

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The George-Little Rock Board of Education met for a public hearing session on Monday, April 6, 2020 in the George-Little Rock High School Central Office. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and heightened public health risks, the in-person meeting was impractical and was held instead by electronic means rather than in person as allowed by Iowa Code Section 21.8. The zoom session information for the public to join the meeting was posted with the meeting agenda. Board President Kristi Landis called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present electronically were Kristi Landis, Wade Netten, Andrew Sprock, Austin Lloyd, and Jason Fugitt. Also in attendance electronically were Superintendent Pat O'Donnell, Board Secretary Cathy Bonestroo, Principal Steven Green, and guests Shari Kruse, Valecia West, Kristi Donaker and Darcy Hansmann. Darcy Hansmann and Cathy Bonestroo were in the district central office in case visitors arrived.

A quorum was established.

A public hearing was held on the 2020-21 certified budget. No comments were received.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:34 pm by Netten, seconded by Fugitt, and carried 5-0.

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A quorum was established.

Citizens were invited to address the board. No public was received.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Fugitt, seconded by Netten, and carried 5-0.

Superintendent O'Donnell updated the board on the COVID-19 pandemic situation. The GLR COVID-19 application for continuous learning was submitted April 6 to the state with the district choosing voluntary learning which is similar to the majority of the area schools doing voluntary versus required learning noting difficulty for opportunities for all with the required learning. O'Donnell shared the teachers are doing a wonderful job of reaching the students and the teacher leadership group is doing well to support the staff. O'Donnell shared Lissa Harson is working with SeeSaw online and helping staff while Brenda Sandbulte is working with Google classroom and assisting staff through that online learning

method. O'Donnell also shared there are a lot of lunches and breakfasts provided daily. Netten inquired about voluntary vs required with O'Donnell noting the difference being grading and the difficulty for everyone to be on the same page. O'Donnell noted that with voluntary learning any student in danger of failing before closure can remediate grades to get the grades improved. After the closure, the goal is to keep students connected with learning without grades or credit with the focus to keep students up on skills and knowledge.

O'Donnell shared the importance of having teacher contracts out early which has assisted with filling teaching positions. Contracts were due today and all contracts were received except those who have submitted resignations. Landis thanked O'Donnell for the punctuality of settling negotiations. O'Donnell recognized Nyla Hellinga and Valecia West for working through the negotiations to complete on a timely basis. Landis recognized all who were involved in the negotiations process. O'Donnell shared that benefits were changed to correspond with the full-time equivalency (FTE) of contracts (ie: 60% FTE, receives 60% of full-time benefits).

A motion to approve the resignations of Angie Mayer, MS Language Arts Teacher; Lindsey Kostelyk, 3rd grade teacher; Morgan McComas, MS math teacher, MS volleyball coach, MS girls basketball coach, and co-head softball coach effective at the end of the summer of 2020; Pete DiPol, MS Social Studies teacher; and Pam Krull, TK teacher was made by Lloyd, seconded by Sprock, and carried 5-0. The board expressed appreciation to all resignations for their past service and good work.

A motion to approve the recommendations for hire of Ashley Klaassen, MS Language Arts teacher at \$33,518; and Bethany Specht, MS Social Studies at \$31,250 was made by Fugitt, seconded by Lloyd, and carried 5-0. O'Donnell shared both recommendations have connections in the GLR area and noted that new hires have declined other area opportunities in order to work at GLR. Principal Green noted his goal in hiring is to bring staff who are "utility" staff who can serve the district in multiple areas. Green shared Specht can teach math, social studies, and science; while Klaassen has been student teaching with Brenda Sandbulte and recognized Klaassen for her strong growth mindset, ability to build relationships, and completing her master's degree.

A motion to approve the 2020-21 published budget was made by Netten, seconded by Sprock, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the board resolution to waive hours or days policy was made by Fugitt, seconded by Lloyd. Roll call vote was taken with Netten, Landis, Sprock, Fugitt, and Lloyd all ayes. No nays. O'Donnell shared this resolution is just noting the adjustment of hours and not making up the hours during the closure.

O'Donnell shared that he and Landis have discussed minimizing the board agenda as much as possible during this time for board meetings. The evaluation originally planned for the April 20 board meeting will not be completed. O'Donnell shared he is in self-quarantine at home for 14 days after just flying back from Arizona.

A motion to adjourn at 5:53 pm was made by Netten seconded by Fugitt, and carried 5-0.