

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 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 November 17, 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
Jerry Loitz
Tim Markland
Dave Marshalek
Sarah Toma
Mike Wells

Members absent: None

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

Audience of 100 (3 remained after academic presentation)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of the regular board meeting of October 20, 2025.
2. Financial Reports for October, 2025.
3. Direction to pay the November vendor bills in the amount of \$494,248.03.
4. Approval of the October payroll in the amount of \$381,797.62.
5. Approve the following recommendations for employment: Ashley Moseley (7th Grade Volleyball - \$1,867), Paige Vause and Delaney Malkowski (MS Cheerleading Coaches - \$766.50 per coach).
6. Approval of the maternity leave request as presented by Samantha King.
7. To approve the purchased service agreement with Jenni Hoekstra for Graphic Designing as presented.
8. To approve the Fraud Protection Program offered by Midland States Bank at an annual cost of \$600 per year.

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

AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE: Select ES students were celebrated for an “Above Proficient” designation on last year’s IAR test scores. Thirty-three students were received certificates and all but five were in attendance with their families. These students were among the highest status with the state and the best of the best academically. Also acknowledged were the MS/HS students that were not in attendance at last month’s meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS: Administrators’ reports are attached. Ms. Planeta thanked the Board for their service to the District as Board Appreciation Day was last Saturday. Grandparents Day was another resounding success serving over 450 meals and Ms. Planeta sincerely hopes this tradition will continue in the future. STEM night was also very well attended with over 200 people in attendance. Mrs. Glenn highlighted a few topics on her report and also thanked the Board for their compassion for the staff and students at GP.

Superintendent: Dr. Palan’s report included:

1. GP Opportunities Program(s) is being explored for juniors and seniors to job shadow different professions.
2. Plasticity Boom is a company that will be executing a Climate and Culture Survey using research-based data where the district can get input to strengthen these areas. It is thought to ultimately replace the 5 Essentials Survey.
3. School Maintenance Grant opened two weeks ago and is once again a \$50,000 matching grant. If approved the district can use the funds for a new chiller.
4. 2025 Levy will be approved at the December meeting and the estimate received showed the EAV was up about 8%, from \$110 million to \$119 million.
5. GP 2026 Wall of Fame Inductees are Diane Cademartori, Shari Ohm and Phyllis Fick who will be honored on January 9th.
6. October enrollment increased by one from September.

HLS UPDATE AND TIMELINE: The ES project will be put out to bid to general contractors this week and the bids will be opened on 12/9. The boilers in the ES have been scheduled to be removed on April 24th so the project can get underway and stay on schedule. There will be provisions in place if the weather requires the use of heaters after that date. Updates will be provided to the public via the Messenger and staff will be kept apprised of the progress via emails.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President: The superintendent search is on schedule with a closed session meeting to be held on Wednesday to discuss the upcoming interviews.

Building and Grounds: No report

Technology: No report

Kankakee Area Special Education Co-op: No report

Kankakee Area Career Center: At the recent meeting the CEO of the Economic Alliance spoke about the opportunities for student interns. Also discussed was the need for a new roof on the building.

IASB-Three Rivers Division: The Triple I Conference in Chicago is being held this weekend.

Chamber of Commerce: The utility work in the downtown area has begun in preparation for the new streetscaping. It was announced that this December will be the last craft fair in town.

Communications Committee: On behalf of the committee, Ms. Gawlinski and Ms. Planeta passed out the completed Style Guide to the board outlining colors/logos/letterhead/etc. The last item to be completed is a one-page summary that can be sent to any group that has been given permission to use the logos and colors.

FFA/Ag Alumni: T-shirts and water testing kits were purchased and a group went to local farms for Livestock Judging.

Finance Committee: Next meeting will be held in February or March

Student Representatives: Mrs. Davis' Civics class held a breakfast for Veterans; senior Cheyenne Hayes had a college signing day for softball; HS Girls Basketball started this week; the Jazz Band concert will be on Wednesday, 11/19; Turnabout Dance is on Saturday, 11/22; and Thanksgiving break week is next week.

Board Communications: None

COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER: Jenni Hoekstra expressed her opinion about the Style Guide that was presented. She wants a more modern dragon logo and said she is not sure that what has been presented is the best option.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 6:49 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; V. Gawlinski - yes; C. Horn – yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Toma - yes; M. Wells - yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 7:07 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

Motion was made by M. Wells, seconded by J. Loitz, at 7:07 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: M. Wells - yes; J. Loitz - yes; V. Gawlinski– yes; C. Horn – yes; D. Marshalek - yes; S. Toma - yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made by M. Wells, seconded by S. Toma, at 7:08 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Loitz
Secretary

Tim Markland
President