

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Grant Park Community Unit School District No. 6 Board of Education, Kankakee County, State of Illinois, was held on August 18, 2014, in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by President Dickson at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Dave Dickson
Mardale Ekhoﬀ
Jerry Fick
Dale Hansen
Tim Markland
Shari Ohm
Dave Wheeler

Also present: Dr. John Palan, Superintendent
Ms. Tracy Planeta, ES Principal
Mr. Tom Sanidas, MS/HS Principal
Sue Anderson, Recording Secretary
Nicole Parmely, Student Representative
Tanner Barrera, Student Representative

Audience of 5

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by D. Wheeler, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of July 21, 2014.
2. Financial Reports for July, 2014.
3. Direction to pay the August vendor bills in the amount of \$75,521.88.
4. Approval of the July payroll in the amount of \$241,512.01.
5. To accept the resignation(s) of Blaine MacDonald, bus driver and Brianne Souligne as MS Cheerleading Sponsor.
6. To employ Anna Deubel as MS Office Secretary (\$25,000, no TRS), Jennifer Thiesen as Guidance/General Office Secretary (\$22,000, no TRS), Kirsten Niederwimmer, 2nd grade teacher (\$30,235 plus TRS), and Jessica Gabrielson, Special Education Aide (\$12.35 per hour, no TRS).
7. To approve the closed session minutes, as presented, remain closed due to confidentiality.

Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; D. Wheeler – yes; J. Fick – yes; D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: The principals' reports are attached. Ms. Planeta added the dragon claws are almost complete on the ES driveway and the new sign will be installed on Tuesday. She also thanked the Board for the in-service speaker, Steve Oertle, and his Common Core instruction to the staff.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. Dr. Palan and Mr. Dillman will meet next week to discuss the timeline for electronic board packets. It is the hope that they can be implemented by early fall.
2. The County Facilities Tax question will be on the November ballot.
3. A demonstration of the new district webpage that is up and running.
4. Upcoming dates: Registration Wednesday, August 6th from 1:00-5:00 and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Teachers' Institutes on Monday, August 18th and Tuesday, August 19th and the first day for students on Wednesday, August 20th.

PRESENTATION OF TENTATIVE ANNUAL 2014-2015 BUDGET:

Dr. Palan reviewed the overall budget, as well as a review of the individual projected fund balances. The Education Fund shows an approximate \$27,000 deficit while the Transportation Fund reflects an approximate \$31,000 deficit. Dr. Palan reminded the Board of Education that any if unexpected expenditures occur, such as a high needs student enrolls, the expenditure side will fall short. Due to declining enrollment the district lost nearly \$80,000 in General State Aid. This budget represents the best educated guess that can be provided at the moment and assumes all revenue is received as planned. Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by D. Wheeler, to accept the tentative annual 2014-15 budget and place it on display in the district office for a minimum of thirty days. Roll Call: D. Hansen - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; T. Markland - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #081814 PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL REFUNDING BONDS:

John Balzano, Bernardi Securities, was present to explain the refunding process. He noted that by reducing the bond debt now, the savings is nearly triple what was originally thought. The direct savings to taxpayers will be about \$170,000 over five years. Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by D. Hansen, to adopt Resolution #081814 providing for the issue of General Obligation School refunding Bonds, Series 2014, of Grant Park Community Unit School District No. 6, Kankakee County, Illinois, and for the levy of direct annual taxes sufficient to pay the principle and interest on such bonds and related matters. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; D. Hansen - yes; J. Fick - yes; T. Markland - yes; S. Ohm - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: The facilities walk-through last week was very impressive, noting the completed projects and general cleanliness of the buildings and grounds.

Building and Grounds: The two unfinished projects are the HS entrance corridor and the MS tile repair. A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for the Fitness Facility at Open House

on Thursday, September 4th at 6:00 p.m. More information will be forthcoming and the media will be notified.

Technology: No report.

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: A letter from Herscher withdrawing from the Co-op was presented at the meeting last Thursday.

Kankakee Area Career Center: Enrollment is about the same as last year, around 800 students. The budget looks healthy and there are some new teachers due to retirements last year.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: The fall dinner meeting in October will feature Brent Clark and Roger Eddy discussing Vision 20/20.

Chamber of Commerce: The village will be holding Summerfest this Saturday and the GPHS Drama Club will be sponsoring the Dunk Tank.

Student Representatives: All of the fall sports have begun practices including boys' and girls' golf, volleyball and soccer. The AP English class has already started the school year by reading a novel.

Board Communications: The Resolution from Herscher School District to cease membership in the Kankakee Area Special Education Cooperative was included for the board to review.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by T. Markland, at 7:50 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: D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick – yes; S. Ohm - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Dickson declared the closed session was over at 8:13 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by J. Fick, at 8:14 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; J. Fick – yes; D. Hansen – yes; T. Markland – yes; S. Ohm - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE FOR 4TH GRADE:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by T. Markland, to approve Beth Reed as long-term substitute for 4th grade effective August 18, 2014 at \$126.00 per day. Roll Call: S. Ohm - yes; T. Markland - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE HIRING OF TWO BUS DRIVERS AS PER THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT:

Motion was made by J. Fick, seconded by D. Hansen, to employ Betty Clever as a regular route driver and Julie Kersten as a special needs route driver as per the collective bargaining agreement. Roll Call: J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; T. Markland - yes; S. Ohm - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by D. Wheeler, to accept the resignation of Traci Mussman, MS/HS Café cashier. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by D. Wheeler, seconded by S. Ohm, at 8:17 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mardale Ekhoﬀ
Secretary

Dave Dickson
President