

Board of Education

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, November 12, 2020
TIME: 5:00 PM
LOCATION: Gravenstein Elementary, Multipurpose Room

Steve Schwartz, President
Gregory Appling, Clerk
Alexander Kahn, Trustee
Jennifer Koelemeijer, Trustee
Patrick Lei, Trustee

Zoom Link

I. CALL TO ORDER AT 5:00 PM

Call to order at 5:00pm In attendance are Steve Schwartz (SDS), Gregory Appling (GA), Jennifer Koelemeijer (JK), Patrick Lei (PL), and Alexander Kahn (AK).

II. ADOPTION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Approval of the agenda for November 12, 2020 (2 min.)

Action taken/comments:

No change to the agenda

III. REPORTS, AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. (p.1) Gravenstein Principal (10 min.)

Report included in packet. KP noted that enrollment is up from last month but down overall compared to this time last year. New EL teacher Kathleen Byrne provided a short video on current work and history of the EL distance learning support. 31 students are part of an intense reading program. KP noted a major increase in speech services being provided. Teachers Grimm and Gorman received a Rotary grant to provide night time cameras for our salmon hatching program.

B. (p.2) Hillcrest Principal (10 min.)

Report included in the packet. WD noted an increase in enrollment over last month. Staff is continuing to provide excellent outreach to struggling students. The Self Care Challenge has been going on and over 200 students have taken part in some part of the challenge. SC still has a counseling zoom classroom and over 200 students have taken part. She is also doing one on one zoom meetings with those that need additional support. Selfcare challenge since October 12th. 200 out of 280 have taken part in some way. SC has a google class to support students with lots of one on one support. Leadership class held a drive up Halloween event. We are currently doing the Shoebox Challenge to support the homeless.

A parent raised the concern that we are not providing live interaction and wondered if there was more that could be done. WD noted that SC meets individually with students each day.

There is a concern about adding too many additional zooms to students currently. KP noted while we are doing a lot of meetings with students we will need to do a better job of advertising this service to parents. DR noted that last month we had over 500 contacts between our counselors and students. KP noted that our teachers do provide additional social and emotional work as part of their normal classroom program.

C. Gravenstein Union Teachers' Association (5 min.)

GUTA and GUCE have been meeting and having some good discussions. Want to say thank you so much to Gorman and Mattish for helping with the GUTA meetings.

D. District Site Council (0 min.)

No meeting

E. (p.4) Gravenstein Parent Association, GPA (5 min.)

1. September Financials

Donation levels are at about 40% from last years \$20,000 per month (about \$8,000)

2. Minutes from September 15, 2020

3. Agenda for October 20, 2020

F. Trustee Reports (5 min.)

GA has worked on a committee meeting with GUTA and GUCE related to teacher/staff concerns. The focus at this time is on clarifying our campus safety protocols to make sure we have compliance and safe campuses. We are also focused on staff stress levels and have asked the Unions and Administration to focus on those issues at this time.

JK - was with GA on committee with GUTA and GUCE. Feels like the work was very productive, great discussions. Heard how stressed and tired the teachers are. Also working with SDS on reserve strategy. Finally, wants to say an aside, we spent the last couple of weeks gathering information from Teachers and Staff about how they are feeling. Please let's hear from parents in the same way we have been listening to teachers and staff.

SDS - we have a placeholder for item E so maybe we should have parents comment now about what the last 3 speakers talked about.

No comment from parents.

PL nothing to report.

AK had nothing to report other than he attended the Halloween event at HC and it reminded him how much he missed the connections we have when we are in person learning. Looking forward to when we can have more events like this.

SDS - In terms of traffic we did make some efforts in talking to a County Official to get some help from the county. One of the things we brought up is the piece on the current master plan about adding new parking. We will be meeting with a county transportation planner after this meeting to discuss traffic options.

G. Reserve Strategy Committee (5 min.)

Wanda Holden (WH), WD, Dan Dexter (DD), JK, DR, and SDS met to continue discussions. They took a poll to see what everyone's take was on the impact from Covid. They looked at a draft policy and will have something to bring to the board next time.

