

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 16, 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 March 16, 2026 in the Middle School Library.

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

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

Members absent: Tim Markland
Sarah Toma

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

Audience of 4

APPOINTMENT OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEM:

In President Markland's absence, a motion was made by D. Marshalek, seconded by J. Loitz, to appoint Vicki Gawlinski as President Pro tem for this meeting. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting from February 2026.
2. Financial Reports for February, 2026.
3. Direction to pay the March vendor bills in the amount of \$171,125.48.
4. Approval of the February payroll in the amount of \$381,656.95.
5. Approval of Excess Inventory as presented
6. Approval of the Certified Renewal List (2026-27) as presented.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: None noted

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS: Administrators' reports are attached. Ms. Planeta and Mrs. Glenn both reminded the Board that students will be starting testing this week in the ES and next week in the MS/HS.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan's report included:

1. The HLS project will begin over spring break and nothing has changed since the last pre-construction meeting. The architects may join the April meeting with any updates. The required notices have been sent to the paper and parents/staff have been notified of the project timeline.
2. IAR and ACT assessments are imminent and the staff and students have been diligently preparing for the high-stakes tests.
3. Some key items in the legislative update included minimum wage changes, potential unemployment for nine month employees and a four year foreign language requirement for all students.
4. February enrollment declined by four from January.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: No report

Building and Grounds: Mr. Ewoldt is in the process of obtaining bids for a new lawn mower. At this time, most are coming in between \$15,000 and \$20,000. The committee will bring the bids to the April board meeting.

Technology: No report

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: The next meeting in May will cover the budget for next year.

Kankakee Area Career Center: The Career Center is very successfully partnering with KCC and Prairie State College with many students participating.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: No report

Chamber of Commerce: The Annual Golf Outing will be held on May 2nd.

Communications Committee: The dragon and GP logos were analyzed and some slight modifications may be made. The new designs will be sent to students for a vote and the hope is to wrap this up by the end of May.

FFA/Ag Alumni: Ag Alumni Scholarships are due by April 1st.

Finance Committee: The committee met and discussed the upcoming bus lease expiration next year. The challenge will be supporting the increase in activities and getting students to their extracurricular destinations. They talked about various options including purchasing another activity bus or a van. The need for drivers still exists.

Student Representatives: Select FFA students recently attended a Farm Bureau meeting; several students placed in Livestock Judging and Public Speaking contests; the RVC Band contest was postponed due to weather; the drama club presentation had a terrific turnout; the HS Math Team qualified for State; ACT and PSAT prep is on-going; HS baseball and softball has started; and spring break is the last week in March.

Board Communications: The board was reminded to submit their Economic Statements to the County as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER: None

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by C. Horn, at 6:22 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz
Secretary

Tim Markland
President