

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes - Regular Board Meeting
January 19, 2021

The Board of Education of the Garfield Heights City School District met virtually in regular session on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with Mrs. Nichelle Daniels, President of the Board, presiding.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mrs. Daniels, Ms. King, Ms. Thomas

Absent: Mr. Juby, Mrs. Kitson

Mrs. Kitson officially resigned through an email to President Daniels as of member of the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education effective January 19, 2021.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to adopt the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approved the minutes from the Special Meeting of December 14, 2020 and Regular Meeting of December 21, 2020.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you. I begin my first official report by wishing everyone a Happy and safe New Year. I want to thank my colleagues on the Board of Education for affirming me into this new position, and I plan to approach the role of President of this body with the same approach I try to do all things: *with the heart of a servant*. My deepest gratitude is extended to outgoing President, and veteran of this Board, Mr. Joe Juby. I wish him the best and I look forward to serving alongside him again in the near future. I graciously thank him for the leadership he has demonstrated over the years.

Yesterday, Monday, January 18th, we celebrated the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Perhaps more so this year, and at this moment, should the words, actions and beliefs of Dr. King ring true to every American, who values decency, equity and humanity. The Garfield Heights City Schools has posted a link to Dr. King's iconic "I Have a Dream" speech which was made in Washington, and I hope everyone took a moment to re-watch his words, and re-dedicate themselves, to the principles in which he believed.

Our plans as a Board of Education, for the upcoming term will be to continue collaborating with one another in an effort to foster the greatest, most transparent and safest learning environment for the students and staff of the Garfield Heights City Schools as possible. We are committed to the mission of our district to educate, guide and ensure all students graduate prepared to meet high expectations and serve as responsible citizens in a global society.

Over the last several months our students, our families, our teachers, Superintendent, cabinet and staff have worked tirelessly to uphold the mission of the district during a pandemic. The Board of Education acknowledges all for your dedication and hard work. I would like to acknowledge our teachers for the exceptional work and dedication they have put forth in assuring that our students are educated during a pandemic. The ability to pivot between in-person to a virtual learning environment highlighted your ability to do whatever it takes for our students. Your professionalism, patience and flexibility have not gone unnoticed and we thank you.

To our service staff that assured the buses kept rolling, hot lunches were still available to families, buildings and grounds were maintained and buildings remained secured. We thank you. Many of you continued to report to work even when the pandemic was at it worst. You managed the frontline with consistency and dedication.

To our families and community, we thank you for participation in surveys, board meetings and town hall meetings. This is your school district and your input and support is valuable to us.

To our scholars, who we all are here for, we thank you for being patient while we figured out how to give you access during this unprecedented time. You have sacrificed so much and have had to work through so many barriers and we are bulldog proud of you. I want to assure you that we are dedicated and committed to your education and achievement.

Lastly, Superintendent Hanke, along with Mr. Sluka, Mr. Patton, Mrs. Reiland, Mrs. Bailey and all of the administrators and principals that have worked tirelessly over the last several months to prepare the plans to make the building safe and disinfected, to keep transportation, food services and technology all aligned has been a tremendous undertaking. You have our support and faith as you continue navigating these unprecedented waters. Superintendent Hanke, we thank you for your dedication to our District and the continued partnership between the Board and your team to safely return to normal-whatever that may be, as quickly and safely as possible.

And finally, I ask for a moment of silence for one of The Garfield Heights City Schools' long-time, and treasured employees, Mrs. Marlene Ziel, who recently and suddenly passed away. The community will hear and read a proclamation at this meeting honoring her dedication to this District, our student-athletes and to being a true Bulldog. She was one of a kind, and she will be truly missed.

Will you join me in a moment of silence for Mrs. Ziel?

All the best to everyone in the New Year. This concludes my report. Thank you.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center – Christine A. Kitson

CVCC organizational meeting was held on January 7th followed by the regular meeting.

Jackie Arendt was elected as Board President and Robert Felber will serve as the vice-president.

Christine Kitson is serving on the Building and grounds committee and policy committee. She is also serving as alternate delegate for the OSBA.

