

School Board Work Session Highlights

November 8, 2021

*Great Valley School District
Office of the School Board Secretary*



During the November 8, 2021 Work Session

The November 8, 2021, work session was called to order by President David Barratt. Board members **present:** Amy Chain, Stephen Dittmann, Samantha Jouin, Wendy Litzke, and Neha Mehta. **Absent:** Jennifer Armstrong and Bryan Paluch.

Student Representative to the Board

Meher Sachar provided a student representative report to the Board. In this report, Meher highlighted student activities and academics. Great Valley Varsity Field Hockey is beginning their first round of states on November 9, 2021. The Quiz Bowl team won their first competition at Friends Selected School and ranked first in the state. Great Valley Cross Country has runners that qualified for states, including freshman Tessa Dietrick. Meher shared that the end of the first marking period is Tuesday, November 9, and that National Honors Society has accepted new members.

Program

Discussion

David Schrader, from SCHRADERGROUP, and **Alex Aquila**, from Metropolitan Acoustics, reviewed the [report from Metropolitan Acoustics](#) and shared a [concept estimate](#) for renovation to the auditorium. Pricing, potential design details, and timeline were discussed. **Mr. Peterson** shared that a proposal for the design work will be presented to the Board for approval at the November Business Meeting. Board Members requested a report from the Facilities Committee regarding this plan and other items that need to be completed in the immediate future.

Dr. O'Toole provided an overview for the district's [comprehensive plan](#). He began by sharing that the PA Department of Education provided an extension for submitting the plan. The new deadline is August 30, 2022. The special education plan has been extended to July 30, 2022. Dr. O'Toole reviewed the mission, vision, and shared values of the District. He then reviewed some current goals, next steps, and entertained questions and comments from the Board.

Dr. O'Toole and Dr. Capetola then moved on to a report on [GVHS Mid-terms and Finals](#). **Dr. Goffredo** preempted the presentation by sharing with the Board that the goal is ultimately to eliminate mid-terms and finals for high school students. Dr. O'Toole then introduced Mr. Hess and Mrs. Bebee who joined via Zoom. He continued by sharing local university final examination policies and offerings.

Dr. Capetola then shared some grade calculation examples and **Mr. Hess** discussed assessments and his personal experiences. **Mrs. Bebee** then shared some insight from a school counseling perspective. Dr. O'Toole wrapped up with some additional points to consider and next steps to take. Lastly, the team entertained questions from the Board.

Mr. Barratt shared that monthly enrollment numbers are available for review.



Policy

The following policies are being recommended for 1st Reading:

- 008 Organizational Chart
- 601 Fiscal Objectives
- 602 Budget Planning
- 603 Budget Preparation
- 604 Budget Adoption
- 605 Tax Levy
- 606 Tax Collection
- 606.1 Senior Citizens' Volunteer Tax Rebate Program, AG
- 607 Tuition Income
- 608 Bank Accounts
- 609 Investment of District Funds
- 610 Procurement
- 614 Payroll Authorization
- 615 Payroll Deductions
- 616 Payment of Bills
- 618 Student Activity Funds, AG
- 619 District Audit – Public
- 620 Fund Balance
- 621 Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights, AG
- 622 Capital Assets and GASB Statement 34, AG
- 623 Continuing Disclosure of Financial Information for Bond Issues, AG
- 625 Procurement/Credit Cards – Employee Use, AG
- 626.1 Travel Reimbursement – Federal Programs
- 627 District-Initiated Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeals
- 628 Tax Waiver Requests
- 811 Bonding
- 812 Property Insurance
- 813 Other Insurance

The following policies are being recommended for 2nd Reading and Adoption:

- 123.4 Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- 200 Enrollment in District, AG
- 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students, AG
- 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 2nd Reading and Repeal:

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



Superintendent's Update

Dr. Goffredo began his [report](#) by discussing an announcement made by Governor Wolf that the mask requirement for schools will expire on January 17, 2022, meaning that schools can make their own determinations. He then provided an update on COVID-19, including county incidence and positivity rates, the District dashboard, and a rise of cases at General Wayne Elementary. He then highlighted that he and his team are working with local pharmacies and the CCHD to schedule clinics for 5 to 11-year-old students within the district.

Facilities

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

Proposal from the SCHRADERGROUP for design, bidding, and construction management services for 2022-23 renovations to the GVHS Auditorium at a cost of \$136,983.

Change Order to the contract with Delaware Valley Paving in the amount of \$206,782.60, making the new contract total \$241,499.15.

Change Order #01-002 to the contract with American Athletic Courts in the amount of \$5,250 for channel drain repair.

Proposal from Chester Valley Engineers for topographic land surveying at K.D. Markley Elementary School in the amount of \$13,700.

Finance

Mr. Peterson reported on the finance committee meeting held on November 1, 2021. He then stated that the following finance items will be listed for approval on the business meeting agenda.

Parameters Resolution authorizing a bond issue to finance the 5/6 Center and other capital projects in an amount not-to-exceed \$110,000,000.

Contracts with LearnWell for students 230147, 250302, and 240049.

Six-month renewal for 50 KaJeet WiFi hotspots for students that do not have access to WiFi at home at a total cost of \$6,259.29.

Contract with Amanda Haskell, CAAB Services, LLC to provide math professional development and implementation support/instructional coaching for elementary teachers for 16 days total, not-to-exceed \$17,600.

Proposal from Sage Wellness to provide professional development activities at a cost of \$43,300.

Three-year contract with Blackboard Inc. for software, professional development, and hosting services of the GVSD website at a total cost of \$47,732.05.

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 – Curriculum

F. Redman – Vaccinations, Equity Discussions and Plans



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.