

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The George-Little Rock Board of Education met for the regular business meeting on Monday, February 21, 2022 in the music room in the GLR elementary building in Little Rock. President Kristi Landis called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Kristi Landis, Andrew Sprock, Andrea Johnson, and Austin Lloyd. Jason Fugitt was unable to attend. Also in attendance were Superintendent Tom Luxford, Board Secretary/School Business Official Cathy Bonestroo, Principal Karie Aeikens, and guests Valecia West, Greg DeBoer, Brian Luenberger, Mark Haken, Reid Geerdes, Tammy Groen, LaRae Denekas, and Paul Denekas. Principal Glanzer was unable to attend.

A quorum was established. Public comment request forms were received from Brian Luenberger and Greg DeBoer. Luenberger requested the board consider moving from the Siouxland Conference to the War Eagle Conference stating he believes it is a necessary move to provide success for our students. Luenberger recognized the strength of the Siouxland Conference noting times have changed as has the GLR district quoting the school district website board tab stating belief of adapting to change, sharing we are a small school with nothing wrong with that but need to act like a small school. Luenberger reported our students are at a disadvantage creating a trickle-down effect with numbers and participation noting numbers will not improve or even come close to past numbers within last 5 years making it tough for completing rosters. Siouxland Conference past history was shared of four and five 1A schools in 8-17 year history now down to one 1A school. Luenberger stated for the crowd that is saying the conference is less superior or a step down in competition is just not stating the facts sharing state tournament history of War Eagle Conference. Also noted was the move for basketball post-season from random draw to win/loss record so being a low seed playing a higher positioned school in post-season along with less prep time for post-season play. Game schedule changes were also addressed sharing with War Eagle Conference and 10 game schedule there would still be room to play rival schools. He also shared we are out-voted for all-conference teams regardless of our record noting this year's individual high scoring and rebounding numbers not being nominated on all-conference team. Taking on bigger schools is a grind and becomes counter-productive for what athletics is supposed to be about. Luenberger stated now is time to make change for conference affiliation, or he might need to look at what's best for his kids' success in the future. Greg DeBoer shared he was not 100% sold a couple years ago on conference change but now says main reason for change is just not enough numbers to compete with other larger schools. Tough Siouxland Conference schedule that we don't have enough older kids to play at varsity level and need to bring up younger kids. Young kids forced to play up affects confidence level which depletes and results in kids not coming out for sports. DeBoer shared that not all kids want tough schedule of Siouxland Conference saying it is a great conference but for 2A and 3A schools. DeBoer stated in next few years boys' basketball will be fine competing in Siouxland Conference in 3 out of 10 years. DeBoer again stressed bringing kids up to play at the varsity level is tough on them and need to look at what's best for our kids. Landis thanked them for sharing. Luenberger, Geerdes, DeBoer, Haken, Denekas, and Groen left the board meeting.

Luxford recognized TK-6th grades fluency proficiency levels from FAST data. In 2018-19 64% proficient to January 2022 79%, along with comparisons to other schools of K-5 80%, 6th grade 79% compared to NWAEA average of 64%, and State of Iowa 66%. Large group speech state and all-state success was recognized. Luxford read a note from Brenda Sandbulte thanking the board for speech support and Large Group Speech All-State nominations supported with last year's nominations also invited along. Luxford recognized wrestlers with Lyle Moore's 100th win and Levi Kramer both state qualifiers. Girls and boys basketball were congratulated on post-season success and competing well. FFA week was recognized along with success at judging contest. Jazz band placed 3rd place at LeMars competition and are a wild

card for possibility for state with nine-1A schools competing. The band program was recognized for the growth and success of the program this year.

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Lloyd, seconded by Johnson, and carried 4-0.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meetings was made by Sprock, seconded by Lloyd, and carried 4-0.

A motion to approve the bills was made by Johnson, seconded by Sprock, and carried 4-0. Discussion was held on an open enrollment invoice once again being overcharged as has often happened in past, but this year was almost \$15,000 that was caught and not paid. Waterloo invoice was also questioned with Luxford sharing that was for his daughter but clarification was made that it is not for her, but a special ed open enrolled out student. Discussion was also held on new recess play items purchased from past PTA funds, Menning's cell phone reimbursement, large bus repair, and IT consulting. Shot clocks were questioned if they would be reimbursed from Booster Club.

A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Lloyd, seconded by Johnson, and carried 4-0. Luxford shared he put the LCRF history together for what is used and received. Discussion was held regarding more public awareness of how LCRF money is being used. Luxford shared without the funds, the district would not have sustained in the past. He also shared working on better job of bigger projects with sharing at public meetings. Marketing was discussed with sharing what is being done for the district from the LCRF funds. Comment was made that board determined what the funds could be spent on with expanded uses in past few years. Bonestroo shared the uses have been in place for years and noted board approved expansion noting how much more has been spent from LCRF. When asked, she shared support that district needs to better market how the funds are used. ESSER claims were submitted noting still working through ESSER plan requested. Activity funds were discussed and reminder was given that funds cannot be distributed to individuals.

Superintendent Luxford shared the Iowa Association of School Board communication noting Board President Conference on March 4 with Landis sharing she is unable to attend, board survey reminder, and legislative update. Discussion was held on legislative concerns for proposed bills. Vouchers were also discussed with the potential impact to the district and that private schools do not have to follow same standards, requirements, and restrictions as public schools. Public funds to private schools is a concern. Teacher recruitment and substitute authorization were also discussed. Transparency bill is also a big legislative topic. OSHA withdrawal update was shared that districts do not need to take further action at this time. City of George Trees for Kids grant application through the city with NHS, FFA, and science department planting 10-15 trees in the pool and campus area for school and city partnership.

