

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The George-Little Rock Board of Education met for the regular monthly meeting on Monday, August 22, 2022 in the music room in the GLR elementary building in Little Rock. President Austin Lloyd called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Austin Lloyd, Andrea Johnson, Andrew Sprock, and Matt Mitchell. Jason Fugitt joined via phone. Also in attendance were Superintendent Tom Luxford, Board Secretary/School Business Official Cathy Bonestroo, Principal Karie Aeikens, Principal/Activities Director Tyler Glanzer, and guests Valecia West, Shari Stratman, Brent Fedders, Lexi Olivera, Ethan Van Briesen, Courtney Leloux, Lainn Menning, Teyha Wiertzema, Terron Geerdes, Rachel Arends, Julia Schaa, Matt Matuska, Charlotte Jurrens, Ethan Mulder, and Kelsey Mulder.

A quorum was established. Citizens submitting the required form to address the board during the public forum were Matt Matuska, Charlotte Jurrens, and Ethan Mulder. It was noted that the board will not respond during this time. Matuska, representing his wife who has been in daycare 22 years, noted transportation to the school has been provided the last 2 years for the daycare kids. He shared Jim McConnell and others were contacted for picking up children and then week before school was told school was not able to pick up. Matuska shared no transportation is available with both parents working and dropping off at 6 AM. Doesn't see where there is an issue and limited time commitment with Kari at the door. Safety standpoint was shared stating Luxford has been at his house and saw traffic. It is not safe for a 5-year-old child to walk. He does not view it as that big of a deal and school is about children and should be able to pick up kids from registered daycares. Matuska recommended TK and higher grades should be picked up from daycares as well. Jurrens spoke requesting transportation for daycare kids noting preschool and TK kids in the past and now has kindergarten and bus stops right in front of her house. Safety concern was also noted walking 2 blocks and needing to cross busy main street. Ethan Mulder spoke on behalf of his wife addressing daycare transportation for school age kids from daycare and for all daycares for school aged kids to get to school. Busy back street so again a safety issue for walkers and no sidewalks along path to school. It was noted that they are businesses and should be provided transportation to school. Citizens were thanked for presenting concerns.

Superintendent Luxford had principals introduce their new staff. Aeikens introduced new GLR elementary teachers including Ethan Van Briesen, 6th grade; Courtney Leloux, 6th grade; and those unable to attend of Regan Mouw, Kindergarten; and Karissa Beldt, 3rd grade. Glanzer introduced new GLR MS/HS teachers including Brent Fedders, Industrial Tech; Miranda Dreesen, VoAg; Lexi Olivera, MS/HS SPED; and those unable to attend of Seth Oetken, MS Math; and Bret Sherkenbach, business teacher. New teachers were requested to share why they chose GLR with Johnson thanking them for choosing GLR. Frontier Bank was recognized for pre-service staff snacks, Security Savings Bank for pre-service staff lunch, and George Chamber of Commerce for pre-service welcome back breakfast. Businesses sponsoring GLR staff t-shirts were recognized of George Office, KD Design, Farm Bureau Hunter Sieperda, Denny's Sanitation, Winkowitsch Sweet Corn & Produce, and CFE George.

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Johnson, seconded by Mitchell, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meetings was made by Mitchell, seconded by Johnson, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the financial bills was made by Sprock, seconded by Johnson, and carried 5-0. It was noted that receipts are still coming in for 2021-2022 school year posting through August 31 with state reports due September 15 for 2021-2022 finances.

A motion to table the financial reports was made by Mitchell, seconded by Sprock, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the transfers for the 2021-2022 activity deficit accounts totaling over \$37,000.00 in deficits for permanent transfers and two temporary transfers which will be reversed back as presented was made by Mitchell, seconded by Johnson, and carried 5-0. Discussion was held that these are activity accounts only which are not taking enough gate or fundraiser revenue to cover program costs. Frontier Bank SAVE/LOST Fund CD was presented for new rate.

