

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 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 November 18, 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: Christine Horn
Vicki Gawlinski
Jerry Loitz
Tim Markland
Dave Marshalek
Shari Ohm
Mike Wells

Member absent: None

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

Audience of 5

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 October, 2024.
2. Financial Reports for October, 2024.
3. Direction to pay the November vendor bills in the amount of \$133,359.50.
4. Approval of the October payroll in the amount of \$346,726.83.
5. To approve the “zero” hour employment of Kole Stadt for the 2024-25 school year.
6. To employ Hadleigh Loitz as a long term sub for \$165 per day.
7. To approve board policies as presented: 2:105, 2:120, 4:30, 4:60, 4:170, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:120, 5:125, 5:230, 6:60, 6:135, 6:270, 7:10, 7:100, 7:180, 7:200, 8:10.
8. Approval of the FY '25 School Maintenance Grant as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSON'S SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: Mr. Russ Leigh, auditor:

PRESENTATION OF THE FY 2024 AUDIT:

Mr. Russ Leigh, of Russell Leigh and Associates, presented the report on the audit of Fiscal Year 2024, explaining the fund balances and financial condition of the district at the year's end. The district received the highest rating. He said it was a clean audit with no findings. The three operating funds, Education, Operations and Maintenance, and Transportation, are all in solid shape with all of the funds having over a year of cash on hand, which is very rare. As every district in Illinois, the pension liability was extremely underfunded and the state may turn to the local taxing bodies in the future to cover this shortfall. The audit will be placed on file in the District Office. Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by M. Wells, to approve the FY 2024 audit as presented. Roll Call: J. Loitz – yes; M. Wells - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: Administrators reports are attached. Ms. Planeta reported the ES Family Read Night and Grandparents Day were well received and well attended. Mr. Nevills added a practice IAR was administered and teachers were able to provide feedback to the students. Ms. DioGuardi said parents have been pleased with the new Communications classroom this year and a contractual Special Education teacher will start in January in the MS.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. The levy will be presented at the December meeting for final approval. Property values have increased which means the levy will produce more revenue for the district.
2. A flier for the GP Wall of Fame has been created and recognition will take place on January 10th.
3. The December calendar of events is full and members are encouraged to look online for all of the happenings.
4. Enrollment increased by three over September.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AMENDED 10 YEAR HLS AMENDMENT:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to authorize Healy Bender to submit the amended 10-Year Health Life Safety Amendment as presented. Roll Call: S. Ohm - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; J. Loitz - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

OPENING OF THE HEALTH LIFE SAFETY BOND HEARING:

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by S. Ohm, at 6:30 p.m. to open the public hearing concerning the intent of the Board to sell not to exceed \$8,900,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds. Roll Call: C. Horn - yes; S. Ohm - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; J. Loitz - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Markland facilitated this portion of the hearing according to the documents provided by the bond company. Although the hearing request asks “up to” \$8,900,000 the actual amount will be lower when authorizing the selling of the bonds occurs in December or January. The official minutes of the hearing follow the regular board meeting minutes.

CLOSING OF THE HEALTH LIFE SAFETY BOND HEARING:

Motion was made by M. Wells, seconded by J. Loitz, at 6:34 p.m. to close the public bond hearing. 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

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: Mr. Markland thanked the board members for all of their work with the HLS bond decision.

Building and Grounds: Since the first contractor didn’t meet the requirements of the specs, the bid for the main gym air conditioning project will be reopened. This project will use funds from the 2024 maintenance grant. The committee to review the HLS projects will meet soon.

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: The village will hold the Annual Vendor Fair at the ES on December 14th and they are also hosting Christmas dinner from 11:00-2:00 at the Community Shelter.

Communications Committee: No report

Student Representatives: HS Girls Basketball has started games and the boys have begun practices; play auditions were held last week; Student Council decided on “Starry Night” as the Homecoming theme; NHS is organizing their annual Secret Santa; and the 7th grade girls’ basketball team is competing in regional play.

Board Communications: None noted

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by S. Ohm, at 6:42 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: J. Loitz - yes; S. Ohm - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Markshalek – yes; M. Wells – yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 6:55 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by C. Horn, at 6:56 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: S. Ohm - yes; C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; J. Loitz – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; M. Wells – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by M. Wells, at 6:56 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Loitz
Secretary

T. Markland
President

Minutes of a regular public meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 6, Kankakee County, Illinois, held in the Grant Park Middle School Library, 421 Esson Farm Road, Grant Park, Illinois, in said School District at 6:00 o'clock p.m., on the 18th day of November, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by the President, and upon the roll being called, Tim Markland, the President, and the following members were physically present at said location:

Vicki Gawlinski, Christine Horn, Jerry Loitz, Tim Markland,
Dave Marshalek, Shari Ohm, Mike Wells

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting my video or audio conference:

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever:

None

At 6:00 o'clock P.M., the President announced that the next agenda item for the Board of Education was a public hearing (the "Hearing") to receive public comments on the proposal to sell not to exceed \$8,900,000 School Fire Prevention and safety Bonds (the "Bonds") for the purpose of conforming the existing facilities of the District that house students to the building code promulgated by the State Board of Education of the State of Illinois, by altering and reconstructing said facilities and having equipment purchased and installed therein and explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto.

The President opened the discussion and explained that the reasons for the proposed issuance of the Bonds were as follows: construction of life safety improvements to existing facilities.

Whereupon the President asked for additional comments from the member of the Board of Education. Additional comments were made by the following:

None

Written testimony concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds was read into the record by the Secretary and is attached hereto as Exhibit I:

None

Whereupon the President asked for oral testimony or any public comments concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds. Statements were made by the following:

None

The President then announced that all persons desiring to be heard had been given an opportunity to present oral and written testimony with respect to the proposed issuance of the Bonds

Member Mike Wells moved and Member Jerry Loitz seconded the motion that the Hearing be finally adjourned.

After a full discussion thereof, the President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion.

Upon the roll being called, the following member voted AYE:

Vicki Gawlinski, Christine Horn, Jerry Loitz, Tim Markland, Dave Marshalek, Shari Ohm, Mike Wells

The following members voted NAY: None

Whereupon the President declared the motion carried and the Hearing was finally adjourned.

Other business not pertinent to the conduct of the Hearing was duly transacted at said meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

J. Loitz
Secretary, Board of Education