

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 29, 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 January 29, 2024 in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by President Markland at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Vicki Gawlinski
Jerry Loitz
Tim Markland
Dave Marshalek
Shari Ohm
Chrissy Pickens

Members absent: Christine Horn

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

Audience of 13

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of December, 2023.
2. Financial Reports for December, 2023.
3. Direction to pay the January vendor bills in the amount of \$159,071.40.
4. Approval of the December payroll in the amount of \$350,639.24.
5. To accept the resignation of Tomas Brandt as MS Assistant Track Coach.
6. To approve the proposed 2023-24 school calendar as presented.
7. To approve the Seniority List as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSON'S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: ES Student Paisley Riechers was recognized for her recent fundraising efforts. She painted ornaments and requested donations. She asked that the money collected be put toward cancelling student lunch debt and buying books for the school libraries. Paisley raised \$6,000 and was presented with a certificate for her achievement.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: Administrators reports are attached. Mr. Nevills shared the new classroom expectations initiative in the middle school that focuses on Engagement, Respect, Maturity, Preparedness and Focus. There are posters all over the middle school as a reminder to the students and staff. It is working well so far.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. The Capital Improvement Plan Focus Groups will begin on February 9th and will modify and assess the plan. The immediate needs are the roofs and boiler.
2. Electric Bus Program and grant opportunities are being explored due to the rising cost of leasing buses. However, District #6 does not currently qualify for the grants, which pays for the buses as well as the charging stations, as it is not a "priority district".
3. Projected tax rate comparison shows Grant Park CUSD has the second lowest rate in the area.
4. Overall enrollment increased by one from November.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: No report.

Building and Grounds: The Life Safety requirements may cost around \$350,000 and there are some funds in the budget for a portion of the repairs. The matching Maintenance Grant has still not been received.

Technology: No report

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: The new director has been hired and will start on July 1st.

Kankakee Area Career Center: No report

IASB-Three Rivers Division: No report

Chamber of Commerce: The Chamber recently held its annual holiday dinner at Cardinal Creek and District #6 will be hosting the March meeting.

Communications Committee: The next meeting is on February 27th.

Student Representatives: Homecoming events were held earlier this month with the dance being held in the Hamann Center. The seniors were victorious in the Jr. Olympics and Mrs. Toppen put together an alumni pep band for the game. The Jr. Class started a pizza kit fundraiser.

Board Communications: A notice was shared that announced a recent amendment to the School Code increasing the bidding threshold from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by C. Pickens, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 6:23 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.

Roll Call: C. Pickens - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; J. Loitz – 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 6:39 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by C. Pickens, at 6:39 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: D. Marshalek - yes; C. Pickens - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; J. Loitz – yes; S. Ohm – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by D. Marshalek, at 6:40 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz
Secretary

Tim Markland
President