DR – requested that we move up the discussion under Item A regarding memorandum of understanding with the Sonoma County Library.

H. Racial Justice Committee (5min.)

WD we had a great meeting yesterday. We will be sending out a survey to teachers to collect more information. The committee is looking to move the meeting times to later in the day to increase parents' opportunity to be involved.

I. Master Plan Committee (5 min.)

Current Master Plan

1. Update on work with Counterpoint and Quattrocchi Kwok Architects (QKA)

Looking to schedule another meeting to discuss the heat mitigation. Will be looking at different plans to help with heat and air circulation.

SDS raised questions about the large cost of replacing the roof and the necessity of this part of the project. GA noted the current roof is out of its expected lifespan and part of the cost is moving to a cool roof to help with the heat mitigation.

Questions were raised about the cost amounts and the benefits related to each item of work. DR will take those questions back to QKA. GA noted that the current costs listed are estimates by the architect and that the process has several steps. Next step is to pick which of the options we want to pursue and then get a better cost estimate. Each option would address the Williams Act complaint.

J. (p.19) Facilities Report (5 min.)

Report in packet from Brian Sposato.

K. (p.20) CBO Report (5 min.)

Report included in the packet. WH - CBEDS is complete Calpads is in process. CaresAct funding reporting is in progress. CALSAS is being worked on currently. WH noted that the \$2.14 million modernization funding has been delayed to at least May 2022. This is due to the number of steps needed to receive the money and the state working through the schools that are ahead of us in line to receive their money. We are also hoping to access "hardship funding" to offset the cost of the heat mitigation project.

L. Superintendent Report/District Correspondence (15 min.)

1. Questions from October Board Meeting

Climate committee update from Ms. Rich. The last couple of months JK has been asking about the committee. The 6th grade and then the 7th grade had a meeting with a group of teenagers (TCRI) dedicated to teaching the youth about climate change. They will be meeting with the 8th graders next week. Really happy with the program.

<https://www.teachclimate.net/>

2. Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE), George Sotiras

Discussion Presented by GS. For any family members that have members who served in the military...Thank you!! PowerPoint presentation provided on the GUSD Anti-Vaping Campaign. We are creating curriculum at this time.

SDS is marijuana going to be covered as well?

George Sotiras (GS) I think whatever substance, it may be tobacco, alcohol or marijuana, we are dealing with whatever we do when we are feeling down, but yes it is geared more towards tobacco and vaping.

DR George has it 100% correct, the initial funding we have is around tobacco and vaping prevention. But what we'll be doing will help with all of those different areas. But if this program is successful we will be able to expand into other areas.

3. (p.27) West County Union High School District Unification Plan

Report included in the packet. DR while West County is looking at this idea of district unification with SCOE, there is not a mandate for us to unify. Following the complete report we will have the ability to decide what would be best for our district.

Adjourn for break 7 minutes at 6:54
Reconvene at 7:01pm

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 min.)

At this time the public may address the Board on any item not listed on the agenda. Presentations are limited to three minutes per person per topic. The Board may not respond to presentations. The public may address the Board on any item listed on the agenda at the time the matter is taken up by the Board.

DR introduced Joyce Eicheberger our newest board member

V. CONSENT AGENDA (2 min.)

ACTION ITEM

- A. (p.28) Warrants
- B. (p.34) Payroll
- C. (p.35) Minutes from the Regular Board Meetings of September 10, 2020 and October 8, 2020, the Special Board Meeting of September 17, 2020, and the Board Study Session of October 1, 2020
- D. (p.73) Purchase of 13 AeraMax Pro4 AM Air Purifiers

Action taken/comments:

motion to approve the Consent agenda

Motion: GA Second: AK Vote: SDS: aye GA: aye PL: aye
JK: aye AK: aye

VI. GENERAL ACTION ITEMS

A. (p.74) Memorandum of Understanding with the Sonoma County Library (5 min.)

Situation: As the suspension of in-person instruction continues, we endeavor to provide additional supports and services for our students that can be accessed from home. The Sonoma County Library is offering the Student OneCard program that will allow unlimited access to many electronic resources and services including e-books, e-audio, and online tutoring.

