

**GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**March 27, 2017**

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, March 27, 2017, at 6:15 p.m. 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 Elder, Johnson, Swearingen, Whitehouse, Young, and Zbinden in attendance. Also present were: Susan Riley, Chris Garard, Justin Kean, Kyle Bielfeldt, Ross Brown, Rick Brackmann, Curriculum Director Erin Nuss, School Board Secretary Lori Kristensen and District Superintendent Jeremy Darnell.

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

**Recognition of Visitors:**

Staci, Matt, Maci, Maddox and Miles Lindelof.

A motion to **go into executive session** at 6:16 p.m. 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).

Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

Discussion of lawfully closed meeting minutes, whether for the purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Young. 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 Whitehouse and seconded by board member Young at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all board members present voting yes.

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**Action Items to Consider From Executive Session**

**Accept Requests for:**

Motion to accept the **early graduation request for Abigail Wingler** at the conclusion of the 2017 fall semester pending completion of all required coursework. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Zbinden. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept Andria Dibble as a volunteer Middle School Cheer Coach** for the 2017-2018 school year pending background check. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the resignation of Ashley Schwenk as the middle school Scholastic Bowl Coach** at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year pending suitable replacement with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Young . Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the resignation of Angie Funk as the high school Student Council Advisor** at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year pending suitable replacement with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Leonard . Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the resignation of Kristin Tarrant** as elementary school teacher effective April 5, 2017 with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the resignation of Tania Durre** as high school English Teacher effective at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Zbinden and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the resignation of Mark Koon** as elementary school teacher effective at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the resignation of KiLee Lidwell-McFerren** as elementary school assistant principal effective at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year with thanks for service.

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Motion was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **hire Allison Boettcher-Case as step 6 with a master's degree as special education teacher** for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion was made by board member Zbinden and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **hire Taylor Sharp as step 1 with a master's degree as special education teacher** for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **hire Staci Lindelof as Assistant Principal at GCMS Elementary School** for the 2017-2018 school year per the negotiated 1 year contract. Motion was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Elder. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Additional Agenda Items:**

The ACT Theatre group has requested a Co-Sponsorship of the summer program. Please refer to the Superintendent's Report for more details and the board's motion.

**Consent Agenda**

Approve the minutes of the GCMS Regular and Executive Session Minutes of January 23, 2017.

**GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved were \$488,820.19.**

Education fund	\$351,381.65
Building fund	\$31,662.19
Debt Service fund	\$0.00
Transportation fund	\$62,655.05
IMRF/FICA fund	\$26,455.23
Capital Projects fund	\$0.00
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$16,666.07
F/HLS	\$0.00

**GCMS Payrolls approved were \$385,602.23.**

Education fund	\$345,978.78
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Building fund	\$16,325.53
Transportation fund	\$2,299.63
TORT	\$20,998.29

**FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$33,659.48.**

Education fund	\$31,493.78
Building fund	\$177.47
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$1,988.23

**FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$34,138.91 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, and the destruction of executive session tapes through the end of September 2015.

**Approve Field Trips for:**

- Senior class trip to Navy Pier and Trampoline Park on 5/25/17 by Susan Riley

**Approve the following donations:**

Amount	From	Designation
\$500	Anonymous	FFA

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

- FCA Power Camp, June 26-29, 2017 at the middle school and athletic facilities by Rick Ertel.

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

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**Advisory Reports:**

**Policy:** Members - Adam Elder and Miranda Leonard

Superintendent Darnell provided the first reading of the whole policy review to the board.

**Building, Grounds, and Transportation:** Members -Jamie Zbinden and Steve Swearingen

The presentation of summer projects was approved with a total cost of \$168,000. This total is slightly higher than the budgeted amount, but Darnell shared that unused tort fund money will be used to offset the overage.

Among the projects approved were; the installation of security cameras and keyed entry for the Unit Office, replacement of older clocks with GPS clocks and bell systems at both the Elementary and High Schools. Additional maintenance considerations were approved and will begin after school is dismissed for the summer.

Motion to accept the recommendation of summer projects as presented. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Personnel and Finance:** Members - Josh Johnson and Phil Whitehouse

No Report.

