

July 24, 2023

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a special meeting on Monday, July 24, 2023 in the Newaygo High School Library. Vince Grodus, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vince Grodus, Sara Smith, Thomas Frisbie, Morgan Heinzman and Reid Sherwood

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jami Schultz

Also Present: Ben Gilpin, Superintendent  
Christina Wetherell, Administrative Assistant

Visitors: 5

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to appoint Sara Smith as acting board secretary for the meeting of July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

VOTE:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

#### Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Grodus, seconded by Mr. Heinzman, to approve the agenda for the Special Meeting of July 24, 2023.

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

#### Board Candidate Interviews

The Board interviewed Mr. Bruce Gracik and Mr. Paul Herbert for the position of Board of Education member using the attached interview questions.

#### Public Comments

One member of the public addressed the Board about concerns he had with one of the candidates.

#### Board Deliberation

The Board provided their feedback on each of the candidates to determine which one they felt would best serve the school and community based on their interview and experience.

#### Appointment of Board Member

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to appoint Bruce Gracik as acting Board of Education Member for Newaygo Public Schools.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mr. Grodus, Aye; Mr. Heinzman, Aye; Ms. Smith, Aye; Mr. Frisbie, Aye; Mr. Sherwood, Aye

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

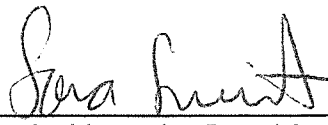
The Board thanked both candidates for interviewing and thanked those in attendance for being there to support them in the interview process.

#### Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Ms. Smith, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE:

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Motion: Carried  
Time: 6:35pm

  
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Sara Smith, Acting Board Secretary

### **Board Candidate Interview Questions**

- 1. How do you view the relationship between the Board, Administration, the staff and the community?** –*Tom Frisbie*
- 2. Faced with a dilemma that you don't agree with administration, how would you work to change this when it is perceived that your only role on the board is to hire and fire the superintendent?** –*Morgan Heinzman*
- 3. What do you think are the most important skills for students to have when they graduate?**  
–*Jami Schultz*
- 4. What is the biggest challenge you see facing Newaygo Public Schools?** –*Reid Sherwood*
- 5. Is there a change or reform that you feel should be pursued in order to advance the district and what do you believe is important to be maintained for the good of our school community?**  
–*Sara Smith*
- 6. Why should you be selected to be a board member and not someone else?** –*Vince Grodus*