

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 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 November 15, 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
Dave Marshalek
Shari Ohm
Chrissy Pickens

Members absent: Tim Markland

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

Audience of 16

APPOINTMENT OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEM:

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of October, 2023.
2. Financial Reports for October, 2023.
3. Direction to pay the November vendor bills in the amount of \$176,972.62.
4. Approval of the October payroll in the amount of \$330,738.93.
5. To accept the resignations of, with regret: Desi Desiderio (HS Baseball Coach), Andy Dillman (HS Golf Coach) and Jennifer Thiesen (MS Assistant Softball Coach).

6. To approve the partial professional leave request of Meghan Jacobson, effective January 8, 2024.
7. To employ Hadleigh Loitz as 7th Grade Volleyball Coach (\$1,727), Andy Bakhaus as HS Varsity Baseball Coach (\$3,946), Samantha Greenholt as 6th Grade Volleyball Coach (contingent on numbers - \$1,557) and Tyler Hudson as 6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach – Volunteer Status.
8. To approve board policies as presented: 2:20, 2:120, 2:200, 2:220E2, 2:220-E6, 4:10, 4:130, 4:130E, 4:160, 5:30, 5:190, 5:200, 5:210, 5:220, 5:250, 5:330, 6:15, 6:30, 6:50, 6:60, 6:230, 7:260, 7:60, 7:70, 7:160, 7:190, 7:270, 7:285, 7:290, 8:30, 4:30

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSON’S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: Trey Boecker, State Medalist in Golf, was recognized for his outstanding High School golf career. He has qualified for the state tournament for three years and this year he was a state runner-up. Coach Dillman presented Trey with a plaque for his achievement and spoke of Trey’s commendable character both on and off the course. Dr. Palan thanked Coach Dillman for his eighteen years of devoted commitment to the GPHS Golf program. Also in attendance were several members of the FFA program who participated in the recent convention in Indianapolis. The students provided very positive feedback from their experiences and were excited to share this with the board. They attended Ag related job and college workshops and competitions. Mr. Stadt is very enthusiastic about the Ag program and the students’ interest levels.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS: Administrators reports are attached. Ms. Planeta talked about the recent Family Read Night which was well attended. All attendees left with a treat bag filled with items to promote reading at home. The annual Book Fair was held in conjunction with this special night. Also, the ES café staff served over 450 meals on Grandparents Day, the most ever! PTO provided a photo booth for the students and grandparents to commemorate the day. Mr. Nevills reiterated the additional help that is being provided for struggling students. Both principals thanked the Board of Education for their dedicated service to the students and staff of GP CUSD #6.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan’s report included:

1. The 2023 levy information will be approved at the December meeting and the tax rate is expected to stay about the same.
2. The January 8th in-service to be held at GP will feature a national speaker and the district will welcome the staff from Momence and St. Anne to participate in this professional development opportunity.
3. On the Annual Summative Designation from ISBE, which assesses the performance of the schools, GP received a “commendable” designation.
4. LEA Annual Determination status from ISBE shows the district meets requirements and is in full compliance of IDEA.
5. HS graduation is set for May 17th and MS promotion will be on May 21st.
6. Overall enrollment remained the same since September.

ARCHITECTS UPDATE ON CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR GPES:

The architects from Healy Bender presented their initial renderings of the proposed Capital Development Plan for the Elementary School. This first draft was the result of input from the focus group meetings held recently. The HVAC system and two roofs are failing and will need immediate attention. The plan also focuses on many Life Safety issues that will need to be addressed. Another meeting will be held in the next couple of weeks to obtain input on the presented plan and to discuss timelines. At the December meeting costs for the project will be shared and a bond counselor will potentially be in attendance.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: No report.

Building and Grounds: The matching maintenance grant, if received, may be used for roofing exchangers and air conditioning the main gym.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT SCHOOL MAINTENANCE GRANT:

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by D. Marshalek, to approve the 2024 School Maintenance Grant application, as presented. Roll Call: C. Horn – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; J. Loitz – yes; S. Ohm – yes; C. Pickens – yes; and V. Gawlinski – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Technology: There is an urgent need to upgrade the RAM in the teacher’s desktop computers; the main server may need to be upgraded over the summer; new Chromebooks will be needed for 1st, 5th and 9th graders; and cross curricular technology is being utilized in the HS.

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: Screening for the new director will begin in early December.

Kankakee Area Career Center: No report

IASB-Three Rivers Division: No report

Chamber of Commerce: A few new members joined the Chamber and a proposed increase in the sales tax (from 6.25% to 7.25%) will be on the ballot in April.

Communications Committee: The first meeting was held and discussions included ideas/plans for the future and branding ideas. The next meeting will be December 6th.

Student Representatives: NHS will be participating in Wreaths Across America on December 16th and holding their annual Secret Santa week again this year; Turnabout Dance on November 17th; cookie dough and gift card fundraisers are taking place; FFA is speaking to the first grade classes about Ag Lit and tractor safety.

Board Communications: The Thanksgiving appreciation letter from the Board to the staff was included.

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

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by J. Loitz, at 7:29 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz
Secretary

Tim Markland
President