Plan: Unless a parent opts out of the program, GUSD will provide Sonoma County Library staff with student names, student ID numbers, and .grav email addresses so that students can utilize the resources and services available.

Recommendation: To approve the MOU with the Sonoma County Library

Action taken/comments

MOU with the library. Presented by Adriel Ahern and Rachel Icaza from the local library. Discussing the Student OneCard program. Allows online access, tutoring services. The MOU allows the public library to allow them to create automatic accounts for all students (provides equity). Zero fiscal impact and provides additional support for the teachers. Data does not include home phone, address, etc.. Students name, date of birth, gmail account. No link to family information. All is related to the school. Before rollout, we will contact all parents and we will provide an opt out option.

ricaza@sonomalibrary.org, aahern@sonomalibrary.org

Motion to approve the MOU with Sonoma County Library

Motion: GA Second: JK Vote: SDS: aye GA: aye PL: aye JK: aye
AK: aye

B. (p.86) Annual Organizational Meeting (2 min.)

Situation: Pursuant to Education Code 35143, the Board must select a date for an annual Organizational Meeting. During that meeting, the Board shall elect a president and a clerk. Typically, the Board also sets a schedule of meeting dates for the following year during this meeting.

Plan: For the Board to consider holding their annual Organizational Meeting during the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting on December 10, 2020.

Recommended motion: For the Board to approve the scheduling of the annual Organizational Meeting for December 10, 2020.

Action taken/comments

There was a discussion of the options available to the board.

After discussing the different options (hold the meeting on the 10th to allow SDS to be part of the meeting, move the meeting to the following week to include the new board member, hold the meeting on the 11th so that the new board member could be part of the vote).

SDS - the recommendation right now is that we have our regular meeting, do our regular business, do the organizational part and then swear in the new board member.

Recommendation was made that in the future we move the December meeting till after the second Friday of December.

Motion is to hold the meeting on December 10th, swearing in of Joyce Eicheberger to start her term the following day.

Motion: AK Second: JK Vote: SDS: aye GA: aye PL: aye JK: aye
AK: aye

C. School Secretary (5 min.)

Situation: Given the additional workload due to increased GUSD staffing, increased county, state, and federal mandates for our Business Services Department, Human Resources Department, and the front office for Gravenstein Elementary, as well as many staff changes and additions (including an additional employee union), we have a need for additional clerical support.

Plan: To, change the status of the current Temporary School Secretary position to a permanent position, and to change the assignment of the current School Secretary/Business Office Clerk position to Business Office Clerk only. The resulting addition, assignment changes, and factoring in employee turnover, will result in an increase of district clerical by 0.5FTE, at an annual approximate increase in clerical salaries of \$17,500.

Recommended motion: For the Board to approve the addition of a 1.0FTE School Secretary and the reassignment of the current School Secretary/Business Office Clerk to Business Office Clerk only.

Action taken/comments

Motion to approve the addition of a 1.0FTE School Secretary and the reassignment of the current School Secretary/Business Office Clerk to Business Office Clerk only.

Motion: JK Second: PL Vote: SDS: aye GA: aye PL: aye JK: aye
AK: aye

D. Instructional Assistant (5 min.)

Situation: Given the additional workload due to increased Hillcrest enrollment (plus 31 students since 18/19) and needed additional support to implement our Multi Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), we have a need for additional Instructional Assistant support.

Plan: To add a 0.563FTE (4.5 hours/day) Instructional Assistant at Hillcrest, initially to support distance learning and for increased teacher and student support once in-person

instruction resumes. The approximate cost of this position for the remainder of the school year is \$13,307.

