

GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2015

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Thursday, December 17, 2015, at 6:25 pm in the GCMS Board Room located at 307 N Sangamon Ave. Gibson City. The board was called to order by Board President Josh Johnson. Roll was called with board members Swearingen, Leonard, Young, Elder, Zbinden, Whitehouse and Johnson in attendance. Also present were, Susan Riley, Ross Brown, Jean Noellsch, Kevin Heid, High School Principal Chris Garard, Middle School Principal Jeremy Darnell, Elementary School Principal Justin Kean, Curriculum Coordinator Erin Nuss, FCSEC Director Rick Brackmann, District Superintendent Anthony Galindo, and Board Secretary Sarah Sarantakos.

The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all present.

Recognition of Visitors: Nothing to report at this time

A motion to go **into executive session** at 6:27 pm for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the district including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity 5ILCS 120/2(c) (1), student disciplinary cases 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (9), the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students 5ILCS120/2(c) (10), and collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (2). Motion was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Elder. Motion carried by roll call vote with all board members present voting yes.

A motion to **return to open session** was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Swearingen at 6:44pm. Motion carried by voice vote, with all board members present voting yes.

Action Items to Consider From Executive Session

Accept Resignation: Nothing to report at this time

Approve Employment: Nothing to report at this time

Approve Employment of Volunteer Coaches:

High School Boys Basketball
Anthony Richard
Kyle Salyards

High School Cheer
Caitlin Heap
Melanie Arends

High School Wrestling
Grant Horsch
Phillip Schwing
Cameron Schwing

High School Dance
Stephanie Hohulin

Motion to approve **the above mentioned** as a **volunteer coach** for the **GCMS High School** beginning school year 2015 – 2016. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by a voice vote with all board members present voting yes.

Superintendent Galindo informed the board that it was time to open the full and redacted executive session minutes. Motion to **open the full and redacted executive session minutes of June 18, 2015, through November 24, 2015, minutes** to the public. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Zbinden. Motion carried by a roll call vote with all board members present voting yes.

Board President Johnson announced that a **new superintendent** has been selected, **Jeremy Darnell**. His contract is still in negotiation.

Addition Agenda Items: Nothing to report at this time

Consent Agenda:

Approved were the Regular and Executive Session Board meeting minutes from November 17, 2015, and the Regular and Executive Session Board minutes from November 24, 2015.

GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved for were \$512,937.16 (Education fund \$223,935.42- Building fund \$185,804.13- Debt Service fund \$0.00- Transportation fund \$70,778.58, - IMRF fund \$0.00 - Capital Projects fund \$0.00- W/C \$0.00 –TORT \$32,419.03- F/HLS \$0.00 **GCMS Payrolls** approved were \$376,741.16 (Education fund \$336,1074.89- Building fund \$16,982.70 -Transportation fund \$2,835.32- TORT \$20,815.25.

FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$134,692.92 Accounts Payable (Education fund \$131,829.58- Building fund \$274.97 - IMRF Fund \$2,588.37 and **FCSEC Payrolls** approved were \$33,523.46 all in the Education fund.

Financial/treasurers report on behalf of the GCMS District and the FCSEC, Lunch Report, the summary of investment report on behalf of the GCMS District and the FCSEC, the destruction of executive session tapes through the end of June, 2014.

Approve Field Trips for:

* Project Ignition to Minneapolis, MN from March 29, 2016, - April 1, 2016.

Approve the following donations:

Amount	From	To
\$500.00	Roger and Carl Reum	GCMS FFA
\$899.64	Amy and Bruce Killian	GCMS FFA

Approve Facility Use Agreements or Request for Use of School Kitchen/Cafeteria pending proof of insurance and all other district requirements for:

*High School Commons for GCMS Band Annual Pizza Dinner Concert on February 21, 2016, from 4:00pm to 6:30 pm requesting that fees waived

*High School Gym for Lightening Baseball Practices on Sundays from January – March, 2016, starting at 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm requesting that fees waived