**Strategy and Enrichment:** Members – Tyler Young and Josh Johnson

Discussions with the board will begin on establishing administratively recommended measurable long term goals.

**Building Administration Reports:**

**Principal's Reports:**

High School Principal, Chris Garard

Principal report is attached to the minutes.

Middle School Principal, Kyle Bielfeldt

Principal report is attached to the minutes.

Elementary Principal, Justin Kean

Principal report is attached to the minutes.

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Special Education, Rick Brackmann

No report

Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss

Mrs. Nuss reported that 23 teachers participated in Curriculum/Assessment Improvement work time in February. She also thanked Mrs. Cope for leading a Third Thursday workshop on National Board Certification. Mrs. Cope has almost completed the requirements for NBC and we are hopeful that other talented GCMS teachers will begin the process.

The Title Parent Coordinators at each building (Deb Hohulin, Evon Fredrickson, Cathy Walker-Steidinger, Elizabeth Maske, Heather Killian, and Erica Kostoff) were acclaimed for the great success of their March Title Nights. During that month, more than 50% of our families entered our buildings for meaningful and engaging activities that help build the bridge between school and home.

Mrs. Nuss also reviewed the various types of achievement testing which GCMS students may participate in during the next few weeks, including: PARCC Assessment, Illinois Science Assessment, Illinois Physical Fitness Assessment, and SAT testing.

**Superintendent's Report**

**GCMS and FCSEC Audit**

The board was asked to approve the 2017-2018 audit contract with Russ Leigh and Associates for both GCMS School District and FCSEC. Superintendent Darnell stated to the board that the district has had a good relationship in the past with Russ Leigh and that the firm has added more school districts in the area as their accounts.

Motion to hire Russ Leigh and Associates to perform the annual audits for GCMS and FCSEC for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Elder. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**2017-2018 GCMS Fees**

District fees for the 2017-2018 school year were presented to the board for final approval. Registration fees will be: \$75 for the Elementary School, \$100 for the Middle School and \$100 for the High School. Lunch prices will be changed to \$2.50 for the Elementary School, \$2.75 for both the Middle School and High School and \$3.25 for adult lunches. Superintendent Darnell

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shared that the \$.50 difference in cost between the student and adult meals is in cooperation with state and federal regulations in regards to school food subsidies.

In addition to registration and lunch price changes, 6-12 grade band students will participate in the \$50 activity fee starting in the 2017-2018 school year. Superintendent Darnell added that the activity fee is being added for band students in order for the music department to participate in different activities throughout the year. The marching band uniforms are over 20 years old and eventually will need to be replaced

The same policy applies to activity fees as last year; \$50 per activity, \$100 maximum per student and \$150 maximum per family.

Motion to accept the fees schedule for GCMS School District for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Zbinden. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**IESA and IHSA Membership**

There was a formal motion to enroll GCMS in membership with the IESA and IHSA for the 2017-2018 school year. This is done on a yearly basis to maintain membership with both state organizations. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

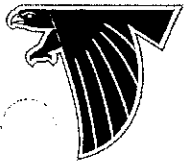
**Finance Review**

Superintendent Darnell shared with the board that the district's fund balances are on pace with the budget. Darnell also said the district's spending has increased slightly, but this is a normal pattern for this time of year.

**Co-Sponsorship of ACT**

The board was asked to co-sponsor the summer ACT Theatre performance of The Lion King for July 2017. This will be a non-monetary sponsorship in order for Walt Disney, Co. to release the rights for grades 2-12 to perform the play.

Motion to co-sponsor the ACT performance of the Lion King for July 2017. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Zbinden. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.



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**Date**                    **March 16, 2017**  
**TO:**                      **Members, Board of Education**  
**FROM:**                 **Chris Garard - Principal**  
**SUBJECT:**             **Monthly Update**

1. Enrollment- 323 (-1)
  - a. Freshmen – 91
  - b. Sophomores – 89
  - c. Juniors – 66
  - d. Seniors – 77
  
2. HS Musical
  - a. Students performed “The Drowsy Chaperone” – Hilarious comedy – Congratulations to Ms. Broaddus, Mr. Renchen, Mr. Stone and all of our students who were involved.
  