At the January meeting, the 5-year technology plan was shared with the Board. In addition, Superintendent Mangus shared the upcoming Career Technical Education week activities.

Student Activities - Ashley M. Thomas, M. Ed.

Good Evening all and Happy New Year! I hope that everyone took some time yesterday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King's life and legacy. Thank you Mrs. Daniels for taking a moment of silence to honor our beloved Mrs. Marlene Ziel. I would like to share a little bit about Mrs. Ziels time with us here at Garfield Heights. Marlene began working for the district in 1986 and has worked as the athletic department secretary since 1994. Marlene was a dedicated and loyal employee that epitomized the true meaning of "Bulldog Pride". Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Furthermore, all winter sports are practicing and competing while following all of the protocols to help insure a healthy season with limited contact. There have been zero positive cases associated with any of our practices or games.

Legislative Liaison –Christine A. Kitson

City Liaison – Millette King, M.Ed., L.S.W.

Happy New Year. I hope that everyone had a safe and healthy holiday season.

Mayor Vic Collova announced at the last City Council meeting that he will be retiring from his position as Mayor on January 31, 2021. At that time President of City Council, Matt Burke will become Interim Mayor until November's election.

The next City Council meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2021, at 7pm. You can participate in the meeting via Zoom. The link is 893 1547 4985.

Policy Liaison – Joseph M. Juby & Nichelle N. Daniels

Mrs. Daniels reported that the Policy Committee will be meeting on January 27, 2021 to discuss policy committee goals for the coming year.

PRESENTATION

3rd Grade Scores – Mrs. Liz Kosta

On January 19th, Mrs. Kosta presented to the board of education with our third grade Ohio State testing data. The graph represented the percent of students who took the third grade fall reading assessment and passed with a proficient score of 700 or higher from the past three years. As presented in the data, our third grade students made significant loss this past fall on the state test. Research was shared with the board on the potential impacts of COVID-19 and school closures on academic achievement. The projections from NWEA MAP data states, "missing school for a prolonged period of time will likely have major impacts on student achievement." Based on the research recommendations, I outlined what our district is doing to assist our students to combat the COVID-19 potential academic loss our students may be encountering in our district.

RECOGNITIONS/COMMENDATIONS

PROCLAMATION HONORING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DURING BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

WHEREAS, each January in the State of Ohio, Boards of Education from throughout the state are honored for their service to their respective districts and communities by the Ohio Department of Education with the annual Board Recognition Month celebration, and

WHEREAS, the Garfield Heights City Schools, including its staff, students and families seek to recognize the dedication, time, energy, thought and hard work required to be a duly elected official and public servant for our District, and

WHEREAS, Board President Nichelle N. Daniels, Vice President Millette King, M.Ed., L.S.W., Member Joseph M. Juby, Member, Christine A. Kitson and Member Ashley M. Thomas, M.Ed. have been elected to serve as the liaison between the community district administrators. On a daily basis, our Board of Education faces a variety of complex and ever-changing issues, and these individuals discharge their duties with a high level of diligence. The Board of Education has placed student and staff success and safety above all other matters, and they have been truly dedicated to serving their best interest. Without their direction and approval, we as administrators, could not effectively do our jobs.

WHEREAS, Board President Nichelle N. Daniels, Vice President Millette King, M.Ed., L.S.W., Member Joseph M. Juby, Member, Christine A. Kitson and Member Ashley M. Thomas, M.Ed. are working hard right now to help to establish a clear vision for your Garfield Heights City Schools through the renewed effort to develop a Strategic Plan and Portrait of a Garfield Heights Graduate, so that students can receive a top-quality education, but ultimately become meaningful contributors to our society. In addition to establishing the vision, the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education attend meetings, focus groups, public discussions, many school events, are responsive to the community, and reply to endless strings of email and phone correspondences to promote transparency in our District, and

WHEREAS the Board of Education are leaders in this community, and the time spent at public meetings represents only a fraction of the time they invest to improve our District. In a very simple, but significant way, this Board of Education has made every effort to remain highly responsive to the community while celebrating our students' and staffs' academic and co-curricular success.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Garfield Heights Board of Education is hereby saluted and commended on their service for Board Recognition Month in January 2021 and thanks them for their care about education, our students and staff and the future of this community.

