

**MINUTES OF BOARD WORK SESSION HELD APRIL 22, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Greenville Area School District met for the Board Work Session on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., via online Zoom Meeting. The following members were present: Daniel Eppley, John Forbes, Laura Leskovac, Steve Lewis, Richard Powers, Mary Reames, Howard Scott and Board President Dennis Webber. The following member was excused: Richard Rossi.

Others present:                    Brian S. Tokar, Superintendent  
    Brandon Mirizio, Board Secretary/Business Manager  
    Matthew Dieter, GES Principal  
    Mark Karpinski, GHS Assistant Principal  
    Dr. Jeffrey Keeling, GHS Principal  
    Connie Timashenka, K-12 Special Education Director

Staff present:                    None (0)  
Visitors:                         None (0)  
News media present:            One (1)

President Webber announced that the meeting will be held just as it would have been conducted in the Lecture Hall of the High School.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Tokar noted there are no presentations, extra-curricular programs or communications for this evening.

Mr. Tokar discussed the Board Minutes from the March meetings, Financial Reports and Bills for Payment to be approved.

Mr. Tokar acknowledged the Districts effort to limit access to the buildings to essential employees and highlighted the diligent work of the District Bookkeeper, Cindy Hall, doing a great job ensuring everything is where it should be.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDED ACTION ITEMS**

Activities Committee had no meeting to report by Mrs. Leskovac.

- Reminded everyone that all committee meetings are cancelled going forward.

Athletic Committee had no meeting to report by Mr. Forbes.

- Noted the cancellation of spring sports as well as the remaining playoffs for winter sports.
- Discussed PIAA communication stating that workouts are not able to begin until at least July 1 in the school systems.

Budget Committee report by Mr. Scott for the meeting held on April 21, 2020 via on-line Zoom Meeting.

- Reviewed all financials for the month end as well as year to date amounts.
- Discussed detailed list from Ms. Hibbard for the proposed 2020/2021 Technology Department budget.
- Reviewed various capital projects with Mr. Cianci to be address this summer and which projects may be deemed critical.
- Reviewed recommended action items including the 2020/2021 Critical Projects listing, Bid Award for the Greenville Junior/Senior High School Reroofing Project and the Bid Awards for the 2020/2021 Supplies.

- Mrs. Reames inquired as to the Elementary ADA Playground Project that is included in the Critical Projects listing as to any update on the tentative timeline for installation. Mr. Tokar noted that we are looking at a July install date for that specific project and also added the Board's approval of the Critical Projects listing does not necessarily mean every project will happen, it is more a procedural step needed so we can move forward with potential scheduling. Any contractor coming on site would be informed that they need to stay in compliance with safety standards at that time.
- Mr. Scott also noted that there was a preliminary discussion regarding finances and local revenues related to the 2020/2021 budget, specifically related to millage rates. Mr. Webber added the committee is moving forward cautiously as they are aware of the pandemic's impact on the local community. Mr Webber indicated that a half millage increase would put the district at a breakeven point as to where we were with real estate revenue this year due to collection rates and reassessments.

Legislative Committee had no meeting to report by Mrs. Reames.

- Noted the legislative meeting with local representatives has been cancelled and will look to reschedule when things slow down related to the pandemic.
- Mr. Webber asked Mr. Tokar to share his recent communication with local representatives. Mr. Tokar shared that this communication centered on the potential economic fallout of the pandemic. Additionally, he inquired as to their willingness down the road to consider the state's ability to organize an early retirement incentive for members of PSERS, not just for Greenville School District, but throughout the state and the potential positive impact of that on local Districts with staffing.

Mercer County Career Center had no meeting to report by Mr. Webber.

Midwestern Intermediate Unit is currently having a meeting that Mr. Rossi is attending.

- Mr. Tokar acknowledged the points of communications with different members of the Intermediate Unit with Dr. Killmeyer being the conduit between the various members. Mr. Tokar highlighted the wonderful job Dr. Killmeyer has done fielding and forwarding various questions that have been brought up.

Negotiations Committee had no meeting to report from Mr. Webber.

- Inquired as to the committee's willingness to meet in the upcoming week to discuss some contractual and personnel related items.
- Established a meeting for next Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30p.m.

Policy Committee had no meeting to report by Mrs. Reames.

- Mr. Webber noted that the pandemic has highlighted a potential listing of policies that may need to be adopted for a situation like this that the District may be faced with again in the future.

### **ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED ACTION ITEMS**

President Webber acknowledged an Executive Session will be held after the meeting to discuss personnel related items.

### **HEARING OF VISITORS**

None.

### **TOPICS REQUESTED BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Webber addressed the Budget Committee as well as the Administrative staff are going to all be working towards figuring out an avenue to address education in the scenario we are in now. Whether or not school is back in session in the fall or not, we intend on having a plan that if this ever happens again we are ready. The effects that this may have on budgeting and future planning on how we intend on handling this.

Mr. Tokar added that teachers have a lot of great attributes and our teachers have shown a great amount off flexibility and have had great leadership from their building leaders and supervisors. We recognize none of this is ideal and parents have been extremely flexible with their willingness to take on things they may not have been prepared for on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The District is taking the perspective of planning for the worst and hoping for the best, we are taking the necessary steps to be prepared if this does continue and to be more direct with our expectations for online learning and providing the necessary tools to ensure are students can be as successful as they can.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM UPDATES**

Dr. Keeling thanked the teachers and staff for their ongoing flexibility and communication through these times. Discussed a pick-up event held today related to student assignments. Updated the Board on the tentative interview plans for current vacant teaching positions.

Mr. Karpinski spoke on the current distant learning mechanisms in place.

Mr. Dieter discussed their successful pick-up event held today related to student assignments. Additionally, he acknowledged the preparedness of the teachers related to the event.

Mr. Stonebraker added his pleasure with the turnout of the pick-up event today. Highlighted a fun thing the Elementary is doing is a virtual spirit week which has included "Work-Out Wednesday" and "Read to an Animal" where students and staff have been posting pictures and videos on the Elementary website which has provided a good way to keep everyone connected.

Mrs. Timashenka acknowledged that our entire population of parents and teachers have been working very hard. Additionally, she discussed the success rate at recent IEP meetings, which has been outstanding.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:15 p.m. the board adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel related issues.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.



---

Brandon Mirizio  
Board Secretary