

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 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 September 22, 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
Dave Wheeler

Member absent: Shari Ohm

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 August 18, 2014.
2. Financial Reports for August, 2014.
3. Direction to pay the September vendor bills in the amount of \$141,482.92.
4. Approval of the August payroll in the amount of \$241,594.36.
5. To accept the resignation(s) of Alisa Morgan, HS Special Needs Teacher; Anna Deubel, MS Office Secretary; and Jim Baker, ES Custodian (effective October 31, 2014).
6. To employ John Kaminski as full time ES Custodian (\$12.09 per hour), Brenda Milk as HS Special Needs Teacher (\$43,237- prorated – plus TRS), Hillary Hubert as HS Assistant Softball Coach (\$1,602, no TRS), Anne Walsh and Katie Kreis as Co-Sponsors of MS Scholastic Bowl (\$235 each, plus TRS), Anne Walsh as 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach (\$2,774 plus TRS), Julianne Renfrow as MS/HS Dishwasher (\$10.25 per hour), Adam Ekhoff as 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach (\$1,876 plus TRS) and Denise Curtis as MS Office Secretary (\$22,000, no TRS).
7. To approve the annual Application for Recognition of Public Schools as presented.
8. Approval of Board Policies: 2:20, 4:60, 4:90, 5:30, 5:260, 5:330, 7:20, 7:180, 7:240, as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: Softball coach Dave Rademacher was recognized on his retirement after 25 years of service with Grant Park School District. He was presented with a “Dragon” jacket and flowers for Mrs. Rademacher.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS: The administrators’ reports are attached. Mr. Sanidas added his congratulations to the MS Boys Baseball team who had just won the regional title.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan’s report included:

1. The timeline is getting closer for implementing electronic board packets with a potential start date of the October meeting.
2. FY 15 General State Aid allocation shows the district lost \$76,000 this year, mainly due to the decline in enrollment.
3. An update on the bond refinancing project with an anticipated savings of approximately \$170,000. While the taxpayers may not see a huge difference on their tax bills it was a good gesture to the community. Also, the district received an “A+” analytical rating, the best case scenario, from Standard and Poor’s.
4. The Republic Services lease agreement went up about 15% and Dr. Palan was able to negotiate the monthly bill down to less than half of the current bill, which is the amount the competitor was charging.
5. A legislative update on SB 16 and pension reform illustrates the negative impact the cost shift would have on our budget.
6. Informational sheet on the 2014-15 administrative goals.
7. An enrollment comparison showing a slight decline from June ’14 to August ’15.

OPENING OF THE FY 2015 BUDGET HEARING:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by T. Markland, at 7:25 p.m. to open the FY 2015 budget hearing. Roll Call: D. Hansen – yes; T. Markland – yes; M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; J. Fick – yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSING OF THE FY 2015 BUDGET HEARING:

Dr. Palan reviewed the FY ’15 budget which shows an overall deficit of \$25,149. The Education fund shows a slight deficit of \$18,091 while the Transportation fund, which is more concerning, shows a deficit of \$40,550 due mainly to a decline in state payments. Following this discussion, a motion was made by T. Markland, seconded by D. Wheeler, at 7:30 p.m. to close the FY 2015 budget hearing. Roll Call: T. Markland - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; J. Fick - yes; D. Hansen - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF THE FY 2015 BUDGET:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by M. Ekhoﬀ, at 7:31 p.m. to accept the superintendent’s recommendation to adopt the budget for the 2014-15 school year. Roll Call: D. Hansen – yes; M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; J. Fick – yes; T. Markland – yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: Mr. Dickson commented on the sign that was moved from the high school grounds to the east side of the concession stand.

Building and Grounds: The high school corridor project will take place over the Columbus Day weekend. The Fitness Facility hours of operation and visitor waivers will be put in place October 1st.

Technology: Next meeting is scheduled for October 15th.

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: A personnel matter was discussed at the last meeting.

Kankakee Area Career Center: There was no news, everything is running smoothly.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: Mr. Hansen urged board members to review Policy 7:180 regarding bullying. An on-line class is offered that he said all members should take because of the widened scope of this policy that could potentially open the door for lawsuits. The IASB roll-out for Vision 20:20 will take place after the election. A leadership conference will be held in Springfield in February and the hope is to have some representatives from the district go to speak with legislators.

Chamber of Commerce: The “Dunk Tank” used at community events needs to be more heavily promoted so that more income can be generated.

Student Representatives: Sports records to date: Boys Soccer 7-2; Boys Golf 7-3; Girls Golf 3-5; and Volleyball 11-2. There has been much positive feedback from the students using the Fitness Facility in P.E. classes.

Board Communications: Information on the Three Rivers Division meeting on October 1st and an article on all of the unfunded mandates from the State.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by J. Fick, seconded by D. Wheeler, at 7:45 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: J. Fick - yes; D. Wheeler - yes; M. Ekhoﬀ - yes; D. Hansen – yes; T. Markland - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Dickson declared the closed session was over at 8:10 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 8:11 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; T. Markland – yes; J. Fick – yes; D. Hansen – yes; D. Wheeler - yes; and D. Dickson - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE VILLAGE IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE:

Motion was made by D. Hansen, seconded by T. Markland, at 8:13 p.m. to approve the revisions to the 2014 Impact Fee ordinance and authorize Dr. Palan to request the Village of Grant Park approve the new ordinance. Roll Call: D. Hansen – yes; T. Markland – yes; M. Ekhoﬀ – yes; J. Fick – yes; D. Wheeler – yes; and D. Dickson – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by D. Wheeler, seconded by D. Hansen, at 8:14 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mardale Ekhoﬀ
Secretary

Dave Dickson
President