

GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5  
MINUTES OF MEETING

February 16, 2012

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Thursday, February 16, 2012, at 6:15 .p.m. in the GCMS Board Room. Roll was called with members Shoemaker, Whitehouse, Swearingen, Young, Kerber, and Cope present. Member Doran was absent. Also present were Susan Riley, Joni Cox, Doris Benter, Jean Noellsch, Justin Kean, Jeremy Darnell, Mike Lindy, Rick Brackmann, Anthony Galindo, Sarah Sarantakos, and Marge Ehlers.

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

A motion to go into executive session at 6:17 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), student disciplinary cases 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (9), and the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students 5ILCS120/2(c) (10), was made by member Kerber and seconded by member Young. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. The meeting returned to regular session at 6:43 p.m.

There were two agenda additions. A motion was made by member Swearingen and seconded by member Young to add agenda additions to approve the facility use agreement for: 7.15 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball practice beginning the end of February and working around other scheduled events for usage of the High School gym and 7.16 GCYB (Gibson City Youth Baseball) tryouts March 31, 2012 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the High School gym with fee waived. Also a schedule change for the GCMS Lady Falcons youth basketball league is attached. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Under recognition of visitors, Susan Riley invited all present to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fund Raiser at D. G. Sullivan's on Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> with all tips to benefit Shriners Hospital. GCMS staff will volunteer their staffing services for the event.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by member Shoemaker and seconded by member Kerber. Amendments were as follows: the word "coaches" was added to the end of Item 7.11 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Item 7.13 was amended to Item 7.14. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. Bills approved for GCMS were \$549,257.82 (Education fund \$364,777.74, Building fund \$38,744.37, Debt Service fund \$-0-, Transportation fund \$50,686.33, IMRF fund \$25,296.10, Capital Projects fund \$41,103.93, W/C \$-0-, Tort \$28,649.35, F/HLS \$-0-, and payroll of \$362,162.23 (Education fund \$341,771.21, Building fund \$17,742.10, and Transportation fund \$2,648.92. Bills approved for FCSEC were \$72,403.50 (Education fund \$70,273.17, Building fund \$139.63, IMRF fund \$1,990.70) and payroll of \$31,267.95 education fund.

A Policy Meeting will be scheduled to review new policy updates received.

A Building, Grounds, & Transportation Committee will be scheduled after receiving the Middle School Life Safety review information from ISBE. The unit office furnace needs to be discussed for either replacing the unit or fixing it. The a/c unit also needs to be checked. A list of Summer Projects should also be discussed. Information is to be sent to the Board when received.

The Personnel & Finance Committee will need to be updated on a job description change and a contract after the district attorney is consulted.

Rick Brackmann of FCSEC advised the executive committee met on 2-15-12. The fund balance, revenues and expenses look good and feels FCSEC is in good shape meaning PBL and GCMS may be in the market for a rebate on expenses. A graph chart showed a ten year summary of GCMS students with IEP's with the high being at 17.4% and the current being at 13/1% showing a steady decline. This is a reflection of the benefits of co-teaching in the GCMS district. The state average is 14.6%

Congratulations were extended the GCMS Middle School for being one of 438 Illinois to be recognized for earning an Academic Excellence Award.

The State Financial Reimbursement Report for GCMS currently shows the State of Illinois is late in delivering \$327,824.78 for the fiscal year 2011-2012 of which \$88,534.70 is for transportation.

A Special Board Meeting with Dean Langdon from ISBE has been scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM to participate in Board Training on Self-Evaluation. The meeting will be held in closed session.

The district was notified our prior lawn service carrier will no longer be able to provide lawn service. A bid notice was placed in the local paper February 9, 2012 with the bid opening to be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. Bid results will be presented at the next Board Meeting.

Several samples of a District Motto were present to the CCC Board on February 15<sup>th</sup>. A decision was tabled in order to talk with students and other faculty members to find a motto that accurately portrays the District Mission Statement. The mottos will be brought to the March CCC meeting and if a decision is reached, it will be presented to the Board of Education for consideration. It is felt "respect" should be included in the motto.

President Rod Cope was recognized for completion of the online OMA training.

Legislative information was presented as follows:

BUDGET: State aid request from ISBE is \$5972. Down from last few years at \$6119, but up from actual this year at \$5813.

Elimination or new method on transportation reimbursement is likely. There is also consideration of eliminating the mandate to transport.

Increases requested for some programs are on the bottom of legislative report.

