

**GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**September 25, 2017**

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, September 25, 2017, at 6:30 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 Whitehouse, Elder, Young, Swearingen, Tucker-Davis and Leonard in attendance. Also present were: High School Principal Chris Garard, Middle School Principal Kyle Bielfeldt, Elementary School Principal Justin Kean, FCSEC Director Jesse McFarling, Curriculum Director Erin Nuss, Ross Brown with the Ford County Record, GCMS Education Association President Susan Riley, School Board Secretary Lori Kristensen and District Superintendent Jeremy Darnell.

Absent:

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

**Recognition of Visitors:**

A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Whitehouse at 6:32 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). Motion was carried by roll call, with all members present voting yes.

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).

A motion to **return to open session** was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis at 6:43 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 resignation of Cynthia Wurmnest effective December 31, 2017 as a paraprofessional for GCMS School District with thanks for her service.** Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the maternity leave for Nicole McNary for 12 weeks starting approximately September 10 through December 22, 2017.** Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis and seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the maternity leave for Kristin Wilson from October 27 through December 22, 2017.** Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the following as volunteer coaches** for GCMS School District for the 2017-2018 school year.

- Wrestling: Phillip Schwing, Aaron Carter, Chad Augspurger, Tyler Brucker & Grant Horsch
- AG/FFA: Jackie Quinley and Michelle Marcum
- Music: Christine Harmet and Todd Thomas
- Basketball: A.J. Richard
- Volleyball: Shelbie Kearfott

Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Additional Agenda Items:**

None

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**Consent Agenda**

**GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved were \$658,793.88**

Education fund	\$524,460.58
Building fund	\$44,369.62
Debt Service fund	\$0.00
Transportation fund	\$46,968.56
IMRF/FICA fund	\$25,585.13
Capital Projects fund	\$0.00
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$17,409.99
F/HLS	\$0.00

**GCMS Payrolls approved were \$406,589.34**

Education fund	\$362,392.81
Building fund	\$18,986.43
Transportation fund	\$2,630.73
TORT	\$22,579.37

**FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$102,713.07**

Education fund	\$100,511.27
Building fund	197.58
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$2,004.22

**FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$36,862.01 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 March 2016.

**Approve Field Trips for:**

- Art 4 to Navy Pier in Chicago on 11/4/17 for the SOFA Art Show
- FFA/AG to Decatur on 10/6/17-10/7/17 for a leadership conference
- FFA/AG to Indianapolis on 10/25/17-10/28/17 for a leadership conference
- Spanish IV to Decatur on 4/20/18 for a cultural performance
- Senior Class to Parkland College on 10/11/17 for a college visit
- Senior Class to Illinois Wesleyan on 10/11/17 for a college visit
- Special Education Department to Parkland College on 10/5/17 for a college visit
- 4th Grade to Springfield on 5/4/17 for a Class trip to visit historical sites
- 1st Grade to Radar Farms on 10/11/17 for a grade level trip
- 7th Grade to Museum of Science & Industry in Chicago on 4/16/17 for a science trip

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**Approve the following donations:**

Amount	From	Designation
\$400.00	Valerie Kean	Whiteboard Donation
\$605.65	Booster Club	Signs for Athletes
\$15.26	Kula Foundation	Activity Fund
2,774.48	Anonymous	High School Agenda Books

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

- None

Approve the minutes of the GCMS Regular and Executive Session Minutes of August 21, 2017.

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

**Advisory Reports:**

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

First reading of the IASB recommended changes to policies: 2:210, 2:260, 4:70, 6:80, 6:180, 6:210, 6:290, 6:330, 7:80, 7:160, 7:275, 8:70

The policy members recommended not adopting Policy 7:275 at this time. A formal adoption of the policy changes will take place at the October 16 board of education meeting.

**Building, Grounds, and Transportation:** Members - Steve Swearingen and Emily

Tucker-Davis

No Report

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

Personnel and Finance advisory members met on 9/20/17 to review the FY18 budget. Members also recognize this year is the last year of the current negotiated contract and negotiations will be needed in the near future.

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

Strategy and Enrichment advisory members met on 9/25/17 to discuss both academic and facility goals with recommendations to come.

**Building Administration Reports:**

**Principal's Reports:**

High School Principal, Chris Garard

Principal's report is attached to the minutes.