Superintendent Luxford shared the IASB finance work session highlights and correspondence confirming the district is in good shape financially due to good planning. IASB convention information was shared with Lloyd and Luxford planning to attend with others encouraged. EMC risk improvement survey deficiencies were shared. GLR state report card reports were presented recognizing teachers and administrators for continuing to work towards being off the comprehensive status with more details shared during principal reports. Current job openings are MS language arts, long term semester sub for MS language arts, part-time and full-time custodian and maintenance, paraprofessionals, food service, MS volleyball, assistant speech, head softball, head baseball, MS girls basketball, MS boys track, substitute teachers, substitute paras, substitute food service, and substitute bus drivers.

Principal Aeikens reported ISASP assessment scores for 3rd-5th grades from spring testing, comparing classes, not students for 2021 vs 2022 scores. Scores are rated as proficient or not proficient in the different categories with comparison to state scores. A lot of reasons for seeing growth between classes including new curriculum in literacy and math. Principal Glanzer reported ISASP scores for 6th-11^h grade for most part above state average. Staff use the assessments to look at each student individually to see what standards need work. Math was main area for most work needed with first year of K-12 math curriculum now the same with higher rigor curriculum more exploratory and more conceptual learning. Staff celebrated 8th graders growth, noting the MS was the same group that had the comprehensive status in the past.

Aeikens shared her SAI conference presentation for tools used for improvements from 2018 scores for comprehensive list status. Demographics were shared, class student identifiers, leadership changes with 8 superintendents in 11 years. State assisted with going through entire school system and looked at all 5 areas for assessments, continually checking status for strengths, barriers, and plan; leadership and training; curriculum; shared leadership vs top down leadership; evaluations bottom-up for good feedback; shared decision making; systems in place to avoid issues with changes in leadership; same trainings and professional development; collaboration; district realignment; shared planning time; schedule WIN interventions; intervention systems to diagnose, design, deliver; staff trained in programs, individual needs based, researched based screeners and assessments; scheduled times to analyze data during PLCs to see what is going on. Universal instruction with new curriculum, staff training, fidelity checks, observations, PLCs that support some teacher autonomy, better tools to screen students, fluid intervention groups and data driven instruction are all implemented. Superintendent Luxford shared AEA has been a great partnership in the process and utilized more than ever before. DLT district leadership team also meets once a month.

Aeikens presented condition for learning surveys results are back and will be presented at a later time; summer school success recognizing staff; building updates completed of windows, gym painting, 3rd floor updates and carpet. Student count lost 9 but gained 13 with 6 of 9 moving away with 219 total TK-6th graders and 26 preschoolers. All summer help was thanked recognizing Greg, Jodi, Jim and the bus drivers, and Crystal for getting everyone registered. Glanzer thanked summer help in preparing buildings and ESY and credit recovery teachers. Building updates completed or in process are auditorium carpet completed with seats reinstalled, stage curtains being hung, and window wrap on activity entrance.

Enrollment is at 178 compared to 172 last year, losing some, but gaining some too. Activities report included Broadway bound trip with all positive reports and great experience and fall sports underway.

Luxford shared sub-committee reports with facilities capital projects next meeting date needing to be set-up for HVAC projects for MS/HS and elementary. Entire board meeting for geothermal, HVAC, or hybrid options will be discussed. Potential meeting dates were shared with date needed to be set tonight. ADA sidewalk on south side of MS/HS building was completed. Luxford recognized staff at school thanking Glanzer with no custodian on staff, Ken Roseberry, and Isaiah Johnson for prep of school. Operational sharing was discussed with Greg at GLR on Tuesdays. Fire extinguishers all updated with annual inspections sharing some were not looked at before with some missed in the past. District daycare updates with meetings held with state fire marshal and Iowa daycare rep for doorway between the offices and daycare for noise issues with daycare paying for all needs. Architect, marshal, and daycare meeting finding hard to get everyone on same page. Program sharing committee met with Central Lyon for wrestling, football, and cross country, adding girls wrestling.

