

Greene County Community School District
Regular Meeting
February 16, 2022

The Greene County Community School District Board of Directors met in regular session on February 16, 2022 in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School. President Steve Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the President reading the District Vision/Mission statement. Directors Cindi Daubendiek, John McConnell and Bonnie Silbaugh; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present. Director Michelle Fields arrived later in the meeting.

Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

No comments were made during Open Forum.

McConnell made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the consent items. Motion carried 4-0. Consent items were: Minutes: January 19, 2022 regular and January 25, 2022 special meetings; Bills as presented; Financial Reports: January 2022; Resignations: Gene Dillavou – Custodian, Jeff Whyte – ESports Coach, Megan Carman – 4th Grade Teacher; Hiring: Michelle Dolder – Assistant Middle School Football Coach, Kyle Staudacher – High School Math Teacher, Katlyn Ohrt – Kindergarten Teacher, Emily Laudner – Assistant Girls Soccer Coach; Transfers: Tiffanie Hupp – First Grade to English Language Learner Teacher, Karen Shannon – Middle School Counselor to Instructional Math Coach; Contract Changes: Robert Palmer, Josef Miller, Kyle Kinne – increase split of E-Sports contracts from 25% to approximately 30%.

At 5:17 p.m., President Fisher opened the public hearing on the 2022-23 Official School Calendar. Superintendent Christensen explained the process of asking for staff input to develop the calendar and making some changes to Professional Development dates on the final draft. No comments were heard from the public and the hearing was closed at 5:19 p.m. Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the Calendar as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Daubendiek made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the second reading of revised Board Policy 505.6 – Early Graduation. Motion carried 4-0.

Director Fields arrived at 5:20 p.m.

Committee Reports: Bonnie Silbaugh – Wellness Committee hosting a staff wellness challenge; Steve Fisher – County Conference Board meeting the following evening.

Administrative Reports: Principals Scott Johnson, Shawn Zanders, Brian Phillips, Director of Teaching and Learning & Special Education Director Karen Sandberg, Reading Specialist Julie Neal, Activities Director Todd Gordon, Buildings/Maintenance Director Adam Snowgren, Technology Director Brent Gerzema and Instructional Math Coach Audrey Hinote.

Representing Greene County Education Association, Darren Jackson presented an initial offer for the 2022-23 Negotiated Agreement between GCEA and the Board. Their asking was for an increase of the base salary from \$32,760 to \$34,950. This was later calculated as a 6.7% increase, for a total District Cost increase of over \$547,000, not including the insurance package increase. The Board's negotiations committee will meet and present a counter to that offer.

Fields made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to hold the March regular board meeting on March 9, 2022 due to Spring Break being the third week of the month. Motion carried 5-0.

Daubendiek made and Fields seconded a motion to appoint Bonnie Silbaugh as the School Board Representative on the Bell Tower Foundation Board. Motion carried 5-0.

The District has been approached by a new bank and a different insurance agent that would like to be considered for Banking and Insurance services. Superintendent Christensen recommended that he, Business Manager Brenda Muir and Committee Member Steve Fisher meet with representatives from local banks and insurance agents before making a recommendation at a later meeting. Any changes would be effective with the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Superintendent Christensen recommended, due to being short staffed and having difficulty hiring new custodial staff, to increase all custodial wages, including substitute custodial hourly rates, by one dollar per hour. This would go into effect with February hours paid in March. Silbaugh made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to approve that increase as presented. Motion carried 5-0. The starting custodial wage will now be \$13.20, with the sub rate moving to \$13 per hour. Superintendent Christensen emphasized he is working on a plan to increase all classified hourly rates to be presented after teacher negotiations are completed.

The following fundraisers were approved on a motion made by Fields, seconded by McConnell: Middle School Art Show and Auction – Middle School Student Council, Bracelet Fundraiser of St. Jude's Children's Hospital – girls from Mrs. Fish's Fourth Grade Class. Motion 5-0.