*Elementary, Middle & High School gyms (depending on schedule openings) - for GCMS Basketball Youth League in January and February 2016, requesting that fees waived

Motion to approve the **consent agenda** as presented in the board packet. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Committee Reports:

Policy: Members-Elder, Zbinden, Leonard

Committee Member Elder addressed the board whether there were any concerns or question with the policy changes, hearing none. **Motion to approve the of policies from Policy Press issue 90, 10-2015**

2:100, 2:150, 2:200, 4;170, 5:90 5:100, 6:15, 6:50, 6:60, 6:160, 6:270, 6:280, 6:310, 6:315, 6:320, 6:340, 7:50, 7;100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:290, 7:300, 7:305, 7:340, and 8:30. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Zbinden. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Building, Grounds, & Transportation: Members- Zbinden, Swearingen, Elder

Nothing to report at this time; however, we will be meeting to discuss Transportation/Bus bids beginning 2016-2017. Our last bid for bus service was for 5 years. This bid will go out in January 2016.

Personnel & Finance: Members- Young, Whitehouse, and Johnson
Nothing to report at this time

Building Administrator Reports:

Principals Report:

High School Principal Chris Garard, Jeremy Darnell-Middle School Principal and Elementary School Principal Justin Kean addressed the board, reporting on staffing, current activities and planned events in their perspective buildings. (Principals reports are attached to these minutes).

High School Principal Chris Garard at the previous board meeting inquired if he could have the boards support to also include the "Latin Honors" in the graduation ceremony this year. The board was in favor of this addition to graduation honors.

Ford County Special Education Cooperative Report:

Rick Brackmann, Director of the FCSEC had no report.

Curriculum Director:

Erin Nuss, Curriculum Director, (report is attached to these minutes)

Curriculum Director Erin Nuss shared the recently-updated report card for the GCMS schools which can be found at www.illinoisreportcard.com. Results of the spring 2015 PARCC exam were reviewed and PARCC parent letters explained. The second semester social-emotional learning focus will be on internal bucket-filling: How MINDful is your bucket? A brief overview of mindfulness was provided as it will be explained to staff on January 4, 2016. A letter was sent home to all parents of GCMS High School juniors explaining the Board of Education's decision to continue funding the ACT. Voluntary ACT results were also dispersed to students. Mrs. Nuss described the variety of outside professional development that teachers and staffs have participated in thus far this year. An overview of the assessments run through the Curriculum Office this week was provided. **Mrs. Nuss needed with an explanation of all the new technology purchased with Title I funds.**

Middle School Principal Darnell expressed his appreciation for the Gibson City Courier Editor Patti Welander's for all she has done for the district. The last Gibson City Courier will be printed on December 30, 2015.

Superintendent's Report

Correspondence/Communications

Superintendent Galindo informed the board that the State of Illinois approved the corrective action response to state monitoring visit.

Superintendent Galindo presented the **2015 Tax Levy** for the GCMS School District to the board. The amount of the requested levy is \$6,931,340.00 this is an increase of 9.7%. All members were in agreement with the proposed 2015 Tax Levy. A motion to approve the GCMS 2015 Levy as presented. Motion made by board member Elder and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Superintendent Galindo shared the prepared regular board meeting schedule for 2016. There were no objections to the meeting date schedule for 2016. **Motion to approve the regular board meeting schedule for 2016 as presented** Motion made my board member Zbinden and seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

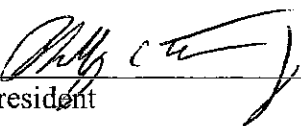
Superintendent Galindo stated that he received **mowing bid** information from Jeff Jackson. Mr. Jackson provided our mowing serves last year. Mr. Jackson has asked me to present a proposal for mowing services. The board did not want to pursue the extension of Mr. Jackson's contract at this time.

Superintendent Galindo reported that he received a **FOIA request from the Paxton Record** concerning the total cost for the district's part in the dispute to defend the assessed value on the One Earth Energy Plant. We will respond within the time required.