Middle School Principal, Kyle Bielfeldt

Principal's report is attached to the minutes.

Elementary Principal, Justin Kean

Principal's report is attached to the minutes.

Special Education, Jesse McFarling

Director McFarling reported to the board that FCSEC has received \$14,365.36 in Personnel Reimbursements so far this year. Mr. McFarling also reported there will be two training sessions scheduled for the October 6 teacher institute day. One training session will be on behavioral interventions and strategies for students with Autism for all GCMS paraprofessionals, and a half day NCI refresher course for staff that were not able to attend the training over the summer.

Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss

Mrs. Nuss described the optional professional development workshops offered this fall on the topic of trauma-sensitive teaching. She also updated the Board on the progress of our 18-month Curriculum Studies in the Social Studies, Agriculture, and Fine Arts departments. The GCMS University mentors were thanked for attending the September Mentor Breakfast. Mrs. Nuss ended with a brief update on the current status of our Title I Plan and ESEA Consolidated Application.

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**Superintendent's Report**

**Communications**

**Evidence Based Model - School Funding Formula Passes**

In the Evidence Based Model of the new School Funding Formula; the GCMS School District is designated as a Tier 2 District. Superintendent Darnell reported that the district will see a smaller amount of new money due to the designation of Tier 2. Those school districts designated as Tier 1 will receive the most state funding. Darnell also commented that even though the district will receive less new money through the new school funding formula, the district is on course to receive what the State has promised.

**Community Engagement**

Each building administrator provided a growing list of community organizations that GCMS staff are involved with in some capacity. The emphasis behind the exercise was to acknowledge the time and commitment the staff gives the community outside of their classroom.

**Motion to approve the GCMS FY18 budget as presented.** Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Motion to approve the FCSEC FY18 budget as presented.** Motion was made by board member Swearingen seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Annual Salary Report**

Superintendent Darnell shared with the board the annual salary report. The district is required to post staff salaries on the GCMS District website and submit the current year salary report to the State.

**Motion to approve the Annual Salary Report as presented.** Motion was made by board member Leonard seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Board of Education Leadership Conference**

Mr. Darnell reported that the Board of Education will participate in a leadership conference by John Maxwell titled, "Live to Lead" on October 6.

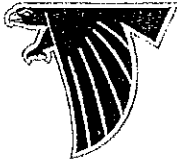
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A motion to **adjourn the regular session** was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Young at: 7:08 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.

  
Board President Josh Johnson

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Board Secretary Tyler Young

  
Secretary Pro-Tem Lori Kristensen



Date September 20, 2017  
TO: Members, Board of Education  
FROM: Chris Garard - Principal  
SUBJECT: Monthly Update

1. Enrollment- 313 (+2)
  - a. Freshmen – 81 (+2)
  - b. Sophomores – 83 (-1)
  - c. Juniors – 82 (+1)
  - d. Seniors – 67
2. Student of the Month - Senior Brandon Zumwalt
3. FFA competed at the State Horse Judging Contest. The **Reason Team** placed 5<sup>th</sup> and **Katie Quinley** placed 3<sup>rd</sup>! Congratulations!!
4. Freshmen parent night/Title 1 parent night/Drivers Education parent night. Great turnout by parents.
5. Class officer election process
  - a. Signed petitions
  - b. Campaign posters
  - c. Campaign commercials
  - d. Debates
  - e. Voting – Elected President and Vice President. Once elected, top officers selected their “Cabinet”, Secretary of the Class and Secretary of Student Affairs.
6. Student Programs
  - a. Impact – HS students give up their SH or Advisory to assist ES classes.
  - b. Football readers – Read to ES students on Fridays
  - c. IEP Work program – IEP students gaining experience with job related skills
7. GCMS Students volunteering
  - a. Haley Rutledge – Champaign News Gazette student reporter
  - b. Athletes assisted at Shriners Kids Day
  - c. Football team assisted at Harvest Fest
  - d. Athletes helped Closet Too move heavy items
  - e. Students consistently assist at the Food Bank
  - f. Students enjoy lunch and have conversations with residents at The Villas weekly
  - g. Interact – Assists with Meals on Wheels and collect food from the food drive
8. Upcoming Dates - (**BOLD** items are invitations for the **BOE** to attend)
  - a. September 25 – 30, Homecoming activities – **25 Years of Falcons** in Celebration of GCMS's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
    - i. Daily Dress up days
    - ii. Thursday night – Parade 6:00 – Powder Puff 7:30
    - iii. Friday – Game 7:00 vs. Tremont
    - iv. Saturday – Dance 8:00-11:00
  - b. October 9 – IMEA Auditions for Band/Choir students
  - c. October 11 – HS Testing day – PSAT/NMSQT - morning
  - d. October 11 – Guest speaker – Brad Hurtig – MS/HS Assembly 1:30