McConnell made and Fields seconded a motion to approve an Early Graduation Request for Benjamin Johnston at the end of the second trimester. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Policies 200.1-204 were reviewed. Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Daubendiek to approve the review of the policies after removal of any reference of moving to a five member board after 2019. Motion carried 5-0.

An asbestos removal bid at the Middle School from August Enterprises for \$16,940 was presented. Buildings/Maintenance Director Snowgren explained the need to do this prior to new flooring installation. Fields made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the asbestos removal bid as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Proposed revisions to Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirements were discussed by those serving on the committee. Directors Daubendiek and Fields, Teachers Heath Telleen and Darren Jackson all made comments. Instead of a choice between a 42 credit Basic Diploma and a 58 credit regular diploma, this revision meets State requirements of only offering one diploma in districts, and is a 50 credit diploma. Other revisions to the policy state that at least 5 electives credits used to meet the credit requirements must come from courses other than vocal and instrumental music.

Eighth grade students failing more than one core class will be required, as ninth graders, to register for the 9th grade iJAG program. Credit completion through Component Based Recovery will be available and a system will be developed requiring students to identify how they meet “Portrait of a Graduate” attributes, beginning with the Class of 2026. McConnell made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the first reading of revised Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirements as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Activities Director Todd Gordon presented a grant application made to Grow Greene County Gaming Corporation for a video scoreboard at Linduska Field. The total project cost is \$147,500. The grant request was for \$110,625. Superintendent Christensen said if the grant is approved the remaining costs could be taken from PPEL Funds. Fields made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve submission of the grant request. Motion carried 5-0.

During his monthly Superintendent’s Report, Tim Christensen reported the countywide cultural diversity program is moving forward and meetings will be held with teachers on February 21, 2022 and students on February 24 and 25, 2022. A Middle School Mental Health Fair is being planned. He also reported that the legislature had approved a 2.5% increase of Supplemental State Aid for the next school year.

A recess was called at 6:25 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 6:46 p.m. to meet with Lyle Schwartz and Dennis Bahr, consultants from McPherson & Jacobson, about the day’s input meetings for the Superintendent Search. They met with a total of 69 people throughout the day representing administrators, support staff, students, teachers and community. They felt they were positive meetings and all groups seemed to be seeking the same qualifications, in a new Superintendent, as the Board. The consultants outlined the process moving forward. The deadline for applicants is March 2, 2022. The Board will meet with them again in Closed Session on March 23, 2022 to review applications. Board members were all asked to sign a confidentiality agreement before review of those applications.

President Fisher declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

President

Secretary

Greene County Community School District
Regular Meeting
February 16, 2022

The Greene County Community School District Board of Directors met in regular session on February 16, 2022 in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School. President Steve Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the President reading the District Vision/Mission statement. Directors Cindi Daubendiek, John McConnell and Bonnie Silbaugh; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present. Director Michelle Fields arrived later in the meeting.

Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

No comments were made during Open Forum.

McConnell made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the consent items. Motion carried 4-0. Consent items were: Minutes: January 19, 2022 regular and January 25, 2022 special meetings; Bills as presented; Financial Reports: January 2022; Resignations: Gene Dillavou – Custodian, Jeff Whyte – ESports Coach, Megan Carman – 4th Grade Teacher; Hiring: Michelle Dolder – Assistant Middle School Football Coach, Kyle Staudacher – High School Math Teacher, Katlyn Ohrt – Kindergarten Teacher, Emily Laudner – Assistant Girls Soccer Coach; Transfers: Tiffanie Hupp – First Grade to English Language Learner Teacher, Karen Shannon – Middle School Counselor to Instructional Math Coach; Contract Changes: Robert Palmer, Josef Miller, Kyle Kinne – increase split of E-Sports contracts from 25% to approximately 30%.

