

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 16, 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 March 16, 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

Members absent: Dave Wheeler

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

Audience of 14

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting and special board meeting of February 23, 2015.
2. Financial Reports for February, 2015.
3. Direction to pay the March vendor bills in the amount of \$94,393.89.
4. Approval of the February payroll in the amount of \$266,947.57.
5. To accept the resignation of Karie Roeda, with regret, as HS Consumer Science teacher effective at the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year.
6. To employ Steve Rogus and Elizabeth Stahl as MS Scholastic Bowl Co-Sponsors (\$235 each, plus TRS), Michael Porter as ES PT Custodian (\$11.50 per hour), Victoria Todner as bus driver (contingent on issued permit), and Adam Ekhoﬀ as Head Track Coach (\$1,721 plus TRS).
7. To approve membership into the IHSA for the 2015-16 school year.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: The administrators' reports are attached. Ms. Planeta stated the PTO raised about \$1,500 from the Harlem Wizards game last month. Mr. Sanidas added the 7th Grade Volleyball team lost in the first round at State and the 8th Grade Volleyball team just lost in Sectional play. He also thanked the staff for their help in ensuring that PARCC testing proceeded smoothly.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. An update on Vision 20/20 was explained in great detail by Mr. Hansen and there are now over 400 districts in support of this initiative.
2. A universal email address will be implemented by March 31st in order to comply with Public Act 98-930 regarding Electronic Communication with the Board.
3. A legislative update including SB #1, School Funding Reform and the current conditions and concerns with the State Budget still reflects much uncertainty. Schools are worried about getting all of their state GSA payments as the news from Springfield is the most negative it has been in many years.
4. The final results of the 5-Year Compliance Review are still pending but the Regional Superintendent was very pleased and Dr. Palan does not foresee any issues or problems. He thanked the staff involved in the preparation of the material for the visit.
5. The current enrollment update shows a decrease of three students from the previous month.

DIRECTION OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS:

The Board decided to continue with this free, in-house training process offered through the IASB. It has been a very beneficial and worthwhile program. Future meeting dates are still to be determined.

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS:

Dr. Palan and Mr. Dickson officially recognized Mr. Ekhoﬀ and Mr. Wheeler for their service on the Board of Education. They thanked them for volunteering their time and service to the students, staff, administration and community. Mr. Ekhoﬀ served on the Board for eight years and Mr. Wheeler served for four years.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: Mr. Hansen was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the IASB. Mr. Dickson commented on the outstanding production presented by the HS Drama Department.

Building and Grounds: The lighting grant was submitted and approval should come in a couple of weeks. The grant was to replace 65 outdoor fixtures with LED lights at an eventual savings of 10 – 12% on the electric bill. The next project is to finish the HS landscaping with the help of the NHS students.

Technology: No report.

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: The next meeting is on Thursday.

Kankakee Area Career Center: The enrollment continues to grow as next year there will be over 900 students attending the Career Center.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: Mr. Hansen presented and discussed Vision 20:20. He asked everyone to call their legislators to support the proposed bills and ask if they are willing to co-sponsor any of them.

Chamber of Commerce: No report.

Student Representatives: Many recent band/chorus events including: Solo/Ensemble contest where a saxophone quartet won Best of the Day; the spring concert is April 26th; and the RVC Music Festival was fantastic. Juniors recently took the ACT and started each day with a breakfast prepared by parents. Several students will be attending WYSE Sectionals at North Central College on Thursday.

Board Communications: A letter was sent home to parents with information regarding the PARCC assessments.

COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER: Three parents read letters regarding the employment of 2nd grade teacher, Kirsten Niederwimmer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by J. Fick, at 7:44 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: M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland – yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Dickson declared the closed session was over at 8:19 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by T. Markland, at 8:20 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; T. Markland – yes; J. Fick – yes; D. Hansen – yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REEMPLOYMENT OF THE CERTIFIED STAFF FOR THE 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by D. Hansen, to approve the superintendent’s recommendation for the reemployment of certified staff for the 2015-16 school year as presented. Roll Call: S. Ohm - yes; D. Hansen - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; T.

Markland - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #316151 TO DISMISS A PROBATIONARY TEACHER:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by J. Fick, to approve Resolution #316151 to dismiss second year teacher, Kirsten Niederwimmer for the 2015-16 school year. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #316152 TO DISMISS A PROBATIONARY TEACHER:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by S. Ohm, to approve Resolution #316152 to dismiss third year teacher, Elizabeth Stahl for the 2015-16 school year. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; S. Ohm - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT FOR ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by T. Markland, to approve the one-year contract for Tracy Planeta, Principal, for the 2015-16 school year. Roll Call: D. Hansen - yes; T. Markland - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; S. Ohm - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT FOR DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES:

Motion was made by S. Ohm, seconded by T. Markland, to approve the one-year contract for Carrie Clodi, part-time Director of Special Services, for the 2015-16 school year. Roll Call: S. Ohm - yes; T. Markland - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ASSISTANT MS TRACK COACH:

Motion was made by T. Markland, seconded by D. Hansen, to approve Brenda Milk as MS Assistant Track Coach for the 2014-15 school year (\$1,213 plus TRS). Roll Call: T. Markland – yes; D. Hansen – yes; M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; J. Fick – yes; S. Ohm – yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by M. Ekhoﬀ, seconded by J. Fick, at 8:30 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

David Wheeler
Secretary

Dave Dickson
President