

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JULY 21, 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 July 21, 2025 in the Middle School Library.

The meeting was called to order by President Markland at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Vicki Gawlinski  
Christine Horn  
Tim Markland  
Dave Marshalek  
Sarah Toma  
Mike Wells

Member absent: Jerry Loitz

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

Audience of 5

**APPOINTMENT OF A SECRETARY PRO TEM:**

In Secretary Loitz's absence, a motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by M. Wells, to appoint Christine Horn as Secretary Pro tem for this meeting. Roll Call: D. Marshalek – yes; M. Wells – yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; C. Horn - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPOINT SARAH TOMA TO THE GRANT PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to appoint Sarah Toma to the Grant Park Board of Education effective Monday, July 21, 2025. Voice Vote: All – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of June 16, 2025.
2. Financial Reports for June, 2025.
3. Direction to pay the July vendor bills in the amount of \$297,389.97.
4. Approval of the June payroll in the amount of \$410,839.36.

5. Approval of the Kankakee Area Cooperative Fiscal '26 tentative budget as presented.
6. To approve Melissa Proskurniak as 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Instructor (\$63,671), Patrick Kleinert as MS Softball Coach (\$2,465), Christine Mephram as MS Softball Volunteer Coach, Nikki Van as 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach (\$1,684) and Denise Houser (Social Worker) at \$75 per hour.
7. To accept the resignations of Traci Wagner, Paraprofessional and Katie Oberman, PreK Instructor.
8. To approve board policies: 2:802:120-E2, 2:130, 2:220-E4, 2:220-E7, 7:140, 7:300, 8:80, 2:120-E1, 2:20-E9, 2:240-E1, 2:20-E2, 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 2:10, 2:240, 3:30, 4:50, 4:90, 4:180, 5:20-E, 5:60-E1, 5:270, 7:40, 7:90, 7:130, 7:325, 8:110
9. Approval of the 2025-26 Parent-Student Handbook as presented.

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

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

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS:** Administrators reports are attached. Ms. Planeta added the buses will be delivered on Thursday. When asked if there were any new bus driver applicants she responded that there have not been any applicants. She also officially welcomed Mrs. Glenn to the district and noted that they will be presenting a workshop at the Raising Student Achievement Conference in December. Mrs. Glenn expressed her gratitude to the Board and many others for their support over the last couple of weeks. She is excited to welcome the students next month and she ordered yard signs to place at the homes of AP students to bring attention to their achievements.

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

1. The federal grant freezes will have a small impact on the district. Title I funding has been cut \$30,000 and there is no Title II money as of yet.
2. Finance and building committee meetings will be held soon to review projects for FY 26. A facility walk-through is planned for August 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>.
3. A Student and Parent Education Event is being planned for September 8<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> to include a speaker to talk about the impact of social media.
4. Unaudited financial results from FY 25 show all funds in the black although the Transportation and Tort funds are close.

**APPROVAL OF PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE FOR FY 26 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by C. Horn, to approve Prairie State Cooperative as the Property and Casualty Insurance carrier for the 2025-26 school year at a cost of \$75,223 (prorated). Roll Call: V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Toma - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #72125 TO KEEP EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

**CLOSED:**

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to maintain the need for confidentiality in executive session minutes as indicated in Schedule A, as presented. Roll Call: C. Horn – yes; V. Gawlinski – yes; D. Marshalek – yes; S. Toma – yes; M. Wells – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**President:** No report

**Building and Grounds:** The ES vestibule project should be finished in a couple of days. The office will be recarpeted so all of the flooring matches. A project design meeting with Healy Bender will be on Thursday and the cracked/clogged pipe into the ES from the parking lot will be discussed for potential solutions before next year.

**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:** Ms. Gawlinski and Ms. Planeta will meet soon to discuss the next steps for the committee.

**FFA/Ag Alumni:** FFA members recently competed in the Livestock Show and many had a very good showing at the event.

**Student Representatives:** Students not in attendance in the summer.

**Board Communications:** No report

**Finance/Transportation Committee:** No report

**COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by M. Wells, at 6:31 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; M. Wells - yes; C. Horn – yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Toma – yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:**

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 6:55 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 6:55 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: D. Marshalek - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn – yes; S. Toma – yes; M. Wells – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried

unanimously.

**ACCEPT RETIREMENT LETTER OF SUPERINTENDENT PALAN EFFECTIVE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by V. Gawlinski, to accept the retirement notification letter of Dr. John Palan, Superintendent, effective at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year. Roll Call: D. Marshalek - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn - yes; S. Toma - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made by C. Horn, seconded by M. Wells, at 6:57 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz  
Secretary

Vicki Gawlinski  
President Pro tem