PROCLAMATION HONORING THE SERVICE OF MARLENE ZIEL TO THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education, on behalf of the entire staff, would like to honor, with the highest regard and acknowledgement, the recent passing of Marlene Ziel, a devoted member of the District's staff for approximately 34 years, and

WHEREAS the Garfield Heights City Schools pays tribute to Marlene Ziel with the greatest respect, for being so affectionately known to generations of Bulldog High School students, first becoming a dedicated part of our staff in 1986, and enriching it, with her delightfulness and lively candor, and

WHEREAS Marlene Ziel was most notably known and beloved in her role as the diligent, hard-working and valued Secretary of the Athletic Department since 1994, who for many years efficiently completed the vital tasks of the office, including scheduling, coordinating the intricacies of home and away interscholastic competitions, interfacing with the community, and serving as a smiling face and shoulder to lean on, for countless boys and girls student-athletes for nearly three decades, and

WHEREAS she served an important operational role as ticket-taker during home athletic contests, serving as the "first face" that our loyal home spectators would greet as they came to cheer on our teams, and who many guests would see as they entered our High School, dispatching those duties with organization, joy and a tremendous sense of school spirit, and

WHEREAS, according to current Coordinator of Athletics and Student Activities, Dale Krzynowek, Marlene Ziel was a devoted employee, a friend to many, and a true BULLDOG! The entire Garfield Heights City Schools family is mourning her loss. She served the District with diligence, sincerity, and the utmost loyalty in representing what it meant to show Bulldog Pride, and

WHEREAS, our Athletic Booster club has also decided to rename their annual scholarship as the "Marlene Ziel Forever a Bulldog Scholarship," to commemorate her love and passion for the students of the Garfield Heights City Schools, as a way for her legacy to benefit future student-athletes, and

WHEREAS the Garfield Heights Board of Education asks you to keep her husband David, and sons David and Scott and other family members and close friends, in your thoughts and prayers,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Garfield Heights City Schools, Superintendent Chris Hanke, Treasurer Allen Sluka and the entire staff of our District commend the service of Marlene Ziel, graciously thank her family for the years of service and sacrifice she made to our Bulldog Family and express our heartfelt condolences on her passing. She will be truly missed in our school district.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Thank you, Madame President.

After a great deal of consideration, review of the numbers and listening to feedback from important stakeholders, the Garfield Heights City Schools will continue in its remote learning environment until further notice, and likely until around the time of March 1st, 2021. This decision does not come lightly, but in the effort to maximize our student and staff safety while delivering as quality of an education as possible. Make no mistake about it, the educational leaders of the Garfield Heights City Schools firmly believes that there is no substitute for in-person learning when it comes to delivering and receiving the best education. However, until everyone in our Garfield Heights City Schools family can feel comfortable about safety, security and the physical environment of the classrooms and hallways, we will remain remote out of an abundance of caution. The administration and Board of Education will revisit the potential of returning to in-person learning during the middle part of February.

In other news, the month of January is officially Board Recognition Month, and on behalf of everyone in the District, I would like to commend Board President Nichelle N. Daniels, Vice President Millette King, Member Joseph M. Juby, Member, Christine A. Kitson and Member Ashley M. Thomas, for partnering with the leadership team on the variety of complex and evolving issues that confront this district, to advance children's education. Our Board members have proven that they discharge their duties with a high level of diligence, having placed student and staff success and safety above all other matters. I want to thank them for their role in helping to establish a clear vision for the District through the renewed effort to develop a Strategic Plan and Portrait of a Garfield Heights Graduate, which the community will learn more about in the very near future. Most people do not see the time and energy required for our Board to attend meetings, focus groups, public discussions, many school events, remain responsive to the community, and reply to endless strings of email and phone correspondences to promote transparency in our District. They are the leaders of this organization, without whom none of us could effectively do our jobs.

