

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 20, 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 October 20, 2025 in the Middle School Library.

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

Members present: Vicki Gawlinski  
Jerry Loitz  
Tim Markland  
Dave Marshalek  
Sarah Toma

Members absent: Christine Horn  
Mike Wells

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

Audience of 57 (6 stayed after the academic presentation)

**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 board meeting of September 22, 2025 and the special board meetings of September 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
2. Financial Reports for September, 2025.
3. Direction to pay the October vendor bills in the amount of \$422,200.38.
4. Approval of the September payroll in the amount of \$369,131.52.
5. Approval of District #6 job descriptions, as presented
6. Approve the following recommendations for employment: Joe Smuskiewicz as Varsity Boys Basketball Coach (\$7,039) and Ted Williams as JV Boys Basketball Coach (\$4,268).

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

**AUDIENCE TO PERSONS SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE:** Select MS and HS students were celebrated for their high academic achievements based on last year's test scores. These students were among the highest status with the state and the best of the best academically. One HS student, Lina Piperas, had the distinction of winning three awards from the College Board. The board congratulated the students, parents, teachers and administration for these success stories. ES students' achievements will be celebrated in November.

Next, Jody Woodley from Healy Bender Architects was in attendance to update the Board on the status of the ES project. They are in the construction documents phase finalizing drawings and getting all the information together for the contractors. The project will be put out to bid for general contractors the second week in November with the bid opening slated for the second week in December. The work could actually begin this winter with the contractors doing "behind the scenes work" on nights and school holidays.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:** Administrators' reports are attached. Ms. Planeta added the first Family Engagement night was well received by both the students and parents. They are already planning the next one for November. The ES will hold their annual Halloween classroom parties and costume parade next Friday. Mrs. Glenn thanked the PTO for the Back to School bags they provided for all employees. She also stated the MS SEL procedures are in place, the report card will be available on the 31<sup>st</sup> and Mrs. Davis and her Civics class will hold a Veteran's Breakfast on 11/11.

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

1. GP was chosen by Education Magazine as one of the "10 Most Admired School Districts". Criteria included academic performance, graduation rate and small class sizes.
2. 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.
3. Summative Designations will be released to the public at the end of October.
4. September enrollment decreased one from August.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**President:** A meeting will be held this week with a select focus group seeking information for the superintendent search. A survey was sent out to the community and those results will be analyzed this week as well. Screening of potential candidates will take place the first week in November.

**Building and Grounds:** A bid was obtained to install a sidewalk at the ES circle drive. Also, the ES drainage project was completed last week and the basement was dry after the weekend rains.

**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 style guide will be ready for the November meeting.

**FFA/Ag Alumni:** Students have been participating in career development events; the annual convention is next week and the Alumni Association will be paying for this trip; and the group held a Feed the Farmers luncheon.

**Finance Committee:** No report

**Student Representatives:** HS volleyball was competing in the RVC Conference championship game; soccer is in regional play; FFA continues with various competitions; MGGP Pep Assembly was held today with other fundraising events held throughout the week.

**Board Communications:** None

**COMMUNITY FORUM AND OTHER:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by D. Marshalek, at 6:45 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; D. Marshalek - yes; J. Loitz – yes; S. Toma - yes; and T. Markland - yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING:**

President Markland declared the closed session was over at 6:57 p.m. and the meeting would continue in Open Session.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

Motion was made by J. Loitz, seconded by V. Gawlinski, at 6:58 p.m. to approve the Executive Session minutes as read. Roll Call: J. Loitz - yes; V. Gawlinski - yes; D. Marshalek – yes; S. Toma – yes; and T. Markland – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion was made by V. Gawlinski, seconded by D. Marshalek, at 6:58 p.m. to adjourn. Voice vote, all yes. Motion carried unanimously.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Loitz  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Markland  
President