeting (Tuesday, February 11, 2025)*Generated by Kimberly Grilli on Thursday, February 20, 2025***Members present**

LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM**A. Opening Items**

Procedural: 1. Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 pm

Discussion: 2. Five Principles of Cruiser PLC

Procedural: 3. Roll Call - All present

Discussion: 4. Review of Belief Statement and Board Norms

B. Agenda Approval

Action 2025-38: 1. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Move that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

C. Call to Order**D. Public Participation**

Information: 1. Guidelines for Public Participation

- Betty Simcox - Groveport resident - Board is considering a contract prematurely. His contract is not up for renewal for another year. No need to amend his contract. Concerned with amounts in the contract. Annuity worries me. Is it face value or teacher value?
- Jane Decker - I would like to give a concern and timing is not good. I am not saying it is not needed, just not now. Community sees raise and I know the Bond fund is different. I don't see the Bond levy passing. Need people to watch bathrooms more closely. Building budgets should not be comprised because of a bathroom fix.

E. Recognitions

Action 2025-39, Recognition: 1. Groveport Madison Local School District Recognizes February as Black History Month

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison School Board adopt a Resolution recognizing February 2025 as Black History Month.

Motion by John Kershner, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Presentation: 2. Transportation Presentation - Heather Free from ODE is here along with Ms. Ritchie and they are talking about payment-in-lieu. They are talking rules and regulations. They explained how cost efficient it is to use payment-in-lieu for a couple students here or there out of the district because getting another bus and driver to do a couple students here or there is too costly. We pay \$1,167 in payment-in-lieu for each kid. Hartley has 33 kids going there but only 7 wanted transportation and those came in during the year. So, with only 7 students going there it is more cost effective to do payment-in-lieu than buy another bus and driver. Mr. Kershner asked about joining with other districts to work together and look at things when things come up. Ms. Ritchie and Ms. Free confirmed that we are in compliance with everything and that has been the case since Oct. 2022.

F. Board Items

Presentation, Report: 1. Safety Committee Update - less than 10 people which is low. I wish more people would come. We talked about district data and compared it to over last number of years. Ms. Scott went thru our procedures.

Discussion: 2. GMSD Diversity Training Options - Mr. Bower talked about dates for this and also Boardsmanship Training. Mr. Bower will get dates for both in April.

Discussion: 3. Parent Advisory Committee Update - Ms. Gray started talking about presentation from Ms. Scott and Mr. Debevoise. Thank you to parents coming in. Ms. Walsh asking about goals and did we appoint members? Ms. Dowdell -Burger said we did appoint back in fall of 2024. She and Ms. Gray volunteered and Seth spoke up and said he will be alternate. We met with parents and came up with ideas and concerns and gave those to Supt. Then we did break into groups and share concerns so we can be proactive instead of reactive. Ms. Walsh - Just wants to make sure we are following our Board policy. We don't need to

reach out to legal counsel. What is parent chair responsibility? Ms. Dowdell-Burger is working on this in the upcoming meetings. We are setting groups and then meet with the Chair.

Discussion: 4. Student Advisory Committee Update - Ms Gray - Had Elem mtg and we had a lot of fun. We had 24 kids and they were energetic and love PIZZA. Gave great ideas and will discuss discipline and controlling anger and we can help them with that. Other concern was Iready and Boost - COMPARING.. The kids have there opinions and will talk to other classmates about each of the programs and what they do and don't like. They do not like just YOUTUBE....they want to go to EDUCATIONAL YOUTUBE. Ms. Dowdell-Burger and Mr. Bower did HS. About 30 kids showed up. Appointed roles and Board rules. Their concerns were heard by the Board members. Need more communication for students and parents. They are really excited. Those 2 Board members also did Middle Schools - great mix of students from each of the 3 buildings. Quiet bunch but will get better.

G. Superintendent's Agenda

Discussion: 1. Department Reports - Busing - Mr. Thomas spoke and gave his report as submitted. Valentines Day is coming up and they are having an event.