Superintendent presented state activity overnight meal contribution for state events from \$14 (\$7 per meal) to \$15 per day noting Luxford contacted other superintendents. Johnson expressed concerns for amount presented and concerns for affordability for students. Luxford shared banks and Booster Club also contribute to state events with other schools not having the business support and other districts and donations paid for night meals. Johnson shared coaches paid for a meal as well with Luxford sharing he did not know that. 2022-2023 fundraising requests were presented with start and stop times to avoid overlapping fundraisers with projects noted. Open enrollment ins were removed as family changed mind. Open enrollment outs were presented. LCRF board resolution for Mustang Booster Club for grant application for GLR baseball field area backstop, bleachers, and batting cage were presented with Glanzer sharing he gave quotes to Booster Club and Luxford stating he is requesting resolution. CTE field trip request for FACS trip to Des Moines was presented. State of Iowa requires all 4 CTE areas to have CTSO in place by year 2024. CTSO FCCLA will start this year for FACS. Luxford requested what areas are covered by CTE with Stratman sharing business, shop, Vo-Ag, and FACS. Some teachers will need to choose their CTSO for their program. Potential trip September 17 for possibly all CTE classes with leadership day at Adventureland. Potential shared transportation with additional schools for the event. Dreesen shared VoAg adding new class of technical applications in agriculture called precision ag for technician roles and how to fix things. Field trips will include visiting with technicians.

GLR bus route and in town transportation was discussed with Luxford sharing after listening changed his tune a bit however Luxford noted that he cannot make the decision but the board needs to make the decision to allow him to do it. Decision needs to be made as soon as possible. If another student at registered daycare, then school can pick up was noted by Luxford. Issue is where it stops and concern that everyone will want to have students be picked up. Existing bus stops are used with other districts. Luxford shared discussion will be held with board and wants to be good stewards, but they need to understand that it is a board decision, not his. Luxford asked Matuska if that was fair. Matuska responded no and if want a drop off spot then to make every daycare a drop off spot. Discussion was further held about safety and limited time and that bus drives right by. Make it a community to support small businesses and future kids in school was stated. Discussion was held about analogy of drop offs. Our daycare reference was addressed by citizens with Luxford responding our daycare is within the school facility but rents the facilities. Matuska noted that all daycares are our daycares as taking care of future GLR kids. Further public comments were made regarding all daycares are future kids of our district. Lloyd stopped conversation addressing that back and forth conversations are not regular procedure or allowed at board meetings.

Lloyd asked for clarification of past practice and what changed with Luxford sharing school aged kids were not picked up from daycares unless IEPs noting transportation needed, it was just preschool kids for daycare transportation. Public comment was again made that it is discriminatory. Lloyd presented board policy is in the board packet and needs to address potential change in policy and again addressed no back and forth conversation with apologies expressed. Board asked if need to be on agenda to change policy with it questioned why it was not on agenda for action item. Luxford shared policy is part of state code and need to discuss. Following policy was addressed. Current practice was questioned with what has changed from year or two ago to now. Questioned if age of kids at daycares has changed which created issue for better understanding. Why problem now and not before was questioned. Luxford shared individual was contacted for continued transportation with response of yes it will continue, however student not within IEP and some other students were also picked up and in summary policy was not being followed. Luxford shared public can't just call and expect him to make a decision. It needs to be board decision. Luxford requested principals address. Principal Aeikens shared practice has been transportation to and from daycares for preschool and TK students and students who have it listed within their IEPs as a requirement. Discussion was held about possible ages or if just school-aged kids should be stated in policy. Future formal process to request a pick up and drop off point for transportation should be considered. Luxford does not recommend a drop off point. Discussion was further held regarding what is happening with other districts. Bonestroo shared policy is from state and she asked Luxford if he discussed with Pat as recommended for policy and Iowa Code. Sprock shared Iowa Code is what we have to meet as minimum but can go above and beyond code. Not all daycares are driven by and unknown for future daycare locations was addressed. Time, money, time on bus, and space on buses were discussed as assumed minimum burdens. Frustration with how this "went down" was addressed along with timing concern the day before school starts noting not blaming anyone. Escalated situation was also frustrating. Policy perspective if allowed to go above and beyond and have logistics to do it with some restrictions. Transportation was asked with concern of down the road if daycare stops will become town stops and concern of scheduling buses as no extra buses available and unknown as to space available on buses. Matuska requested if he could speak and was given permission. Matuska did not believe a stop would become an issue. Further conversations were held from public. Lloyd again stopped the conversations. Equity situation was expressed for those not attending daycares. Lloyd asked if this was an action item and if motion could be made. It was noted that agenda was already adopted with no action item. Bonestroo stated she was told not to place as an action item. Lloyd stated would like to hear from Pat O'Donnell regarding Iowa law as the minimum versus inability to pick up student.