ROE: There is currently a study on the ROEs being done. It has a due date for end of April and we will know more after the report and after the governor decides what, if any, of the report to consider.

Consolidation: A commission was formed to study this topic. There is a push to eliminate dual districts although previous studies have shown no cost savings from this idea.

Pension: State is advocating moving the burden from the state to local school districts. This can be paid by raising local taxes or cutting programs/staff.

The governor supports raising the compulsory attendance age from (current) 17 to age 18.

Governor's Budget address will be on February 22 and will provide more details on these and other topics.

The RIF file which gives us the report of RIF status on our certified employees has been completed by the district and the Joint RIF Committee. Each certified employee has received an individual report of their state endorsements, positions eligible to teach in our district, and their last 3 evaluation ratings to review for completeness and correctness. The RIF report, with groupings, in accordance with SB7 has been given to the GCMSEA president, Susan Riley.

We have received a \$2,500 Grant from IPRF (our Workmen's Compensation Carrier) to be used on safety related items. The grant will be used to purchase 2 of the 4 camera systems used on our busses. The current cameras are not working and cannot be repaired.

A final count from Board Members is needed for the Corn Belt Division Meeting being held on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Tri-Point CUSD 61 in Cullom.

A motion was made by member Kerber and seconded by member Young to appoint Sarah Sarantakos as the IMRF Authorized Agent for GCMS CUSD 5 effective 3/1/2012. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion was made by member Kerber and seconded by member Whitehouse on behalf of Ford County Special Education Cooperative, to appoint Sarah Sarantakos as the IMRF Authorized Agent for FCSEC effective 3/1/2012. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Staff member, KiLee Lidwell, has suggested we present a pass to our retiring staff so they can get into our athletic events free after retiring. Ms. Lidwell has also volunteered to create the passes and mail to retired staff. The Board was very receptive to the idea and felt the passes should include the retired employee and spouse.

Eight pages of Race To The Top 3 information has been reviewed by administrative staff in a meeting Monday to see if it would be plausible to implement all of the elements of the program. GCMS is already doing a lot of the procedures; however, this would step up the timelines. It appears the grant may grant GCMS approximately \$4,000 if we sign up by March 31, 2012 and submit timelines. The GCMSEA would also have to agree to move the date for the new evaluation system ahead of its current timeline.

The recommended 2012-13 calendar was presented for review. GCMSEA was presented with three calendar options to consider. The suggested calendar closely follows the PBL calendar. The calendar will be approved next month at the regular Board Meeting.

A financial update on the MS wrestling program was provided. Revenues/Donations were shown at \$8,356.00 and \$5,811.11 shown as expenses to date with a few meet left to attend. The program was approved at no cost to the district for five years. The balance remaining is \$2,544.89. It is felt the program has had a positive impact on student and is a good program.

A motion was made by member Young and seconded by member Shoemaker to approve early graduation (end of first semester 2012-2013 school year) for Jordan Nagle pending meeting all requirements for graduation. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion was made by member Swearingen and seconded by member Whitehouse to approve maternity leave for Staci Lindelof from her delivery date (scheduled on April 23, 2012) until she is out of sick days but no longer than the end of the 2011 – 2012 school year. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion was made by member Kerber and seconded by member Young to approve the retirement of Rita Peters effective July 31, 2012 with gratitude for her 11 ½ years of service to the district. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes

A motion was made by member Kerber and seconded by member Shoemaker to hire Ryan Tomkins as the High School assistant softball coach for 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion was made by member Whitehouse and seconded by member Kerber to pay Marge Ehlers for future days worked in the GCMS district, travel time to and from the district office, (45 min), from home, consultation at an hourly rate of \$30.00, 1 ½ times regular rate time during vacation, mileage to and from the district office at the approved IRS rate, to pay phone charges for minutes of usage for district business, if it causes her to go over her plan minutes, at the rate specified in her plan.

Principal reports were given by building. Principal Kean presented several bids on rubber mulch for the elementary playground for consideration. He also indicated the cafeteria tables need replacing and did some preliminary pricing from \$25,000 to \$29,500 plus \$1,000 plus shipping per table. Existing wall mounts would need to be removed.

Retiring Office Manager, Marge Ehlers, was presented with a retirement clock and a \$200 gift certificate for her 20 years of service to the district.

A motion was made by member Young and seconded by member Kerber to return to executive session at 8:18 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 carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. The meeting returned to regular session at 9:19 p.m.

A motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. was made by member Kerber and seconded by member Whitehouse. Motion carried by voice vote.

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President

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Secretary