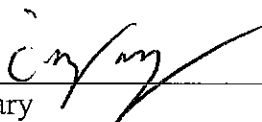
Bond discussion:

Mr. Kevin Heid with Stifel Nicolaus provided information related to Bond issue. At the last board meeting Mr. Heid addressed the board with concerns of property tax freeze that would limit the district ability to obtain bonds in the future that the district may need to operate. This is all in response to the state legation to enact a tax freeze. If this takes place the district would want to have an adequate base level. The board is concerned with the public's perception. Preparing for what could happen with state funding. No board member wanted to put any addition tax burden on the people. The board only wanted to issue a bond for \$1,000,000.00 and only sell \$500,000.00 at this time. Motions to consider approval of a resolution declaring the intention to issue **Working Cash Fund Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000** for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund and directing that notice of such intention are published in the manner provided by law. Motion made my board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion to **adjourn regular session** was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board Elder at 8:14 pm. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.



President



Secretary



Date: December 2015
TO: Members, Board of Education
FROM: Chris Garard - Principal
SUBJECT: Monthly Update

1. Enrollment- 330 (-4)
 - a. Freshmen – 94 (-1)
 - b. Sophomores – 79 (-2)
 - c. Juniors – 88 (-2)
 - d. Seniors – 69
2. HOIC Information
 - a. Expansion – Voted down
 - b. Music Festival at ISU, March 7, 2016
 - c. Arts Festival at ISU, April 15, 2016
3. Latin Honors recognition during Graduation Ceremony – Questions/Discussion
4. Winter Choir and Band Concert – Sunday, December 13
5. Attended a conference on Rigorous Growth Goals and Data Analysis presented by Anne Weerda.
6. Student of the Month – Zach Johnson – Nominated by Susan Riley
7. Upcoming Dates-
 - a. Wednesday, December 16-18 FINAL EXAMS
 - b. Friday, December 18 – Christmas Assembly – 1:45-2:20

Latin Honors at GCMS High School

Summa cum laude – with highest honors ———

Magna cum laude – with great honor

Cum laude – with honor

What are the cutoffs?

GPA	3.70 – 3.849	Cum Laude
	3.85 – 3.999	Magna Cum Laude
	4.0 +	Summa Cum Laude

What would this look like over the last 5 years?

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Cum Laude	4	3	6	3	6
Magna cum Laude	5	0	8	3	6
Summa cum Laude	1	2	5	1	5
Total	10	5	19	7	17

Class of 2014, 2015, 2016 have weighted grades

Class of 2012 and 2013 did not have weighted grades

When to implement?

Dual recognition for both Valedictorian/Salutatorian and Latin Honors beginning with the Class of 2016

Latin Honors only beginning with the Class of 2018

Keeping Valedictorian/Salutatorian, recognizing them during the Senior Class awards assembly AND an asterisk in graduation program.

Who will speak at graduation?

Senior nominated by the graduating class Honors recipients with final selection from a staff committee.

Farwell Address - THE speech given by A member of the graduating class.

Definition - Valedictory = Farwell address

Valedictorian - a student, typically having the highest academic achievements of the class, who delivers the valedictory at a graduation ceremony

Possibly add – Guest commencement speaker (Keynote Speaker) as a second speaker during the graduation ceremony.

Proposal presented to?

LEAD Team (Learn – Educate – Appreciate – Develop)

Faculty Meeting

Student Advisory board

Administrative team

Board of Education

Should we change the criteria for Honor Roll?

NO - This is a different academic recognition that does not need to have the same GPA criteria as everything else. For example: NHS has a different academic expectation for recognition (3.3 GPA).

Justification for the proposed change?

Designed to ensure that students see themselves as scholars, not rats in a race to the statistical top

Some students do not take advanced classes because it might lower their GPA

Some students have asked to RETAKE courses in order to raise their GPA, not because it would increase their learning

Many of our high achieving students are not recognized

Classes are not recognized for the volume of high achieving students

Aligns with college recognition

Colleges do not require class rank

Ranks will not be included on transcripts unless specifically asked for from the University/College

Principal's Report to the Board of Education

December 17, 2015

Jeremy Darnell

GCMS Middle School

Music/Art-

Our winter concert for both Band and Chorus took place on Sunday the 13th at the high school. We were excited to celebrate a day of music and art.

