

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2025**

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 27, 2025 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
Christine Horn
Jerry Loitz
Tim Markland
Dave Marshalek
Shari Ohm
Mike Wells – arrived at 6:08

Member 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 9

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of December, 2024.
2. Financial Reports for December, 2024.
3. Direction to pay the January vendor bills in the amount of \$179,949.99.
4. Approval of the December payroll in the amount of \$369,180.96.
5. To approve the 2025-26 school calendar as presented.
6. To accept the resignation of Vanessa Persch-Kleber as MS/HS Cook and Ashley Pappas as MS/HS Server.
7. To approve the 2024-25 Seniority List as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSON'S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: Students from the ES and MS were in attendance to present the "Exemplary" plaques to Ms. Planeta and Mr. Nevills. The principals chose the students they believed to be the best representation of both the student body and the staff. Only one percent of Illinois school districts has received this designation.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: Administrators reports are attached. Mr. Nevills stated discussions on adding another math class and potentially another history class next year are taking place. Students are giving their feedback on the class offerings.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. Decade of Excellence administrator podcasts will begin in a couple of weeks highlighting the academic success as well as information on the capital improvement projects.
2. The Village of Grant Park has asked the district to contribute funds to help pay for the ES parking lot project. The amount is yet to be determined but will not exceed \$25,000.
3. A special meeting may need to be held next month for authorization of the HLS project.
4. As of next school year, Country Companies will no longer be providing school insurance coverage so the district will need to find a new carrier for the property insurance.
5. Enrollment increased three over November.

APPROVAL OF VISION 2030 ACTION PLAN:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by M. Wells, to approve the Illinois Vision 2030 Action Plan as presented. Roll Call: S. Ohm – yes; M. Wells – yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; C. Horn – yes; J. Loitz – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #12725 TO KEEP EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

CLOSED:

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by J. Loitz, to maintain the need for confidentiality in executive session minutes as indicated in Schedule A, as presented. Roll Call: V. Gawlinski – yes; J. Loitz – yes; C. Horn – 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 specs came back for the MS gym air conditioning at a cost of around \$200,000 and will take eight weeks to order. This is through a cooperative contracting group that handles the entire project, including the permitting. By using this group the project does not have to be bid out. Another item being discussed is the replacement of the scoreboard in the main gym. It is now 25 years old and replacement parts are obsolete. There are two options for replacement of which both include LED lighting and a shot clock. There is a base option and the second option, which may be very costly, includes a video display screen.

Technology: The committee met and discussed updating the teacher devices to exclusively laptops at a cost of around \$75,000. Additionally, other devices need to be upgraded including kindergarten i-pads (\$13,000), student Chromebooks in grades one, five and nine (\$40,000) and network extenders (\$1,900).

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: No report

Kankakee Area Career Center: No report

IASB-Three Rivers Division: No report

Chamber of Commerce: The last meeting was a dinner at Cardinal Creek and the Chamber thanked the district for use of the ES for Christmas in the Village.

Communications Committee: Discussion items included: how to get more parent interaction, style guide updates, videos and brainstorming ideas to obtain more articles for the Messenger from the staff.

Student Representatives: Junior meetings are taking place this week with the Guidance Counselor; Scholastic Bowl now has three wins in a row; a 50/50 raffle was held for Luis Maldonado; and the FFA made blankets for Luis.

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 C. Horn, at 6:36 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; C. Horn - 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 7:37 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by M. Wells, seconded by J. Loitz, at 7:38 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: M. Wells - yes; J. Loitz - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; C. Horn – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; S. Ohm - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 7:39 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz
Secretary

Tim Markland
President