

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 21, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Grant Park Community Unit School District No. 6 Board of Education, Kankakee County, State of Illinois, was held on August 21, 2023 in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Palan at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Vicki Gawlinski  
Christine Horn  
Jerry Loitz  
Tim Markland – arrived at 6:21  
Dave Marshalek  
Shari Ohm

Members absent: Chrissy Pickens

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

Audience of 6

**APPOINTMENT OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEM:**

In President Markland's temporary absence, a motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by J. Loitz, to appoint V. Gawlinski as President Pro tem until Mr. Markland's arrival. Roll Call: S. Ohm – yes; J. Loitz – yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; and V. Gawlinski – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by C. Horn, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of July, 2023.
2. Financial Reports for July, 2023.
3. Direction to pay the August vendor bills in the amount of \$161,500.03.
4. Approval of the July payroll in the amount of \$294,423.32.

5. To approve the Tech Mentors for the 2023-24 school year (ESSER III): Lauren Mohler, Kelsey Albrecht, Nina Rees, Lee Ellen Palan, Mark Boccia, Katie Oberman and Carol Cademartori (\$750 per mentor), Kacy Malecha as Special Needs Aide (\$16.90 per hour), and Carol Cademartori, Renee Bronson, Joe Niezgoda and Allison Goedke as Teacher Mentors for the 2023-24 school year (\$556 per mentor).
6. To accept the resignation of Crystal Von Alven as Special Needs Instructor, effective as of August 9, 2023 (per letter).
7. To approve the 2023-24 KACC Budget as presented.
8. To approve hourly wages (minimum wage law) and supplemental services as presented (Dean, RTI).
9. To approve the occupancy permit for the ES Mobile Unit, as presented.

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

**AUDIENCE TO PERSON’S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE:** None noted

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS:** Administrators reports are attached. Ms. Planeta distributed her School Improvement Plan to the board and also stated the state-of-the-art bus cameras were installed, which will be a good way to monitor bus activity as well as identify stop-arm violators. Mr. Nevills reported a great start to the new year and he was very excited to connect with the students and staff.

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

1. Visioning: 2023-24 Initiatives were discussed at the summer administrative retreat and focused on academic recovery, not learning loss. There are 180 days to implement the plan.
2. The first Teacher Institute Day covered Engaged Learning, Socio-Emotional Training, the Invisible Backpack and the GP Family. Guest speakers Sara Boucek and Jennifer Hathaway identified and presented strategies to help the staff help their students.
3. The unaudited report for the end of fiscal year '23 showed a significant increase in investment interest and about \$1.2 million in Corporate Personal Property Tax income, which is expected to decrease approximately 40% this year.
4. The ES reported enrollment went up by 16 over last year.

**PRESENTATION OF TENTATIVE ANNUAL 2023-2024 BUDGET:**

Dr. Palan reviewed the overall budget, as well as a review of the individual projected fund balances. The tentative budget is balanced at \$6,846,281. The Transportation Fund is the only fund that shows a deficit but is offset by a surplus in Working Cash. Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by C. Horn, to accept the tentative annual 2023-24 budget and place it on display in the district office for a minimum of thirty days. Roll Call: J. Loitz – yes; C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ARCHITECTURAL FIRM UPDATE ON ES RENOVATIONS:**

Architects Jody Woodley and Jake Been were in attendance from the architectural firm, Healy Bender Patton and Been. They presented a basic outline to proceed with potential renovations to the Elementary Building. They said the ES has “good bones” and they will design a Master Plan according to the needs and/or wants the Board and Administration feels are necessary. This should be considered the “dreaming phase” where nothing is off the table in terms of renovations. Of course, the Life-Safety repairs will be addressed first, as well as the roof and HVAC system. This will be a months-long project that will include committees broken out by buildings and grounds and educational adequacy. Meetings will occur every two to three weeks throughout the fall to identify and prioritize projects according to timelines and costs. The funding and implementation of these projects will be of top concern.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**President:** No report

**Building and Grounds:** The ES desks have arrived and the HS Science Lab needs a solenoid valve before occupancy can be approved on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**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:** No report

**Student Representatives:** MS Baseball and Softball seasons have been in full swing; the MS Drama Club will perform “The Addam’s Family” in October; HS Golf Teams are back in action; and the HS Volleyball team held a car wash over the weekend and raised \$1,800 to put towards their pink jerseys for the October match.

**Board Communications:** The Maintenance Grant application will be submitted again this year for a matching amount of \$50,000.

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

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 7:22 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