Kickoff Assembly and "Bucket Filling":

This month has been spent filling the buckets of the community. Ms. Fairfield's enrichment have and are visiting several community members caroling. Many students volunteered to create decorations and centerpieces for the Villas of Hollybrook. Toys were donated to the American Legion toy drive, and the list goes on. The amount of giving of time and resources from our staff and young people never ceases to amaze me!!!

Athletics:

Girls Basketball: At the time of print our 8th grade team is getting ready to take on Eureka in the sectional championship. I will update at the board meeting. If I am not there it is because we are in the state finals or 3rd / 4th place game☺

Boys basketball: The 8th grade boys are playing in the conference championship on Tuesday the 8th!

Wrestling: Practices are underway and the first meet is on the 15th.

Volleyball: Tryouts are taking place with nearly 45 kids signed up for tryouts.

Cheerleading: Our girls took 2nd place at the Twin County Conference Cheer competition.

Assessment:

We are completing our second round of MAP testing the week of December 7th – 11th. Staff, students, and families are being made aware of our PARCC scores. We are excited for the opportunity to use this data to help improve instruction and support student learning!

Press:

I want to publically thank Patti Welander and the staff of the Gibson Courier for the fantastic coverage and promotion of GCMS Schools. In a world where media targets schools you always find a way to promote the positive! You are a diamond in a profession that has a lot of coal.

Enrollment Numbers = 227

Elementary School Board Report 12/17/15

1) BUG

- a. For the month of Dec. we are highlighting Caring
- b. Assembly on Nov. 24th and Betty Goembel was the mystery reader
- c. Next assembly is Jan. 8th

2) ISU Reading Class

- a. Last class will be 12/16/15
- b. Reviews for running records and small group reading instruction have been good and several grade levels have implemented these parts.
- c. Debbie Hohulin has done running records on the whole 1st grade class.

3) MAP Testing

- a. Hopefully finishing up on 12/11/15
- b. Use to create RtI groups and keep track of progress

4) Funfrawl

- a. Thank you for allowing Falcon Youth Wrestling to use the facilities
- b. Took place on Dec. 5th at the High School
- c. Over 300 kids participated (48 kids on our roster)

5) Spread the Christmas Cheer!

- a. We have dress up days or things to do surrounding the holidays all week.
- b. Schdule:
 - i. Monday= Christmas Concert @ the high school (split into K-2 and 3-5)
 - ii. Tuesday= Stop, Drop, and Draw
 - iii. Wednesday= Christmas Sweater(or shirt) Day- (ugly or otherwise)
 - iv. Thursday= Holiday Cheer Gear Day= Santa hats, reindeer antlers, Rudolph noses, etc.
 - v. Friday= PJ Day

6) Social Events for Elementary Staff

- a. Faculty game night- Nov. 19th
- b. Color, Chill, Chocolate- Dec. 3rd
- c. Arm scarf knitting- Dec. 8th
- d. Winter Blues Party- Jan ??(TBD)

7) Registered students:

- a. K= 68
- b. 1st= 74
- c. 2nd= 86
- d. 3rd= 73
- e. 4th= 76
- f. 5th= 84
- g. ECE= 19
- h. Total= 480

Curriculum Office
December Board Report

- I. Illinois Report Card
 - A. PARCC Results
 - B. Parent Letters
- II. Second Semester Social-Emotional Learning Focus: How MINDful is Your Bucket?
 - A. Plans for January 4
 - B. Mindfulness Overview
- III. Junior Parent Letter
 - A. Voluntary ACT Results
- IV. Professional Development Update
- V. Approximately 1700 Student Assessments through the Curriculum Office this Week
 - A. Teachers from every building utilizing scantron software
 - B. 15 teachers using Mrs. Sullins's rubric tool
- VI. Title I Technology