At 5:17 p.m., President Fisher opened the public hearing on the 2022-23 Official School Calendar. Superintendent Christensen explained the process of asking for staff input to develop the calendar and making some changes to Professional Development dates on the final draft. No comments were heard from the public and the hearing was closed at 5:19 p.m. Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the Calendar as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Daubendiek made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the second reading of revised Board Policy 505.6 – Early Graduation. Motion carried 4-0.

Director Fields arrived at 5:20 p.m.

Committee Reports: Bonnie Silbaugh – Wellness Committee hosting a staff wellness challenge; Steve Fisher – County Conference Board meeting the following evening.

Administrative Reports: Principals Scott Johnson, Shawn Zanders, Brian Phillips, Director of Teaching and Learning & Special Education Director Karen Sandberg, Reading Specialist Julie Neal, Activities Director Todd Gordon, Buildings/Maintenance Director Adam Snowgren, Technology Director Brent Gerzema and Instructional Math Coach Audrey Hinote.

Representing Greene County Education Association, Darren Jackson presented an initial offer for the 2022-23 Negotiated Agreement between GCEA and the Board. Their asking was for an increase of the base salary from \$32,760 to \$34,950. This was later calculated as a 6.7% increase, for a total District Cost increase of over \$547,000, not including the insurance package increase. The Board's negotiations committee will meet and present a counter to that offer.

Fields made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to hold the March regular board meeting on March 9, 2022 due to Spring Break being the third week of the month. Motion carried 5-0.

Daubendiek made and Fields seconded a motion to appoint Bonnie Silbaugh as the School Board Representative on the Bell Tower Foundation Board. Motion carried 5-0.

The District has been approached by a new bank and a different insurance agent that would like to be considered for Banking and Insurance services. Superintendent Christensen recommended that he, Business Manager Brenda Muir and Committee Member Steve Fisher meet with representatives from local banks and insurance agents before making a recommendation at a later meeting. Any changes would be effective with the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Superintendent Christensen recommended, due to being short staffed and having difficulty hiring new custodial staff, to increase all custodial wages, including substitute custodial hourly rates, by one dollar per hour. This would go into effect with February hours paid in March. Silbaugh made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to approve that increase as presented. Motion carried 5-0. The starting custodial wage will now be \$13.20, with the sub rate moving to \$13 per hour. Superintendent Christensen emphasized he is working on a plan to increase all classified hourly rates to be presented after teacher negotiations are completed.

The following fundraisers were approved on a motion made by Fields, seconded by McConnell: Middle School Art Show and Auction – Middle School Student Council, Bracelet Fundraiser of St. Jude's Children's Hospital – girls from Mrs. Fish's Fourth Grade Class. Motion 5-0.

McConnell made and Fields seconded a motion to approve an Early Graduation Request for Benjamin Johnston at the end of the second trimester. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Policies 200.1-204 were reviewed. Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Daubendiek to approve the review of the policies after removal of any reference of moving to a five member board after 2019. Motion carried 5-0.

An asbestos removal bid at the Middle School from August Enterprises for \$16,940 was presented. Buildings/Maintenance Director Snowgren explained the need to do this prior to new flooring installation. Fields made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the asbestos removal bid as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Proposed revisions to Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirements were discussed by those serving on the committee. Directors Daubendiek and Fields, Teachers Heath Telleen and Darren Jackson all made comments. Instead of a choice between a 42 credit Basic Diploma and a 58 credit regular diploma, this revision meets State requirements of only offering one diploma in districts, and is a 50 credit diploma. Other revisions to the policy state that at least 5 electives credits used to meet the credit requirements must come from courses other than vocal and instrumental music.

Eighth grade students failing more than one core class will be required, as ninth graders, to register for the 9th grade iJAG program. Credit completion through Component Based Recovery will be available and a system will be developed requiring students to identify how they meet “Portrait of a Graduate” attributes, beginning with the Class of 2026. McConnell made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the first reading of revised Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirements as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Activities Director Todd Gordon presented a grant application made to Grow Greene County Gaming Corporation for a video scoreboard at Linduska Field. The total project cost is \$147,500. The grant request was for \$110,625. Superintendent Christensen said if the grant is approved the remaining costs could be taken from PPEL Funds. Fields made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve submission of the grant request. Motion carried 5-0.

