

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 16, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Grant Park Community Unit School District No. 6 Board of Education, Kankakee County, State of Illinois, was held on April 16, 2025 in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by President Markland at 6:06 p.m. The Board retirement of Shari Ohm was briefly recognized. Dr. Palan expressed appreciation for her dedication and for always doing what was best for kids. She will be further acknowledged on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Pre-K ceremony in which the center will be named in her honor.

Members present: Vicki Gawlinski  
Christine Horn  
Jerry Loitz  
Tim Markland  
Dave Marshalek  
Mike Wells

Member absent: None

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

Audience of 59

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of March, 2025.
2. Financial Reports for March, 2025.
3. Direction to pay the April vendor bills in the amount of \$183,747.18.
4. Approval of the March payroll in the amount of \$374,630.71.
5. Approval of Melissa Hack as MS/HS Server (\$15.00 per hour).
6. To approve the 2025-26 school fees as presented.
7. Approval of the Consolidated District Plan (ESEA) as presented.
8. Approval of the Kankakee Career Center 10 Year Health Life Safety Plan.
9. To approve the resignation of Stu Fisher, with regret, effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

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

**AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE:** None

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:** Administrators reports are attached.

**Superintendent:** Dr. Palan's report included:

1. The Board vacancy will be posted online, on social media and the entrance doors on Tuesday with a May 16<sup>th</sup> deadline. The Board will then interview interested candidates and the successful candidate will be appointed during an open session BOE meeting.
2. Mr. Marshalek volunteered to be the board representative for the Ag Alumni Association as discussed at the March meeting.
3. Four quotes will try to be obtained for the Property/Casualty Insurance for the district due to Country Companies no longer handling this coverage. The School Board Association group quoted a price of around \$106,000 based on appraisal, up from about \$56,000 from Country Companies.
4. March enrollment remained the same over February.

**APPROVAL OF THE MS GYM SCOREBOARD:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by M. Wells, to approve the purchase of the MS Gym scoreboard at a cost of \$159,741, which includes installation and warranty. Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; M. Wells - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - no; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE ES VESTIBULE PROJECT:**

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by C. Horn, to approve the ES Vestibule Safety Project to be completed this summer at a cost of \$361,165. Roll Call: D. Marshalek - yes; C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; J. Loitz - yes; M. Wells - yes; T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL FOR HEALY BENDER TO BEGIN SCHEMATIC DESIGN/DEVELOPMENT PHASE FOR ES:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by J. Loitz, to authorize Healy Bender to begin the Schematic Design and/or the Development Phase of the HLS project with bids expected to go out in early fall. Roll Call: V. Gawlinski - yes; J. Loitz - yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**President:** No report

**Building and Grounds:** The water problem in the ES basement continues to be a problem and measures are being taken to investigate the source of the leak.

**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:** No report

**Communications Committee:** No report

**Student Representatives:** Not in attendance

**Board Communications:** Notification for approval of the School Library Grant in the amount of \$850.

**Finance/Transportation Committee:** No report

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by C. Horn, at 6:41 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.

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

**RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:**

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 7:39 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by M. Wells, at 7:40 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; M. Wells - yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; C. Horn – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE SUPPORT STAFF RENEWAL LIST:**

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to approve the support staff renewal list as presented. Roll Call: C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; J. Loitz - yes; D. Marshalek - abstain; M. Wells – abstain; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REEMPLOYMENT OF THE SUPPORT STAFF FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by C. Horn, to approve the superintendent's recommendation for the reemployment of the support staff (5.5% salary increase) as presented for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried unanimously. Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR CONTRACT:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by D. Marshalek, to approve the annual contract for Andy Dillman, Director of Technology, with a 5.5% increase for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Roll Call: V. Gawlinski - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; C. Horn - yes; J. Loitz - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/SPECIAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR CONTRACT:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by C. Horn, to approve the ten month employment contract of Kelly Toppen as Assistant Principal/Special Education Coordinator for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; C. Horn - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT FOR MS/HS PRINCIPAL:**

Motion was made by M. Wells, seconded by D. Marshalek, to approve the three year employment contract as presented for Stacy Glenn as MS/HS Principal, effective July 1, 2025. Roll Call: M. Wells - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; J. Loitz - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by D. Marshalek, at 7:50 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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Jerry Loitz  
Secretary

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Tim Markland  
President