

**GOBLES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION OPEN MEETING
MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 16, 2013**

1. Board President, Bonnie Miller, opened the Special Board of Education Open Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the middle/high school library.
2. Attendance
 - a. Board Members Present
Terry Doyle
Gary Napp
Mitch Smith
Brian Beam
Dan Wahmhoff
Bonnie Miller
Paul Sipes
 - b. Board Members Absent
None
 - c. Staff Members Present
Jeff Rehlander
Phil McAndrew
Chris Miller
Damian Koob
 - d. Others Present
Visitors – 9 (Teachers)
Press - 0
3. There was one addition and one deletion to the agenda. Staff Request was added as Item #9 and General Fund Budget Summary was deleted.
4. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Napp, to approve the agenda as amended. Roll call vote:
AYES: Miller, Beam, Napp, Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.
5. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Doyle, to accept the minutes of the Board of Education Special Open Meeting of August 26, 2013 as presented. Roll call vote:
AYES: Beam, Napp, Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes, Miller
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

6. Correspondence. Included in the Board packet was a Flyer from the Van Buren Tech Center inviting everyone to a Back to School Parent Night. Mr. Rehlander reviewed with the Board the Moody's report. Moody's Investors Service has downgraded Gobles general obligation bonds to A2 from an A1 rating due to the district's weakened financial position following five consecutive draws from fund equity and an above average direct debt burden that is expected to increase. This will have an impact on the cost of our bonds, which he will keep the Board informed on.
7. The meeting was opened to the public. Chris Quist, third grade teacher, invited Board members to participate in her reading program. The last Tuesday of every month parents, staff, and community members are invited to come to her classroom to read to students from 2:30-3:00 p.m. The need is great, and she encouraged Board members to participate if they had the time. Mr. Beam spoke as a new Kindergarten parent praising our Kindergarten program. He was especially encouraged and impressed with the interaction the teachers have with parents, keeping them informed and answering questions.
8. Administrative Reports.
 - a. Mr. Miller congratulated Michaela DeKilder for being named athlete of the week in Van Buren and Cass counties.
 - b. Mr. McAndrew had nothing to add to his report, but answered Board questions.
 - c. Mr. Koob reminded the Board that we are dealing with a lot of outdated equipment, and are doing our best to keep it up and running. He has received many compliments on the website, and it is still a work in progress.
 - d. Mr. Rehlander informed the Board that he spent a week with the auditors and they will be giving a report to the Board the beginning of October.
9. Board of Education Reports. – There were no committee meetings this month.
10. There was a first reading done of NEOLA Board Policies 0120, 0140, 1422, 2271, 2280, 2370.01, 2417, 2623, 3122, 4122, 5112, 5340.01, 5460, 5515.01, 5610.01, 7540.07, 7540.08 and 8800 at tonight's meeting. Mr. Rehlander will get answers to Board questions before the next Board meeting so action can be taken at the next regular Board meeting. No action was necessary.
11. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mrs. Sipes, to accept the agreement between the Bloomingdale Public Schools and Gobles Public Schools for Food Service Management Services for the 2013-2014 school year as presented. Roll call vote:
AYES: Napp, Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes, Miller, Beam
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

12. In response to Board of School Trustees Response to GEA Grievance 12-13-01 – Leave Bank, Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Wahmhoff, to offer that we move forward this year with the Leave Bank with each eligible teacher having a day deducted from their sick leave to put into the leave bank, and if those days are used up the Board will lend additional days that will be paid back. The GEA and District Office will work out how to manage the Leave Bank and the Superintendent will check to see if any days were banked previously. A formal letter/response to the grievance will be given to the GEA by Wednesday, September 25, 2013. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: Doyle

The motion was declared adopted.

13. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Beam, to ratify the state aid note authorizing resolution as presented. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

14. Bond Project Update. Mr. Rehlander updated the Board as to the progress and future plans and timelines of the Bond Project. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

15. A copy of the adjusted 2013-14 Adopted Budget was given to the Board for their information and review. Accounting procedures still have to be put in place to conform to the KRESA format.

16. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mrs. Sipes, to approve the administrative recommendation to employ Emilie Eichberg as a secondary special education paraprofessional beginning the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

17. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Wahmhoff, to approve the administrative recommendation to transfer Julia Brockway to fill the Title I Math Paraprofessional position 3 days per week, 7 hours per day. Roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

The motion was declared adopted.

18. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mrs. Sipes, to approve a maternity leave for Veronica Peterson beginning on or around December 1, 2013 and ending February 22, 2014.
AYES: Miller, Beam, Napp, Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

19. A first reading of the Layoff-Recall Polices was done at tonight's meeting. Mr. Rehlander will contact the school attorney to clear up a few questions so action can be taken at the next regular Board meeting. No action was necessary.

20. The Board viewed a video presentation on School Accountability that was shown to Superintendent's at the VBISD last week. Mr. Rehlander explained the new accountability process and shared the accountability scorecards for Van Buren County school districts showing where county schools stood. The accountability scorecard is being released for the first time this year and there are still questions that need to be answered.

21. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Beam, to table Board Response to GEA Grievance 13-14-01 for further discussion and consultation from the attorney. A letter of agreement will be made up extending the time line to respond. Roll call vote:
AYES: Beam, Napp, Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes, Miller
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

22. The Board reviewed a request from Mr. Corey Harbaugh to approve the book *The Events of October: Murder-Suicide on a Small Campus* for our twelfth grade English/Language Arts curriculum and an administrative request to approve the book *Foundations of Personal Finance* for our Math curriculum. This was for information only and will be acted on at the next regular meeting.

23. Mr. Wahmhoff moved, supported by Mr. Beam, to approve the performance evaluation documents and process submitted for teachers. Roll call vote:
AYES: Napp, Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes, Miller, Beam
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

24. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Napp, to approve the performance evaluation documents and process submitted for administrators with the exception of the Superintendent of Schools. Roll call vote:
AYES: Doyle, Smith, Wahmhoff, Sipes, Miller Beam, Napp
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.

25. Mr. Rehlander reviewed enrollment information with the Board including an enrollment report showing a breakdown of class sizes at the present time and projected class size enrollment for 2014-15. Mr. Rehlander advised the Board that administrators met last week to discuss class size concerns and it was decided to keep class sizes the way they are at the present time rather than hiring an additional teacher. Administrators also discussed our Special Education numbers and the numbers that we are at require us to hire an additional half time Special Education teacher to comply with the Van Buren ISD guidelines. Mr. Rehlander informed the Board that we are planning to move forward to post this half time secondary Special Education position. This was for information only.
26. Mr. Beam moved, supported by Mr. Doyle, to pay August General Fund Board bills in the amount of \$146,052.19, as presented. Roll call vote:
AYES: Wahmhoff, Smith, Doyle, Napp, Beam, Miller, Sipes
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None
The motion was declared adopted.
27. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Paula Sipes
Gobles Board of Education