

School Board Work Session Highlights

October 11, 2021

Great Valley School District
Office of the School Board Secretary



During the October 11, 2021 Work Session

The October 11, 2021, work session was called to order by President David Barratt. Board members **present**: Jennifer Armstrong, Amy Chain, Stephen Dittmann, Samantha Jouin, Wendy Litzke, Neha Mehta, and Bryan Paluch. **Absent**: Rachel Gallegos

Student Representative to the Board

Meher Sachar provided a student representative report to the Board. Meher shared that homecoming was the week of September 27. High School students participated in spirit week, an outdoor pep rally, and an outdoor homecoming dance. One of the themes during spirit week was “GV Gives Back Day”, where students raised over \$1,000 for charities. Meher shared that the Drama Guild’s 2021 fall play is “The Tempest”, by William Shakespeare, which premieres November 18. Lastly, Meher shared some upcoming events; 9th graders will have library and counseling orientation, 10th and 11th grade students will take the PSAT on October 13, and 12th grade students will take their class of 2022 portrait.

Program

Discussion

Dr. O’Toole and **Dr. Capetola** reported on GV High School Grading and Assessment. **Dr. O’Toole** began with a review of grading practices and mid-term/finals practices utilized prior to the 2019-2020 school year. **Dr. Capetola** then discussed the impact of these practices on students and moved to a review of the current grading practices and a review of best practices in grading and assessment. Finally, she reviewed changes made during COVID-19, and points to consider. Both **Dr. O’Toole** and **Dr. Capetola** then entertained questions from the Board.

Ms. Blake and **Dr. Wexler** presented on the YouthTruth survey. **Ms. Blake** provided information about what YouthTruth is, how the data gathered can be useful to our district, and the themes that are included in the survey. The surveys will be administered during school hours to students, staff, and families between November 1 and 19. **Dr. Wexler** talked about how survey data has been used in the past and why the Emotional & Mental Health module and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion module have been added. To wrap up the presentation, **Ms. Blake** shared information about the survey timeline.

Mr. Barratt shared that enrollment numbers are available for the Board to review.

Policy

The following policies are being recommended for first reading:

- 123.4 Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- 200 Enrollment in District, AG
- 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students, AG

Policy

(continued)

The following policies are being recommended for first reading (continued):

- 203 Communicable Diseases and Immunization, AG
- 204 Attendance, AG
- 227 Controlled Substances
- 239 Foreign Exchange Students, AG
- 330 Overtime Compensatory Time
- 335 Family and Medical Leaves, AG

The following policies are being recommended for first repeal reading:

- 435 Family and Medical Leaves, AG
- 535 Family and Medical Leaves, AG

Superintendent's Update

Dr. Goffredo began his report with a COVID-19 update by discussing the dashboard on our website, close contact identification, and continued communication with the CCHD. He then shared a few clarifying points with the Board regarding infectious period, quarantine period, close contact notification, testing, and outbreak response.

Facilities

Mr. Peterson stated that the following facilities items will be listed for approval on the business meeting agenda.

- Change Order #1 to the contract with Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc., reducing the contract by \$19,167.43 as a credit for unused services
- Authorization for the sealed bid sale of the house and property located at 357 Swedesford Road
- Contract with SiteLogiq Construction Management to provide construction management services for the construction of the 5/6 Center at a flat fee of \$987,899
- Change Order #4 to the contract with Donald E. Reisinger, Inc., for the stadium project in the amount of \$4,495.08
- Proposal from Breneman Company to clean and seal parking lot cracks at a cost of \$16,500

Transportation

Mr. Peterson stated that the following transportation items will be listed for approval on the business meeting agenda.

- Private Transportation contract for the 2021-22 school year

Finance

Mr. Peterson stated that the following finance items will be listed for approval on the business meeting agenda.

- Change Order with YouthTruth for the 2021-22 school year reducing the original agreement by \$800 to a new total of \$13,000
- Contract with Cadorette Communications to provide website redesign and app development project management services at a cost not to exceed \$26,000
- Temporary Athletic Trainer Services from Go4Ellis at a cost of \$56.25 per hour
- Contract with Kevin Flanigan to provide literacy professional development at a cost of \$1,500 per day for 16 days, totaling \$24,000

Finance

(continued)

Contracts with LearnWell for educational services while at a partial hospitalization program for students 240145, 240141, 220318

Contract with Overbrook School to provide 1:1 Aide for student 220017 for 2021-2022

Contract with The Vanguard School to provide 1:1 Aide for student 300260 for 2021-2022

Contract with Martin Luther School for educational services for student 290404 for 2021-2022

Contract with Lifeworks for specialized educational services for students who qualify for 2021-2022 2022-2023 per pupil building budgets at \$177.90/weighted student at the secondary schools and \$258.75/weighted student at the elementary schools

Proposal from Traffic Planning and Design to provide an evaluation and recommendations to alleviate traffic congestion at the Great Valley Middle School and High School at a cost of \$10,700

Contract with Trapani Communications to provide communications services during the 2021-2022 school year at a cost of \$140 per hour, not to exceed \$15,000, as needed

Other Items

Mr. Peterson shared information with the Board regarding potential borrowing for the 5/6 Center. He stated that he expects to bring the district's bond counsel to the November meeting and expects to propose a parameters resolution.

Board Comments

Mrs. Chain shared that the Foundation is holding a drawing for families to enter to win one of five prizes. Entries are being accepted until October 15. Students get to pick the teacher that they'll give that gift to which is a \$100 prize for their classroom. To enter, sign up for GVSDEF emails.

Draft Agenda

Mr. Barratt stated that the draft agenda of the October 18 business meeting is available to the board for review.

Public Comments

The following public comments were submitted:

C. Sexton – COVID-19, vaccine mandates, masking

Executive Session

Mr. Barratt announced that the board met in Executive Session before the meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues.

Adjournment

Seeing no further comments or questions, the meeting adjourned.