

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2015**

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 26, 2015, 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

Audience of 7

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting and special board meeting of December 15, 2014.
2. Financial Reports for December, 2014.
3. Direction to pay the January vendor bills in the amount of \$94,896.99.
4. Approval of the December payroll in the amount of \$289,453.81.
5. To employ Stephanie Tavoletti as ES Café Server at \$10.15 per hour.
6. To approve the 2014-15 Seniority List as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: The administrators' reports are attached.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. An update on the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) which needs to be in place by 2016-17. The new evaluation instrument will be 25-30% based on student growth through assessment. GP has formed a Joint Committee and three teachers and administrators will be attending formal training sessions.
2. General State Aid is still uncertain, especially with the reduction in the state income tax. Senate Bill 16 may come to a vote by March and GP is

still adamantly opposed. Dr. Palan will be taking an extremely cautious approach moving forward with decision-making.

3. The principals are planning PAARC Assessments, in which the results will all be new data as there is no baseline for these tests yet.
4. A detailed synopsis of the achievements of GP #6 during 2014 was included in the board's information and will be highlighted in the Messenger.
5. The current enrollment update shows an increase of three students from the previous month.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: The Community Engagement workshop last Saturday was very beneficial. The next workshop will be February 25th at 7:00 pm for three hours.

Building and Grounds: The committee is compiling a list of projects, all based on whether the state will offer the 50-50 grant again. The exterior lighting will be upgraded to LED through a grant, the coaches have completed the baseball field improvements and upgrades to the phone system are being investigated. Republic Service has lowered their bill to half of what was paid last year.

Technology: The current 1:1 Initiative used in fifth grade is going well and the teachers are able to tie the lesson plans to the Common Core. The committee would like to expand to other grade levels but it will cost a lot to install access points over all the buildings and the server will need to be upgraded. It may be possible that some of the costs can be recovered through the E-Rate program but that is still unknown at this time. Another cost to consider will be the necessity for staff professional development.

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: Hersher is still considering pulling out of the Co-op unless they can negotiate a better deal. The Co-op is using a lay board format that meets four times a year to make decisions and the superintendents meet more often for discussion.

Kankakee Area Career Center: The next meeting will be in March.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: The next dinner meeting is on March 3rd at Lincoln-Way West High School and will include a candidate's night before the meeting. A new board member workshop will be held locally at the Hilton Garden Inn in Kankakee.

Chamber of Commerce: There were many positive comments about the students decorating the local windows before Christmas. The Chamber was also very appreciative of the use of the school facilities during the Christmas in the Village events. The Polar Golf outing will take place on February 7th on school grounds. A listing of all the 2015 village events was presented.

Student Representatives: No report.

Board Communications: A letter of appreciation was delivered from the Chamber for the use of the Elementary building for their breakfast.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by D. Wheeler, at 7:38 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; D. Wheeler - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick – yes; S. Ohm - yes; T. Markland - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Dickson declared the closed session was over at 8:22 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by M. Ekhoﬀ, at 8:23 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: D. Hansen – yes; M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; J. Fick – yes; T. Markland – yes; S. Ohm - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by T. Markland, at 8:25 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mardale Ekhoﬀ
Secretary

Dave Dickson
President