Continuing on, there is a Proclamation on tonight's agenda commending Mrs. Marlene Ziel, who recently and suddenly passed away. She served the District and our student athletes for 26 years as the Secretary in the High School Athletic Office. While the Proclamation communicates fully our true sentiment, I can say that in knowing her personally, she always advocated for our students, kept the athletics office super organized, was funny, firm when necessary and displayed the candor of a true Bulldog. She will be missed.

Finally, I hope everyone took advantage of the many tributes online or on television honoring and celebrating the ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Garfield Heights City Schools will continue to be an institution devoted to improving diversity, equity and inclusion, the type of which Dr. King promoted and expected from humanity.

All the best to everyone in the New Year. This concludes my report. Thank you.

REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

No Remarks

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TREASURER

APPROVE THE FINANCIALS FOR DECEMBER 2020

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the December 2020 Financials as presented in Exhibit A.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS - PERSONNEL

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the following certified staff items:

Leave of Absences:

Name	Bldg.	Type	Dates
Brittany Rathge	Middle School	Maternity LOA	2/17/21 - 5/24/21

Approve the following teachers participating in the ESC of Lorain County Always Ready Classroom professional development course be paid at the Curriculum Rate of \$26.02/hour, not to exceed 15 hours, funded out of Title I:

Jennifer Boucher	
Christina Brown	Melissa Irvine
Ashely Turner	Chelsi Baxter
Amanda Sizler	Peggy Posendek
Dawn Majors	Lillian Sandefur
Amanda Skarupa	Rachel Stoss
Megan Chapman	Henry Wessel
Jen Corrado	Sherri Mercsak
Julie Dempsey	Codry Sledge
Pamela Dorton-Farr	Paula Kijowski

Approve the following teachers that participated in the "Leveling the Field for Multilingual Learners" professional development webinar be paid at the Curriculum Rate of \$26.02/hour, to be funded out of Title I:

Dawn Majors	Riley Doyle
Joanne Wright	Melanie Warren
Tim Duhanich	Susan Hart

Approve the following teachers participating in the professional development workshop, "Make Math Irresistible," be paid at the Curriculum Rate of \$26.02/hour, not to exceed 6 hours. to be funded out of Title I:

Jennifer Boucher
Debbie Drennan
Joshua Bourdrez
Melissa Irvine

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the classified staff items:

Accept the resignation as presented below:

Name	Position	Bldg.	Effective Date
Marlene Hultine	Auxiliary Clerk	St. Benedict's School	January 20, 2021
Albert David	Housekeeper	High School	January 15, 2021
Jeremiah Spikes	PT Vehicle Driver	Bus Garage	January 18, 2021
Mary Franz	Auxiliary Clerk	Trinity High School	June 30, 2021
Melinda Hellert	Housekeeper	High School	January 8, 2021

Leave of Absences

Name	Bldg.	Type	Dates
Brad Parina	Maintenance	Paternity LOA	2/2/21 - 03/12/21
Kyle Semall	Maintenance	Admin. LOA	1/13/21 - TBD

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the supplemental items:

Athletic Supplemental Contract:

Name	Athletic Supplemental	Bldg.
David Partee	Assistant Wrestling Coach	High School
Sherrri Williams	Assistant Cheerleading Supervisor (Winter)	High School
Thomas Mack	Assistant Boys Basketball Coach	High School

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD: POLICY

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD: CONTRACTS

None at this time

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD: MISCELLANEOUS

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the annual membership in the Ohio School Boards Association for the period January through December 2021 for the amount of \$8,335.00 including association publication fees.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING MISCELLANEOUS SCHOOL ITEMS

None

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

Special Board Meeting/Work Session

February 8, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

February 16, 2021

6:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to enter into executive session at 6:58 p.m. for the purpose of discussing GHTA negotiations.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels
Nays: None


Adjourned from executive session at 7:56 p.m.

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels
Nays: None



President



Treasurer