



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting - April 15, 2024, ~ 5:30 pm

### Unapproved Minutes

#### I. Call to Order & Roll Call

President Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. The meeting was held in Spruce Hall with a remote option via Zoom.

i. Board Members Present: Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth, Constanza Hazelwood, Luis Pardo, Meagan Batdorff, Marco Cabrera, Ward Kuhn (arrived at 5:45 pm), Marguerite Cotto (arrived at 5:45)

ii. Board Members absent: None

iii. Administrators Present: Superintendent Michael Schramm, Recording Secretary: Emily Feaster

#### II. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

a. Motion to add a Discussion Item to 10d. on Cyber Security: Pardo  
Support: Hazelwood

b. Motion to approve agenda with discussion item 10d: Pardo  
Support: Hazelwood  
Motion passed: 5-0

c. Motion to add Overview of Strategic Planning by Matt Olson to the agenda as Presentation A and Matt Missias as Presentation B: Kuhn  
Support: Cotto  
Motion passed: 7-0

d. Motion to approve agenda with added presentations a and B: Batdorff  
Support: Kuhn  
Motion passed: 7-0

#### III. Approval of Previous BOE Meeting Minutes

a. Motion to approve of Regular March 18, 2024 board minutes: Pardo  
Support: Hazelwood  
Motion passed: 6-0

#### IV. Public Comment- None

#### V. Recognitions -

a. Michael Schramm would like to recognize our Heads of School for their work in raising enrollment numbers.

#### VI. Board Correspondence - None

#### VII. Presentations-

a. Overview of Strategic Planning Meeting- Matt Olson presented the next steps for

the Strategic Planning Process. The Strategic Planning Retreat will be held on May 18 at 9 am.

- b. Matt Missias- Missias recognized Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth and Meagan Batdorff for all of their hard work over the past 5 years and commitment to the board.

### **VIII. Reports**

- a. Superintendent's Report - Schramm included the report in the board packet and highlighted enrollment increases for next year.
- b. President's Report - Babin-Ringsmuth included the report in the board packet.
- c. Treasurer's Report - Pardo included the report in the board packet. Pardo stated there is currently a positive fund balance and it is looking positive to have a 5% fund balance. The Mercantile mortgage loan was approved. The Finance and Facilities committee completed a full inspection of the Middle School property and will work to create a plan to complete the work needed over the next years. The committee is also looking for input on priorities over the next few years.
  - a. Fund Balance- Get to a 10% Level
  - b. Increase in Teacher Salaries
  - c. Payoff the "Old Building Loan"
  - d. Payoff the 1st State Aid Note
  - e. Payoff the 2nd State Aid Note
  - f. Increase Fund Balance

Batdorff stated a large priority would be increasing teacher salaries to keep our staff. Cotto stated the need to look at compensation as a whole and not simply salary. For example, to help people figure out where to live to work here. Things like childcare, and professional development could be considered. Babin Ringsmuth also supported that increasing teacher salaries is the first concern. Batdorff stated a second priority would be increasing the fund balance. Next month, an organizational scorecard will be introduced.

- d. Authorizer's Report - GVSU's representative, Matt Missias, reported the GVSU Charter school team has new leadership. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10. National Charter School Week is May 13- 17. Spring Leaders Retreat is in May. Thank you to those who took the Board Member's Satisfaction Survey. 98% of respondents were happy with Grand Valley as an Authorizer. Board Reception will be on May 14 in Grand Rapids. The Board President's Leadership Retreat will be held on October 3rd in Ann Arbor. Virtual Board trainings will be available on April 29, May 6, and June 3.
- e. Faculty Summary - Jean Schramm reported the high school is excited about their first graduating class. They are proud they provide such a safe and trustworthy environment for their students. The middle school pushed through the lack of internet last week. There is concern about salaries to retain good teachers. The middle school would like to give a shout-out to Kris Galoci for her work on the Women in Flight Forum as well as the Flight field trip. Both schools were able to view the eclipse. 6th and 7th graders were able to have a planetarium come to the campus and experience the night school. 8th Graders were able to explore different medical careers at Munson. The courtyard is so much better thanks to the drain put in by Popp Excavating. We are still in need of sidewalks to help decrease the dirt. Flight Night is being held on April 25. This week our counselors are hosting a Suicide Prevention Night on April 18. Our middle school counselor

is also looking for funding for suicide prevention programs.

## **IX. Consent Agenda**

### **a. Committee Reports**

i. Facilities & Finance

ii. Fundraising and Marketing

iii. Personnel

iv. Curriculum/School Improvement Team

Motion to approve consent agendas of those provided: Kuhn

Support: Cotto

Passed: 7-0

## **X. Discussion Items**

a. Signatures on Mercantile Bank Loan Documents:

Motion to move Signatures on Merchantile Bank Loan Documents to an Action Item: Batdorff

Support: Hazelwood

Passed: 7-0

b. Board Vacancy: Pardo raised the question of what values are important to have in our board members. Cotto suggested that the strategic planning discussion could impact who we might need to have on our board.

Motion to add the appointment of Joe McCarthy to the board and renew Meagan Batdoorff's contract to an action item: Cotto

Support: Kuhn

Passed: 7-0

c. Greenspire Charitable Foundation Ex-officio Member: Babin-Ringsmuth discussed the need for an Ex-Officio member to the Charitable Foundation.

Motion to add appointment of Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth as Ex-Officio Member to action items: Kuhn

Support: Cotto

Passed: 7-0

d. Cyber Security: Cabrera stated the importance of making sure everyone has unique passwords. Phishing emails are also incredibly important to look out for to try and get your information. The emails often include little pieces of information that are true and make you feel like the email could be true. Whaling involves giving little bits of information to build up a bigger email with bits of information from lots of people. Cabrera stated the importance of making sure Northwest Ed is up to date with cyber security and that we are doing everything we can to prevent things like this in the future. Cabrera and Schramm will work to coordinate a discussion with Northwest Ed to ensure we are doing everything we can to protect ourselves.

## **XI. Action Items**

a. Motion to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar: Kuhn

Support: Hazelwood

Motion Passed: 7-0

b. Motion to approve GVSU Partners ESP Contract and Schedule 6 Amendment: Cotto

Support: Kuhn  
Motion Passed: 7-0

c. Motion to approve the President, Treasurer, and Superintendent as authorized signatories on the Mercantile Bank Loan Document: Kuhn  
Support: Hazelwood  
Passed: 7-0

d. Motion to appoint Joe McCarthy to the Greenspire Board: Pardo  
Support: Hazelwood  
Passed: 7-0

e. Motion to Reappoint Meagan Batdorff to Greenspire Board: Cotto  
Support: Hazelwood  
Passed: 7-0

f. Motion to appoint the Greenspire Board President as an Ex-Officio Member of the Greenspire Charitable Foundation: Kuhn  
Support: Hazelwood  
Passed: 7-0

**XII. Public Comment- None**

**XII. Adjournment of the board meeting at 7:26**

Motion to adjourn: Kuhn  
Support: Cotto  
Motion passed: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marguerite Cotto".

Marguerite Cotto, School Board Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 5:30 pm in Spruce Hall