3. National Honor Society
  - a. Congratulations to our new members: Dylan Brownlee, Jacob Norbot, Logan Davis, Jeremy Steidinger, Brooke Wilfong, Kaitlynn Kietzman, Taylor Engel, Kayla McCreary, and Sara Edgar.
  
4. Bucket Drops
  - a. #RoyStrong
  - b. Kurt Kinley
  
5. Spring sport participants
  - a. Boys Track - 22
  - b. Girls Track - 24
  - c. Boys Baseball - 31
  - d. Girls Softball - 23
  
6. Upcoming Dates - (**BOLD** items are invitations for the **BOE** to attend)
  - a. **SAT** – April 5 at GCBC – No visitors allowed – SORRY
  - b. GCMS Boys Track Invitational – April 7 – 4:30
  - c. GCMS Girls Track Invitational – April 21 – 4:30



**Kyle Bielfeldt**

## **Enrollment Numbers**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 79
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 66
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 75
- Total 220

## **January Student of the Month**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade –
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Peyton Leonard
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade –

## **Update on Math Double Lunches**

We have had two meetings to discuss class changes and RtI. We have had a lot of good discussion on best practices and homework. We have two more meetings scheduled to continue this discussion and to create an RtI program that will benefit all of students.

## **February SIP Day**

Middle School faculty spent the afternoon discussing the middle school concept and discussing ways that we can “reinvest” in the concept. Thank you to Mrs. Ricks for leading the discussion.

## **Horizon School to Watch**

The Horizon Schools to Watch Team visited on March 9. It was a successful visit and we should know about our re-designation shortly. They will be sending an overall report in late April or early May. This will be a good opportunity to reflect on what we do at GCMS Middle School and it will also help guide our school improvement plan.

## **Open House/Title Night**

Our Open House/Title Night was a success. We had over 50% of our students attend with either parents, grandparents, siblings, or other relatives. Each student that attended was given a free book to take home.

## **Science Opening**

We currently have 6 applications on AppliTrack.

## **Upcoming Events**

March 28 – Last Math Double Lunch

March 28 – Meeting w/5<sup>th</sup> Graders

March 30 – Character Assembly

March 31 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade RAP Party

April 4-7 – IEP Annual Reviews at MS

April 7 – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Chicago


April 18-28 – PARCC Testing

## Elementary School Board Report 3/27/17

- 1) BUG
  - a. Had an assembly on 3-3-17
  - b. Best effort is our character trait for the month (Next assembly is 3-31-17)
  
- 2) Social events for staff
  - a. Steps challenge= Jan. 30- March 5
  - b. Breakout rooms for staff= March 7-8
  
- 3) Career fair at ISU and EIU
  - a. Good experience
  - b. ISU had a lot more potential applicants
  
- 4) Dr. Seuss Days (March 1-3)
  - a. Dress crazy
  - b. Green eggs and ham
  - c. College or Falcon gear
  
- 5) Lunch Connect
  - a. 4<sup>th</sup>= March 6-10
  - b. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>= March 13-17
  
- 6) Reading Incentive Celebration (March 14)
  - a. Megan Bradbury Smith read her book, "Lola and the Munchie Monsters"
  - b. Mrs. Keefe hosted a wild dance party
  - c. Mrs. Giroux taught kids how to make a monster bookmark
  - d. Mr. White wowed the crowd as he read a book to those eating pushup pops
  
- 7) 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip (March 10)
  - a. U of I Engineering Open House
  
- 8) Enrollment:
  - a. ECE= 19
  - b. K= 78
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup>= 62
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup>= 67
  - e. 3<sup>rd</sup>= 77
  - f. 4<sup>th</sup>= 69
  - g. 5<sup>th</sup>= 76
  - h. Total= 448
  
- 9) Upcoming date-
  - a. March 3-11= PARCC testing
  - b. March 19= 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to the hospital
  - c. March 21= 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to Indiana

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A motion to **adjourn the regular session** was made by board member Elder and seconded by board member Young at: 7:25 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.



Board President Josh Johnson



Secretary Pro-Tem Lori Kristensen