

**GOBLES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION OPEN MEETING
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 14, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

1. Board President, Bonnie Miller, opened the Regular Board of Education Open Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle/High School Library.

2. Attendance
 - a. Board Members Present
Bonnie Miller
Brian Beam
Paula Sipes
Dan Wahmhoff
Mitch Smith
Gary Napp

 - b. Board Members Absent
Terry Doyle

 - c. Staff Members Present
Jeff Rehlander, Superintendent
Terry Breen, Elem. Principal, Food Service, District Grants and Reports
Phil McAndrew, Middle/High School Principal, Transportation Director
Damian Koob, Director of Technology and Data Management

 - d. Others Present
Visitors - 15
Press - 1

3. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Napp, to approve the Agenda as presented. Roll call vote:
AYES: Beam, Smith, Sipes, Wahmhoff, Miller, Napp
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Doyle
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

4. There was one correction in the Minutes of September 16, 2013. Item #14 – Bond Project Update - was changed to Information Only rather than a roll call vote.

5. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Beam, to accept the Minutes of the Board of Education Regular Open meeting of September 16, 2013, as amended. Roll call vote:
AYES: Smith, Sipes, Wahmhoff, Miller, Napp, Beam
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Doyle
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

6. Correspondence – Mr. Rehlander invited the Board to attend the Community First Annual Wellness Walk/Run (Kenzie’s Superstars) on Saturday, October 26, 2013 in support of one of our students with Cystic Fibrosis. Mr. Rehlander informed the Board that he attended a conference in Saginaw with Van Buren ISD administrators on October 4, 2013. October is STEM month. This is an initiative by the governor and one of his major plans for education. The governor gave a speech and they were involved in various breakout sessions. He pointed out that Mr. McAndrew detailed some things coming up regarding STEM and some things we have been working on in the area of STEM in his Board report.

7. The meeting was opened to the public for non-agenda items. Many parents voiced their concerns and displeasure about the way the school lock down was handled and offered suggestions on what should have been done and how we could improve. Others praised the staff and administration on the way things were handled during a difficult situation and felt thankful the children were all safe. After community input the Superintendent spoke to the public assuring them that Gobles is a safe campus. He explained the details of what happened that day, and the reasons we called for a partial lockdown where we tried to proceed normally except no one was allowed outside the building. At 2:30 when we received information from the Sheriff’s department that the intruder was in the vicinity armed and dangerous the decision was made not to release students and to contact parents to pick them up. He felt our staff and administrators did everything they could do with the resources we have, but there is always room for improvement. He informed the public of the safety recommendations we have included in the bond project and encouraged the community to come together to provide input on ways we can improve our security at Gobles Public Schools.

8. Administrative Reports
 - a. Mr. McAndrew handed out information from three neighboring districts graduation policies from their handbook. The policy committee will get together and discuss the issues in our handbook regarding senior awards, class rank, etc. This is for information only at this time.
 - b. Mr. Koob advised the Board that he is still working on getting the Digital Marquee repaired. The manufacturer has agreed to replace the panels for free – per warranty. It looks like the sign is overheating. RWL Signs was called in and they installed fans & vents in the sign. We are waiting for panels to be replaced at this point. He will keep the Board updated.
 - c. Mr. Breen had nothing to add to his report. Mr. Beam complimented Mr. Breen on starting the BASE program and how well it has been running. He has a child attending BASE and has been very impressed.
 - d. Mr. Rehlander congratulated Mr. Miller on his accomplishments, pointing out that Mr. Miller is the Director of Athletics for the Gobles Public Schools; he has been President of the Southwest Athletic Conference for a number of years and he was recently named a Regional Athletic Director of the Year. Now Chris has been selected as Regional Counsel Representative for Class C and D Schools for the State of Michigan.

9. Mr. Mitch Smith reported that the Policy Committee met on October 9, 2013 to update policies. Policies were reviewed and the Committee received clarification and answers to many questions they had. The policy committee supports Board approval of these policies as presented. The Policy Committee also reviewed Layoff-Recall Policies including Teacher Placement, Teacher Discipline, and Reduction and Recall of Teachers. A couple of changes were made to the Reduction and Recall of Teachers to fall in line with how we are doing teacher evaluations. The committee is recommending Board approval of these policies as presented.

10. Lisa Melnik from YEO & YEO, the school district's auditing firm, passed out a copy of the audit report to all Board members. She reviewed the report with the Board, offered suggestions and answered Board questions. No action was necessary at this time.

11. Mr. Rehlander updated the Board on enrollment numbers. He informed the Board that our projected budget was based on 856 students. We had 874 students on count day. He included a breakdown of numbers by grade levels and he also included an article by Julie Mack pointing out that Gobles was 1 of 5 schools that has grown in enrollment over the last two years.

12. Mr. Rehlander updated the Board on the Bond Project, which we have been working on the better part of spring. A Steering Committee has been identified and met with our professional services team of the architect, construction manager, technology consultant and financial adviser. The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled to meet October 16, 2013 to develop 6 organizational rolls, to define the scope of the project, and work on timelines. We are hoping to make a recommendation to the Board from the Steering Committee for the Board to consider at the December Board meeting.

13. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Smith, to approve NEOLA Board Policies 0120, 0140, 1422, 2271, 2280, 2370.01, 2417, 2623, 3122, 4122, 4162, 5112, 5340.01, 5460, 5515.01, 5610.01, 7540.07, 7540.08 and 8800 as presented.
Roll call vote:
AYES: Smith, Napp, Beam, Miller, Sipes, Wahmhoff
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Doyle
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

14. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Smith, to approve Layoff-Recall Policies: Teacher Placement, Teacher Discipline and Reduction and Recall of Teachers, as presented. Roll call vote:

AYES: Napp, Beam, Miller, Sipes, Wahmhoff, Smith

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Doyle

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

15. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Beam, to approve the request from Mr. Corey Harbaugh to include the book *The Events of October: Murder-Suicide on a Small Campus*, by Gail Griffin, in our twelfth grade English/Language Arts curriculum, as presented. Roll call vote:

AYES: Beam, Miller, Sipes, Wahmhoff, Smith, Napp

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Doyle

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

16. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Napp, to approve the book *Foundations of Personal Finance* for our high school Math curriculum, as presented. Roll call vote:

AYES: Miller, Sipes, Wahmhoff, Smith, Napp, Beam

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Doyle

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

17. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mrs. Sipes, to approve the administrative recommendation to employ Denise Davis as a half time special education teacher beginning October 14, 2013 at the seventh step of the teacher MA+15 salary schedule. Roll call vote:

AYES: Miller, Sipes, Wahmhoff, Smith, Napp, Beam

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Doyle

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

18. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Wahmhoff, to pay September General Fund Board bills in the amount of \$136,965.12 as presented. Roll call vote:

AYES: Sipes, Wahmhoff, Smith, Napp, Beam, Miller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Doyle

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

19. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mrs. Sipes, to approve the General Fund Budget Summary as presented. Roll call vote:

AYES: Sipes, Wahmhoff, Miller, Napp, Beam, Smith

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Doyle

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

20. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Napp, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was declared adopted.

21. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Paula Sipes, Secretary
Gobles Board of Education