Luxford shared current policy following code, but if board decides to make a change then we can follow new policy. Luxford shared he will discuss with Pat for potential board meeting and making decision. Public asked if addresses can be left for sign-up and when special board meeting will be held and what is plan for start of school. Luxford stated district will pick up first day of school in interim and discuss further with Pat.

Luxford shared no updates on conference affiliation change with only discussion and no action with vote planned for September. Superintendent Luxford will meet with other Siouland superintendents and Activity Directors are also meeting. Discussion was again held regarding the timing and if decision is soon enough as well as other schools potentially moving to different conferences and leaving Siouland to address their needs. Extended travel issue to change conferences is a reality. BEDS report enrollment was alarming. Discussion was further held regarding what is gained by beating other schools noting if things change and top 3 larger schools are removed it changes things. MOCFV did discuss conference affiliation in their minutes as a topic. Central Lyon sharing meeting expressed concern that if we leave, one of the arguments for even numbered conference will cease. Coaches opinions do need to be considered and put people in place in the district and need to listen. HMS rumor regretted move but

received info from staff members that their move was a great move. Luxford noted need to play and prepare for the games no matter the conference. Smaller conference will be questioned if we don't see the results was also noted by Luxford. Luxford shared athletics and activities are an extension of classroom and compete against schools to give them the best we can give them and competing against small schools as something the students deserve. Classroom, field trips, and activities and hire people to bring recommendations and need to trust judgement and does not want this singular circumstance that we don't trust judgement was expressed by Lloyd. Pleased with forum and directions received from community members. Not looking at conference affiliation as win loss situation but as student level preparedness for varsity level sport versus trying to compete against those ready for college level.

Recommendations for hire were presented for Michelle McDowell, MS volleyball coach pending license; Rachel Anderson long term middle school language arts sub with state approval of license exception noted; Norma Winkel food service sub and library aide sub; Jacquelyn Gonzalez, preschool para in afternoons and removal of the additional recommendation as still considering.

A motion to approve the consent agenda removing open enrollment ins was made by Sprock, seconded by Mitchell, and approved 5-0. Consent agenda included 2021-2022 activity fund deficit transfers; 2022-2023 fundraiser requests; activity group overnight state participation event district meal contribution of \$15 per day; open enrollment outs, NCC partnership agreements; 2022-2023 driver's ed fees to remain the same at \$235 for resident and attending GLR students with free and reduced families discounts available, \$300 for non-resident or non GLR students with no discounts for free and reduced; CTE field trip request to Des Moines; recommendations for hire of Michelle McDowell, MS volleyball coach pending license at \$2153; Rachel Anderson long term middle school language arts sub with state approval of license exception; Norma Winkel food service sub at \$11.75/hour and library aide sub at \$10.00/hour; Jacquelyn Gonzalez, preschool para at \$11.50/hour.

A motion to enter closed session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(e) to conduct a hearing to suspend was made at 7:38 pm by Mitchell, seconded by Sprock. Roll call vote was taken with all ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

A motion to return to open session was made at 8:29 pm with a motion from Mitchell, seconded by Johnson. No vote was taken as phone call was received when about to return to closed session at 8:30 pm.

A motion to return to closed session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(e) to conduct a hearing to suspend was made at 8:30 pm by Sprock, seconded by Johnson. Roll call vote was taken with all ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

A motion to return to open session was made at 8:51 pm by Sprock, seconded by Johnson. Roll call vote was taken with all ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

A motion to continue suspension of student A indefinitely until all documentation is met as requested from May 11 letter was made by Mitchell, seconded by Fugitt. Roll call vote was taken with all ayes, no nays. Motion passed.

A motion to approve Frontier Bank CD for LOST/SAVE fund was made by Sprock, seconded by Mitchell, carried 4-0 with Lloyd abstaining.

A special meeting was set for August 31 at 5:30 pm in George.

A motion to adjourn at 8:54 pm was made by Sprock, seconded by Johnson, and carried 5-0.