Kyle Bielfeldt

**Enrollment Numbers**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 79
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade 79
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 69
- Total 227

**Middle Grades Longitudinal Study**

We are going to be a part of a three year nationwide longitudinal study. Our current 6<sup>th</sup> grade class will be tested one time each of the next three years as part of the study. There are over 900 schools around the nation that are participating in the study.

**ELA Department Meetings**

Each quarter our ELA teachers meet over their lunch and enrichment periods to discuss trends and best practices. We began this last year and the teachers find the conversations that come out of the meetings to be beneficial to their teaching. The first meeting was held on September 20.

**Teacher Evaluations**

I have begun evaluating our staff and will be done with all evaluations by early February.

**Touch a Truck**

The Gibson City Rotary Club held their annual Touch a Truck event at the Middle School on Sunday, September 17. The event was a success with a lot of our community being involved and enjoying the day.

**Guest Speaker October 11**

Mr. Garard and I will be hosting guest speaker on October 11 at the high school. The guest speaker's name is Brad Hurtig and he is a highly recommended motivational speaker. Brad's message is one of perseverance and determination in the face of adversity.

**Athletics**

Girls basketball has started with their first game on September 14. There are 9 sixth graders, 6 seventh graders, and 10 eighth grader girls participating.

Cheerleading has also started and will cheer at each of our home games for boys and girls basketball as well as at the TCC Tournament. There are 3 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 2 seventh graders, and 6<sup>th</sup> eighth graders that are participating.

**Upcoming Events**

September 22 – SIP Day/CCC

September 25 – School Board Meeting

September 27 – Faculty Meeting

September 29 – Vision and Hearing Screenings  
October 6 – Teacher In-service  
October 11 – Guest Speaker  
October 15-17 – Illinois Principal's Association Conference  
October 23-26 – Book Fair  
October 25-26 – Parent/Teacher Conferences  
October 30-November 3 – Red Ribbon Week

## Elementary School Board Report 9/25/17

- 1) BUG
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> assembly was on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>
  - b. Respect is our theme for the month
  - c. Next assembly is Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>
  
- 2) Parent orientation
  - a. Was on Aug. 23
  - b. Around 77% of kids were represented
  
- 3) Preschool screening was Sept. 8th 60
  - a. Adding up to 9 to the preschool and 2 to ECE
  
- 4) Head lice check
  - a. Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Not as many as we anticipated (8 sent home)
  
- 5) MAP testing
  - a. Fall benchmark testing is complete
  - b. Will do Fall, Winter and Spring testing at all grade levels
  
- 6) Band
  - a. 5<sup>th</sup> grade signup is on Sept. 20 38
  - b. Hope to have good #s to report
  
- 7) Social events
  - a. Pre-game tailgate at my house on Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> (over 60 people attended!!!)
  - b. McNary/Wilson baby shower (Sept. 7)
  - c. JT Walkers on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - d. Curtis Orchard on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>
  
- 8) Dates of note:
  - a. Sept. 28= Fall pictures
  - b. Sept. 29= BUG Assembly
  - c. Oct. 4= ALICE drill
  - d. Oct. 11= 1<sup>st</sup> grade to Radar Farms
  
- 9) Enrollment:
  - a. ECE= 13 (will hopefully add some from screening)
  - b. Pre K= 30 (will hopefully add some from screening)
  - c. K= 62
  - d. 1<sup>st</sup>= 83
  - e. 2<sup>nd</sup>= 64
  - f. 3<sup>rd</sup>= 68
  - g. 4<sup>th</sup>= 74
  - h. 5<sup>th</sup>= 68
  - i. Total= 462