

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Grant Park Community Unit School District No. 6 Board of Education, Kankakee County, State of Illinois, was held on February 23, 2026 in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by President Markland at 6:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Christine Horn  
Jerry Loitz  
Tim Markland  
Dave Marshalek  
Sarah Toma  
Mike Wells

Members absent: Vicki Gawlinski

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

Audience of 3

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by S. Toma, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular and special board meetings from January 2026.
2. Financial Reports for January, 2026.
3. Direction to pay the February vendor bills in the amount of \$183,978.43.
4. Approval of the January payroll in the amount of \$373,216.50.
5. Approval of Alyxandrya Miramontes as Social Worker for the 2026-27 school year (\$49,548).
6. Approval of the maternity leave of Stefani Rimkus as presented.

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

**AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE:** HS Student Abigail Cucurro was recognized for being inducted into the KACC National Technical Honor Society. Although she was unable to attend the meeting she was honored for this award that acknowledges academic and career focused excellence. Abbi is enrolled in the Engineering Design Program and has maintained a 3.67 GPA. The BOE expressed they were very proud of her for this achievement.

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

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

1. The HLS pre-construction meeting was postponed until next Monday and the asbestos abatement is still scheduled to be completed over spring break.
2. Some Fiscal '27 budget information was conveyed after the Governor's recent address. One key outcome to derive from his speech was that transportation funding is likely to decline while costs will continue to rise.
3. Students are already being prepared for the high stakes assessments in the spring. The principals have a plan in place for March and April.
4. January enrollment increased by two over December.

**APPROVAL OF ONE YEAR ACTIVITY BUS LEASE:**

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by M. Wells, to approve the one-year lease extension with Midwest Transit for the activity bus in the amount of \$29,990 to ensure all buses are on the same lease schedule. Roll Call: D. Marshalek - yes; M. Wells - yes; C. Horn - yes; J. Loitz - yes; S. Toma - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**President:** No report

**Building and Grounds:** The process of obtaining quotes for a new lawn mower will begin. The current mower will be good to start the season after a \$300 repair is completed.

**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:** The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**FFA/Ag Alumni:** The committee did not meet but the students attended the state horse and cattle judging events.

**Finance Committee:** The next meeting will be in March.

**Student Representatives:** There was a great turnout for the recent Career Fair; SB and BB practice has started; ACT practice has begun and will run until 4/9; the senior class trip is coming up as well as the RVC band concert; the HS play will be held the weekend of March 13<sup>th</sup>; local scholarships are now available for seniors to complete; FFA is recognizing Mental Health Week; and Claire Sluis won the DAR Good Citizen Award.

**Board Communications:** None

**COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by S. Toma, at 6:26 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: J. Loitz - yes; S. Toma - yes; C. Horn – 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 7:50 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

Motion was made by S. Toma, seconded by C. Horn, at 7:50 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: S. Toma - yes; C. Horn - yes; J. Loitz – yes; D.

Marshalek – yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by M. Wells, at 7:51 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz  
Secretary

Vicki Gawlinski  
President Pro tem