

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 16, 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 December 16, 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: Vicki Gawlinski
Jerry Loitz
Tim Markland
Dave Marshalek
Shari Ohm
Mike Wells – arrived at 6:04

Member absent: Christine Horn

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

Audience of 0

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of November, 2024.
2. Financial Reports for November, 2024.
3. Direction to pay the December vendor bills in the amount of \$157,672.98.
4. Approval of the November payroll in the amount of \$404,026.83.
5. To approve the hourly rate of Mary Jean Janssen as PT for \$65 per hour.
6. To approve the “Facilities Rental Authorization Form” as presented
7. To approve the contractual agreement with ProCare as presented.
8. To approve the Support Staff Handbook as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSON’S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: Jeff and Kim Daniels were on the agenda for a residency question but the issue was resolved before the meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: Administrators reports are attached. Ms. Planeta reported the ES Holiday Concert performed in front of a packed crowd and the second round of Benchmark testing showed some growth but there is still work to be done before spring tests. Mr. Nevills conveyed MS and HS testing showed higher scores than the state average in all categories. There was much growth across all grade levels. Also, next year a math class will be added for college bound seniors, work release standards will be tightened up and Academic Advisory will be a time for remediation.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. Exemplary Status Designation from ISBE was the result of Ms. Planeta, Mr. Nevills, the staff and students working very hard to return the district to pre-Covid days. This accomplishment will be celebrated more in January.
2. All inductees for the Wall of Fame will be present at the GP Alumni Night basketball game. A special dinner will be held in the Commons after the game.
3. The Professional development plan is revised every five years and that will be expiring at the end of this year. More information will be available in the spring.
4. Enrollment remained the same since October.

APPROVAL OF TAX LEVY REQUEST RESOLUTION #121624:

Dr. Palan reported that the EAV is estimated at around \$107,826,000 which is over a \$6 million increase in value. The request levy is \$4,658,300, which is an estimated \$151,298 increase over last year in the Education fund. The projected tax rate is 4.2043. A motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to approve the 2024 tax levy extension request as presented. Roll Call: J. Loitz – yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; S. Ohm – yes; M. Wells – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: No report

Building and Grounds: The HLS project is now waiting on State approval; once again the district has been awarded the matching Maintenance Grant; an engineer will be coming in to explore options with the gym air conditioning; and summer projects will include replacing the scoreboard with one that meets the new shot clock requirements.

Technology: Meeting on January 6th.

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: No report

Kankakee Area Career Center: A new coding program is being offered as well as dual credit courses in cyber security and aviation.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: No report

Chamber of Commerce: No report

Communications Committee: Meeting on January 6th

Student Representatives: Jr. Olympics were held last Friday in conjunction with the Homecoming festivities in which Kennedy Marcotte and Ryder Greenholt were crowned queen and king, respectively; Blake Brown set a new scoring record in basketball, besting the previous record set in 1990; finals are this week; NHS Secret Santa is taking place; and Scholastic Bowl and FFA have been in full swing.

Board Communications: None noted

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by J. Loitz, 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. (Attorney John Fester)

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

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 6:40 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by M. Wells, seconded by S. Ohm, at 6:41 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: M. Wells - yes; S. Ohm - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; J. Loitz – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BUS DRIVER RAISES:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to approve the bus driver raises effective January 1, 2025, as presented. Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Ohm - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by M. Wells, at 6:42 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz
Secretary

Tim Markland
President