

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 22, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Grant Park Community Unit School District No. 6 Board of Education, Kankakee County, State of Illinois, was held on April 22, 2024 in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by President Markland at 6:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Christine Horn  
Vicki Gawlinski  
Jerry Loitz  
Tim Markland  
Dave Marshalek  
Shari Ohm

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. John Palan, Superintendent  
Ms. Tracy Planeta, ES Principal  
Mr. Kyle Nevills, MS/HS Principal  
Mrs. Sue Anderson, Recording Secretary

Audience of 12

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of March, 2024.
2. Financial Reports for March, 2024.
3. Direction to pay the April vendor bills in the amount of \$208,983.89.
4. Approval of the March payroll in the amount of \$348,798.49.
5. To accept the resignations of Megan Richardson and Meghan Jacobson as presented.
6. To approve the Consolidated District Plan (ESEA) as presented.
7. To approve the employment of Caitlin Meyer as Speech Therapist (salary TBD) and Chrissy Pickens as STEM/Library Teacher (salary TBD).
8. To approve the board policies as presented: 2:40, 2:260, 2:265, 4:190, 5:10, 5:20, 5:300, 7:10, 7:10E, 7:20, 7:180, 2:270, 5:100, 2:50, 2:140, 2:140E, 4:20, 4:110, 5:35, 5:40, 6:40, 6:185

Roll Call: S. Ohm – yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn – yes; J. Loitz - yes; D. Marshalek - abstain; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIENCE TO PERSON'S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE:** Junior student Ethan Barnas was acknowledged for his ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) achievement. Ethan scored 96 out of 99 on this test, the first student in GP history to achieve such a high score. Mr. Nevills presented Ethan with a certificate and stated that in addition to the high score Ethan is also an all-around great person.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:** Administrators reports are attached. Additionally, Ms. Planeta said the ES has a couple of end of year reading projects going on that will keep kids learning and reading the last weeks of the school year. The first is Reading A-Z, counting down the last 26 days of school. HS students and teachers will read a book to students each day and the title will correspond to the appropriate letter of the alphabet. The other project is One School, One Book which encourages family read time with activities after school and at home. Mr. Nevills expressed his satisfaction with the students during state assessments. He was very proud of how hard they all worked and stated the incentives at all grade levels seemed to be a big motivator.

**Superintendent:** Dr. Palan's report included:

1. The next meeting for the Capital Improvement Plan will include the Parental Involvement Group. The goal will be to identify the need for the projects and look at the final plans. The architects will be at the May meeting to answer questions.
2. The goal for the Curricular Initiative for 2024-25 is to have all objectives as well as maps completed. Instructional Coach Sarah Dexter will be in the district an extra day each week next year to help with these initiatives.
3. Statement of Economic Interests are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. Video Production "Decade of Excellence" will begin on Tractor Day this Friday and will also highlight the renovated science lab. The three-minute video about the district will roll out at the beginning of next school year and will center on the students.
5. Overall enrollment decreased by two from February.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #42224 AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS:**

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by J. Loitz, to approve Resolution #42224 authorizing the transfer of \$140,268.61 from Debt Service to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. Roll Call: D. Marshalek - yes; J. Loitz - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**President:** No report.

**Building and Grounds:** The Maintenance Grant (\$50,000) was deposited in the bank so bids will go out for the gym air conditioning. Carpet quotes for the MS classrooms and the band room came in at around \$28-\$29,000. The Village will be looking for solutions to the water retention on the street in front of the ES. This has become a safety issue and the pavement is deteriorating due to this build-up of water on the parking area and street.

**Technology:** No report

**Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op:** No report

**Kankakee Area Career Center:** No report

**IASB-Three Rivers Division:** No report

**Chamber of Commerce:** The annual Chamber Golf Outing will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at Cardinal Creek in Beecher.

**Communications Committee:** The next meeting will be on April 29<sup>th</sup> and will have a lengthy agenda.

**Student Representatives:** FFA Spirit Week is taking place culminating in Drive Your Tractor to School events held on Friday; the band received the highest scores at their recent contest; NHS is going to Build-A-Bear and donating to a local hospital; Student Council is collecting for the River Valley Animal Rescue; seniors travelled to Great Wolf Lodge for their annual trip; and prom will be held on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Board Communications:** An online course for Board members covering Senate Bill 100 regarding student discipline is available through the IASB.

**COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER:** There were no comments or questions from the audience.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by C. Horn, at 6:33 p.m. to go into Executive Session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.

Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Potential Litigation

Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Ohm – yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:**

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 7:06 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by D. Marshalek, at 7:07 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; J. Loitz – yes; S. Ohm – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REEMPLOYMENT OF THE SUPPORT STAFF FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by J. Loitz, to approve the superintendent’s recommendation for the reemployment of the support staff (salary increase to be determined) as presented for the 2024-25 school year. Roll Call: S. Ohm - yes; J. Loitz - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - abstain; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 7:08 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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Jerry Loitz  
Secretary

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Tim Markland  
President