During his monthly Superintendent’s Report, Tim Christensen reported the countywide cultural diversity program is moving forward and meetings will be held with teachers on February 21, 2022 and students on February 24 and 25, 2022. A Middle School Mental Health Fair is being planned. He also reported that the legislature had approved a 2.5% increase of Supplemental State Aid for the next school year.

A recess was called at 6:25 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 6:46 p.m. to meet with Lyle Schwartz and Dennis Bahr, consultants from McPherson & Jacobson, about the day’s input meetings for the Superintendent Search. They met with a total of 69 people throughout the day representing administrators, support staff, students, teachers and community. They felt they were positive meetings and all groups seemed to be seeking the same qualifications, in a new Superintendent, as the Board. The consultants outlined the process moving forward. The deadline for applicants is March 2, 2022. The Board will meet with them again in Closed Session on March 23, 2022 to review applications. Board members were all asked to sign a confidentiality agreement before review of those applications.

President Fisher declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

President

Secretary

Greene County Community School District
Regular Meeting
February 16, 2022

The Greene County Community School District Board of Directors met in regular session on February 16, 2022 in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School. President Steve Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the President reading the District Vision/Mission statement. Directors Cindi Daubendiek, John McConnell and Bonnie Silbaugh; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present. Director Michelle Fields arrived later in the meeting.

Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

No comments were made during Open Forum.

McConnell made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the consent items. Motion carried 4-0. Consent items were: Minutes: January 19, 2022 regular and January 25, 2022 special meetings; Bills as presented; Financial Reports: January 2022; Resignations: Gene Dillavou – Custodian, Jeff Whyte – ESports Coach, Megan Carman – 4th Grade Teacher; Hiring: Michelle Dolder – Assistant Middle School Football Coach, Kyle Staudacher – High School Math Teacher, Katlyn Ohrt – Kindergarten Teacher, Emily Laudner – Assistant Girls Soccer Coach; Transfers: Tiffanie Hupp – First Grade to English Language Learner Teacher, Karen Shannon – Middle School Counselor to Instructional Math Coach; Contract Changes: Robert Palmer, Josef Miller, Kyle Kinne – increase split of E-Sports contracts from 25% to approximately 30%.

At 5:17 p.m., President Fisher opened the public hearing on the 2022-23 Official School Calendar. Superintendent Christensen explained the process of asking for staff input to develop the calendar and making some changes to Professional Development dates on the final draft. No comments were heard from the public and the hearing was closed at 5:19 p.m. Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the Calendar as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Daubendiek made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the second reading of revised Board Policy 505.6 – Early Graduation. Motion carried 4-0.

Director Fields arrived at 5:20 p.m.

Committee Reports: Bonnie Silbaugh – Wellness Committee hosting a staff wellness challenge; Steve Fisher – County Conference Board meeting the following evening.

Administrative Reports: Principals Scott Johnson, Shawn Zanders, Brian Phillips, Director of Teaching and Learning & Special Education Director Karen Sandberg, Reading Specialist Julie Neal, Activities Director Todd Gordon, Buildings/Maintenance Director Adam Snowgren, Technology Director Brent Gerzema and Instructional Math Coach Audrey Hinote.

Representing Greene County Education Association, Darren Jackson presented an initial offer for the 2022-23 Negotiated Agreement between GCEA and the Board. Their asking was for an increase of the base salary from \$32,760 to \$34,950. This was later calculated as a 6.7% increase, for a total District Cost increase of over \$547,000, not including the insurance package increase. The Board's negotiations committee will meet and present a counter to that offer.