Action 2025-40: 2. Approve the Meeting Minutes for the December 9, 2024 Parent Advisory Council Meeting
The Treasurer recommends the Groveport Madison Local Board of Education approve the minutes for the December 9, 2024 Parent Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower

Abstain: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

Action 2025-41: 3. Approve the Meeting Minutes for the January Meetings

The Treasurer recommends the Groveport Madison Local Board of Education approve the minutes for the January 7, 2025 Special Board Meeting, January 7, 2025 Organizational Meeting, and the January 13, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Will bring back modified minutes on March 11, 2025 meeting. Ms. Walsh withdrew her motion to postpone.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower

No: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

Action 2025-42: 4. Approve Certificated Personnel Items

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

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-43: 5. Approve Non Certificated Personnel Items - Ms. Walsh would like salary amount added for supplementals.

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

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-44: 6. 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 2024-2025 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 John Kershner, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-45: 7. Approve the Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools Agreement(s)

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools Satellite Program Unit Agreement and Satellite Program and Academic Coursework Agreement.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-46: 8. Approve the 2025-2026 Membership in Ohio High School Athletic Association.

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the following resolution authorizing our 2025-2026 membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association:

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by John Kershner.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-47: 9. Approve Special Education Contracts

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Special Education contracts with New Story and V.I.P. Rehabilitation Services. L.L.C.

Motion by LaToya Dowdell-Burger, second by Libby Gray.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower, John Kershner

No: Kathleen Walsh

Action 2025-48, Discussion: 10. Approve Job Description

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the Supplemental Job Description-Lead Nurse.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-49: 11. Move to take a 5 minute recess

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by Seth Bower

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Discussion: 12. Review Proposed Changes and Additions to the Groveport Madison High School Program of Studies-First Read - Ms. Morbitzer is presenting. She will highlight differences from last yr to this yr. The process was teachers meet with dept heads first and update course descriptions and correct errors. Talk about CTE's or State testing. Then I sat down with HS counselors and admin. We went through everything and looked at each recommendation from the teachers. We could do some but could not do some. Board members have until Feb 28th to give Carole suggestions and changes.

Discussion: 13. Legislative Update - Mr. Grube gave an overview of each of the items. Ms. Scott also talked thorough some of the items.

H. Treasurer's Agenda

Procedural: 1. Treasurer's Reports

Presentation: 2. District Savings Report

Action 2025-50: 3. Donation from Mellison & Nicholas Davis

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education accept the cash donation in the amount of \$2,000 to Groveport Elementary 5th Graders COSI Trip.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

Action 2025-51, Discussion: 4. BOR Resolutions

The Treasurer recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education approve the BOR Resolutions.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

I. Executive Session

Action 2025-52: 1. Recommendation to Adjourn to Executive Session at 9:05 pm

The Superintendent recommends that the Groveport Madison Schools Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of considering the employment, compensation, and discipline of a public employee, in accordance with ORC 121.22

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner

J. Reconvene Open Session

Information: 1. Reconvene Open Session

K. Board Items

Action 2025-53, Discussion: 1. The Board recommends approval of the Resolution to Authorize Treasurer's Contract for FY27 through FY31 and addendum for FY26 pursuant to the terms and conditions as set forth in those Agreements. Postpone Treasurers contract to June Board meeting. Mr. Kershner does not understand the purpose of entering a contract if we can't make it through a contract. Ms. Dowdell-Burger hears that there is a lot of differences of opinion on our board but states that there was talk about the time to renew is March. For context, the amount of treasurer vacancies that are open and the need for seasoned treasurers in the central Ohio were considered. And there was time to review this since earlier in January. Ms. Walsh stated that delaying this would be an opportunity to reevaluate this contract, it should have been negotiated.

Motion by Kathleen Walsh, second by John Kershner.

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Yes: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

No: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower

Action 2025-54: 2. The Board recommends approval of the Resolution to Authorize Treasurer's Contract for FY27 through FY31 and addendum for FY26 pursuant to the terms and conditions as set forth in those Agreements. #10 Severance pay add "fulfilled" contract

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

No: John Kershner

Action 2025-55, Discussion: 3. Resolution to Approve Treasurer's Contract for FY27 through FY31 and Addendum for FY26
The Board recommends approval of the Resolution to Authorize Treasurer's Contract for FY27 through FY31 and addendum for FY26 pursuant to the terms and conditions as set forth in those Agreements.

Motion by Libby Gray, second by LaToya Dowdell-Burger.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Seth Bower

No: Kathleen Walsh, John Kershner

L. Adjournment

Action 2025-56: 1. Motion to Adjourn

Adjourn at 1:35 am.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: LaToya Dowdell-Burger, Libby Gray, Kathleen Walsh, Seth Bower, John Kershner