Principal Aeikens report included FFA week with petting zoo in the elementary school shop area, 5th grade DARE graduation with 30 students graduating thanking Sheriff Vander Stoep and guest speaker Emersyn Netten, and preschool family night literacy focus at George site with TK and kindergarten teachers sharing their differences as well as preschool assessments to assist with enrollment decision making. Kindergarten roundup information will be sent soon. District leadership team meets this week with Iowa Assessments data for domains area of improvement to prepare the students.

Board sub-committee report updates were given. Facilities meeting was scheduled for March 2 at 5:30 pm. Financial services meeting update was shared with recommendation for substitute teacher pay for overnight FFA state convention trip, anticipated kindergarten staff added position, and initial proposals meeting. Program sharing will be meeting with Boyden-Hull on a rescheduled date with sharing continuing for Russ VerBurg. Central Lyon meeting will be March 9 at 6 pm at Central Lyon. Operational sharing date needs to be set for review of sharing agreements. Updated 2021-2022 sharing agreement will need to be presented for approval with new hire by Sibley-Ocheyedan. SIAC meeting will be Thursday at 6:30 pm.

Superintendent Luxford reported on Iowa Department of Education lunch price correspondence for adult lunch price required increase to \$3.95 making effective March 1 as not received for the January implementation; 5th grade field trip to Des Moines request; Iowa Department of Education newly required business associate agreement; FFA trailer bid received; LCRF grants for Bethany DeBoer, Sheri Stratman, Ashley Klaassen, Mark Lutmer with Reid Geerdes, and Tina Sherrill-Range; CD renewals; open enrollment outs; early graduation requests; and summer rec program for summer of 2022 with position being advertised.

Resignations were received from Jeff Kruger, Industrial Tech, and Jessica Ubben Lunde, Vo-Ag.

Recommendations for hire were presented for Kayla Gerken MS softball coach; Mac McDowell, MS girls track; and Brooklyn Spencer, paraprofessional. Volunteers were also presented for approval for FFA state convention unpaid volunteering with no driving for Jennifer Greve and DeAnna Krull.

Discussion was held on field trips. It was noted that field trips require educational value, and board approval is required based on distance. Basketball state trips were questioned for bringing to the board for approval determining they should be board approved.

Scheduled policy reviews were held for Policy 604.08 Foreign Students. First readings were held for Policy 502.03 Student Expression, Policy 502.03R1 Student Expression and Student Publication Code, Policy 504.03 Student Publications, Policy 604.06 Instruction at a Post-Secondary Educational Institution, Policy 604.07 Dual Enrollment, Policy 604.09 Home School Assistance Program, Policy 604.10 Virtual/On-Line Courses, Policy 604.11 Appropriate Use of Online Learning Platforms, Policy 606.02 School Ceremonies and Observances; Policy 701.02 Transfer of Funds, Policy 711.02 Student Conduct on School Transportation, and Policy 711.02R1 Student Conduct of School Transportation Regulation.

A motion to pull from consent agenda and table the building and grounds agreement as awaiting the updated 2021-2022 agreement for the new hire was made by Lloyd, seconded by Johnson, and carried 4-0.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Lloyd, seconded by Johnson, and carried 4-0. Consent agenda included sub pay with student overnight travel pay at 1.5 days paid/day for the overnight days for the FFA convention; anticipated addition of a one-year kindergarten teaching position and posting for the opening; amended SIAC committee member list; adult lunch price increase to \$3.95 as required by the state to be effective March 1; 5th grade field trip to Des Moines; Iowa Department of Education business associate agreement; FFA trailer bid for \$1250; LCRF grant requests for Bethany DeBoer, Sheri Stratman, Ashley Klaassen, Mark Lutmer combined with Reid Geerdes, and Tina Sherrill-Range; SAVE and Activity Fund CD renewals at the 18 month rate riser; open enrollment out applications for 2 students already on the certified enrollment but without paperwork, 1 student tabled from January, and 5 additional applications; early graduation request; summer rec program for 2022 summer; resignations from Jeff Kruger and Jessica Ubben Lunde; recommendations for hire of Kayla Gerken, MS softball coach at \$1538; Mac McDowell, MS girls track at \$2153; Brooklyn Spencer, para at \$11.00/hour up to 29 hours/week; unpaid volunteers without driving of DeAnna Krull and Jennifer Greve for FFA state convention; scheduled review of Policy 604.08 Foreign Students; first reading waiving the second reading of Policy 502.03 Student Expression, Policy 502.03R1 Student Expression and Student Publication Code, Policy 504.03 Student Publications, Policy 604.06 Instruction at a Post-Secondary Educational Institution, Policy 604.07 Dual Enrollment, Policy 604.09 Home School Assistance Program, Policy 604.10 Virtual/On-Line Courses, Policy 604.11 Appropriate Use of Online Learning Platforms, Policy 606.02 School Ceremonies and Observances; Policy 701.02 Transfer of Funds, Policy 711.02 Student Conduct on School Transportation, and Policy 711.02R1 Student Conduct of School Transportation Regulation.

A special board meeting was set for March 3 at 5:30 with alternate date of March 7 at 5:30 pm for the ratification of 2022-2023 certified staff master agreement.

A public hearing date for 2022-2023 budget was set for April 4 at 5:30 pm.

April board meeting date was changed to April 20.

A motion to adjourn at 7:03 pm was made by Lloyd, seconded by Johnson, and carried 4-0.