Fields made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to hold the March regular board meeting on March 9, 2022 due to Spring Break being the third week of the month. Motion carried 5-0.

Daubendiek made and Fields seconded a motion to appoint Bonnie Silbaugh as the School Board Representative on the Bell Tower Foundation Board. Motion carried 5-0.

The District has been approached by a new bank and a different insurance agent that would like to be considered for Banking and Insurance services. Superintendent Christensen recommended that he, Business Manager Brenda Muir and Committee Member Steve Fisher meet with representatives from local banks and insurance agents before making a recommendation at a later meeting. Any changes would be effective with the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Superintendent Christensen recommended, due to being short staffed and having difficulty hiring new custodial staff, to increase all custodial wages, including substitute custodial hourly rates, by one dollar per hour. This would go into effect with February hours paid in March. Silbaugh made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to approve that increase as presented. Motion carried 5-0. The starting custodial wage will now be \$13.20, with the sub rate moving to \$13 per hour. Superintendent Christensen emphasized he is working on a plan to increase all classified hourly rates to be presented after teacher negotiations are completed.

The following fundraisers were approved on a motion made by Fields, seconded by McConnell: Middle School Art Show and Auction – Middle School Student Council, Bracelet Fundraiser of St. Jude's Children's Hospital – girls from Mrs. Fish's Fourth Grade Class. Motion 5-0.

McConnell made and Fields seconded a motion to approve an Early Graduation Request for Benjamin Johnston at the end of the second trimester. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Policies 200.1-204 were reviewed. Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Daubendiek to approve the review of the policies after removal of any reference of moving to a five member board after 2019. Motion carried 5-0.

An asbestos removal bid at the Middle School from August Enterprises for \$16,940 was presented. Buildings/Maintenance Director Snowgren explained the need to do this prior to new flooring installation. Fields made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the asbestos removal bid as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Proposed revisions to Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirements were discussed by those serving on the committee. Directors Daubendiek and Fields, Teachers Heath Telleen and Darren Jackson all made comments. Instead of a choice between a 42 credit Basic Diploma and a 58 credit regular diploma, this revision meets State requirements of only offering one diploma in districts, and is a 50 credit diploma. Other revisions to the policy state that at least 5 electives credits used to meet the credit requirements must come from courses other than vocal and instrumental music.

Eighth grade students failing more than one core class will be required, as ninth graders, to register for the 9th grade iJAG program. Credit completion through Component Based Recovery will be available and a system will be developed requiring students to identify how they meet “Portrait of a Graduate” attributes, beginning with the Class of 2026. McConnell made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve the first reading of revised Board Policy 505.5 – Graduation Requirements as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Activities Director Todd Gordon presented a grant application made to Grow Greene County Gaming Corporation for a video scoreboard at Linduska Field. The total project cost is \$147,500. The grant request was for \$110,625. Superintendent Christensen said if the grant is approved the remaining costs could be taken from PPEL Funds. Fields made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to approve submission of the grant request. Motion carried 5-0.

During his monthly Superintendent’s Report, Tim Christensen reported the countywide cultural diversity program is moving forward and meetings will be held with teachers on February 21, 2022 and students on February 24 and 25, 2022. A Middle School Mental Health Fair is being planned. He also reported that the legislature had approved a 2.5% increase of Supplemental State Aid for the next school year.

A recess was called at 6:25 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 6:46 p.m. to meet with Lyle Schwartz and Dennis Bahr, consultants from McPherson & Jacobson, about the day’s input meetings for the Superintendent Search. They met with a total of 69 people throughout the day representing administrators, support staff, students, teachers and community. They felt they were positive meetings and all groups seemed to be seeking the same qualifications, in a new Superintendent, as the Board. The consultants outlined the process moving forward. The deadline for applicants is March 2, 2022. The Board will meet with them again in Closed Session on March 23, 2022 to review applications. Board members were all asked to sign a confidentiality agreement before review of those applications.

President Fisher declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

President

Secretary