Recommended motion: For the Board to approve the addition of a 0.563FTE Instructional Assistant for Hillcrest Middle School.

Action taken/comments

Motion to approve addition of a 0.563FTE Instructional Assistant for Hillcrest Middle School.

Motion: JK Second: AK Vote: SDS: aye GA: aye PL: aye JK: aye
AK: aye

E. GUSD Actions to Support Distance Learning and Other Related Essential Services (20 min.)

Situation: With the constant changes in guidelines and mandates related to the suspension of in-person instruction due to the Coronavirus for GUSD students, this item is a placeholder in the event that any action items arise between the time this agenda is posted and the time of the meeting, as well as serving as a potential action item that arises based on Board discussion during the meeting.

Plan: For the Board to consider any new action item based on new or additional mandates as well as any action item put forth by the Board during the meeting.

Recommended motion: None at this time.

Action taken/comments

No action items have come forward.

DR There may be some expenditures in the coming months and would be thankful if the board still approves of the Emergency Powers. It does not currently have a sunset date.

GA asks that we put on the agenda for December that we review this and set a date for review of the Emergency Powers issue. Would like it to be reviewed every couple of months.

DR - A couple of action items from the committee work is to look very closely at the current procedures for cleaning and wearing of masks and handling visitors. Another item is the COVID testing that was discussed at a previous meeting. I have reached out to the vendor that offered to work with us before regarding costs of testing for current cohorts.

JK a real recognition of the fact that our teachers are exhausted and stressed out and we would like teachers and admin to work together to have a day for instructional prep.

AK as a parent I would so appreciate that as well. One of the things that attracted me to Gravenstein years ago was the enrichment program. When asking my child if she has attended the enrichment program that she loves her answer has been no because she has been so

overwhelmed. This would not only be an advantage for the teachers, it would also be beneficial to the students.

GA we did a survey with the teachers and classified staff to try and get some info not just about stress levels, but also about safety. We haven't gotten to a definition of "safe" yet, but we are getting there. We want the teachers and classified staff to have a sense of safety here on campus. When we have that and lower the stress and exhaustion levels of the staff members, then we can look at having more students on campus. We need to look at the possibility of adding an enrichment day. We are looking at several great ideas that we have from staff and admin. A lot of great work is happening. We had about 87% of responses from staff.

DR once we have reached the safety levels the teachers and staff feel comfortable with then we would reassess who might need more support. GUTA and GUCE have the survey results and dissemination of the information is in their hands.

Parent - fully supports an interactive enrichment day. Also asked if we are entertaining a waiver again.

GA right now we are not thinking about a waiver. It was too stressful for the staff. We wanted to focus on safety at this point and I think it is the belief that Purple is not a safe tier.

JK I have a slightly different take on it. I agree that we really need to pay attention to safety, but I think we also need to pay attention to our students. I hope that moving forward we will be able to move forward with safety and nail this down so that we can bring in some more small groups of at risk students.

AK there is a comment in the chat from Allie Brown about sharing the results with the public and should that be a board decision.

DR says this survey was more open ended questions, he would follow the board direction.

JK and AK both think that it should be left up to GUTA and GUCE if they want to share with the public because there are some personal answers that maybe people do not want to share.

GUTA believes that it is absolutely fine to share the statistical data, but not the open ended questions.

No action was taken on this item

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS IN CLOSED SESSION

No Public Comment

Adjourn to close session at 7:43pm

VIII. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION (15 min.)

A. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54957.6

- 1.0 Student Discipline
- 2.0 Pending litigation
- 3.0 Administrator Performance Updates
- 4.0 Conference with Negotiations team:
GUTA negotiations update

IX. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Returned to open session at 8:08pm

X. PUBLIC REPORT OF ACTION ON ITEMS HEARD IN CLOSED SESSION

(2 min.)

No reportable actions were taken during Closed Session.

XI. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

- A. December 10, 2020 at 5pm
- B. January 14, 2021 at 5pm
- C. February 11, 2021 at 5pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:09pm

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