

GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF
October 15, 2018

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, October 15, 2018, at 6:15 p.m. in the GCMS Board Room located at 307 N Sangamon Avenue, Gibson City. The board was called to order by Vice President Phil Whitehouse. Roll was called with board members Elder, Young, Swearingen, Tucker-Davis and Leonard in attendance. Also present were: Elementary School Principal Justin Kean, Middle School Principal Kyle Bielfeldt, High School Principal Chris Garard, Curriculum Director Erin Nuss, FCSEC Director Jesse McFarling, Ross Brown with the Ford County Record, GCMS Education Association President Susan Riley, School Board Secretary Lori Kristensen and District Superintendent Jeremy Darnell. Absent: Board President Johnson

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

Recognition of Visitors:

Kari-Ryan Cline, Illinois Central Bus Garage Supervisor
Kendall King, Kings Financial Consulting Inc.
Russell Leigh, Russell Leigh & Associates

Public Comment: GCMS Education Association President Susan Riley thanked Erin Nuss and expressed appreciation on behalf of the Education Association for continued support and encouragement of professional development opportunities for the teachers and for the Visa gift cards provided to each teacher for classroom supplies.

Public Comment: Kari Ryan-Cline encouraged all board members and District staff to thank bus drivers next week (October 22-25) during school bus safety week.

A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Young at 6:47 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).

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A motion to **return to open session** was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all board members present voting yes.

Action Items to Consider From Executive Session

Accept Requests for:

Motion to **approve the resignation of Shelbie Kearfott** as of October 19 with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the following volunteers** for GCMS school district. Motion was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

- AJ Richard - Basketball
- Grant Horsch - Wrestling
- Aaron Carter - Wrestling
- Cati Heap - Cheerleading

Additional Agenda Items:

Board member Steve Swearingen presented materials from the IASB Cornbelt regional meeting in October. Swearingen also presented Board members Johnson and Whitehouse as "Master Board Members" who were recognized at the meeting.

Consent Agenda

GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved were \$598,287.06

Education fund	\$406,488.72
Building fund	\$51,283.41
Debt Service fund	\$0.00
Transportation fund	\$71,837.97
IMRF/FICA fund	\$29,921.90
Capital Projects fund	\$17,523.97
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$21,231.09
F/HLS	\$0.00

GCMS Payrolls approved were \$393,309.87

Education fund	\$341,251.24
Building fund	\$18,934.72
Transportation fund	\$1,348.72
TORT	\$31,775.19

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FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$193,000.73

Education fund	\$190,774.25
Building fund	\$131.65
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$2,094.83

FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$37,300.90 all in the Education fund

Financial/treasurer's 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 April 2017.

Approve Field Trips for:

MS Student Council	St. Joseph Middle School	November 10, 2018
1st Grade	Rader Farms	October 22, 2018
FFA	Build Conference Decatur, IL	November 9-10, 2018
PreK Class	Gibson City Fire Department	October 19, 2018
ECE Class	Horsch Farm	November 5, 2018

Approve the following donations:

Amount	From	Designation
\$2,775	Anonymous	High School Handbooks

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

None		
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Approve the minutes of the GCMS Regular and Executive Session Minutes of September 17, 2018.

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

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Advisory Reports:

Policy: Members - Adam Elder and Miranda Leonard
No report.

Building, Grounds, and Transportation: Members - Steve Swearingen and Emily Tucker-Davis

No Report.

Personnel and Finance: Members - Josh Johnson and Phil Whitehouse
No Report.

Strategy and Enrichment: Members – Tyler Young and Josh Johnson
No report.

Building Administration Reports:

Principal's Reports:

High School Principal, Chris Garard

Enrollment - 302

Freshman: 70

Sophomores: 77

Juniors: 78

Seniors: 77

New students: 6

Non-returning students: 2

Student of the month is Senior, Claire Retherford

Student In-service & practice tests on October 10

All freshman, sophomore and juniors will be participating in practice tests for the SAT and NMSQT during the morning. The afternoon activity will offer fourteen different presentations from staff that students can choose to participate in.

Life of a college athlete	Mr. Grauer and Mrs. Kostoff
Anxious about leaving GCMS after graduation	Mr. Hambleton and Mrs. Frashier
Resume, cover letter, application & interview	Mrs. Briney and Mr. Reale
Genius Hour	Ms. Riley and Mrs. Funk

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Tying a Tie	Mr. Garard
Mrs. AppropriateNuss	Mrs. Nuss and Mrs. Massey
Starting and owning your own business	Mrs. Meyer
Yoga/dance fitness	Miss Schultz
Buying and maintaining your own home	Mr. Mackinson and Ms. Deschepper
Being green/eco friendly	Mrs. Young and Mrs. Carter
Crafting for a cause	Ms. Kirkpatrick
Personal finances	Mr. Ertel
I want to go to college, what should I major in?	Mr. Tompkins
Butch the comfort dog	Mrs. Schmitt

Congratulations to fall sports teams

- Boys Golf – 1st EVER IHSA Regional Championship (Season ended at Sectionals)
- Girls Golf – Shannon Spangler qualified for IHSA State Tournament! (Qualified as a team for Sectional)
- Girls Volleyball is 9-13 as of this report (3 total wins last year)
- Girls Tennis – Regionals October 12-13
- Boys Soccer – 17-3-1 Team record for most wins in a season! (Season ended in Regionals)
- Boys Football – 7-0 (21 game win streak and ranked #1 in the state in Class 1A)

HS Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Time
October 19	Football, Band, Cheer Senior Night	7:00 p.m. - HS Field
October 24-26	National FFA Convention	Indianapolis, IN
October 24 & 25	Parent Teacher Conferences	HS
October 30	Mental Health Initiative	Gibson City Bible Church
November 2	Variety Show	7:00 p.m. - HS Gym
November 9	Veteran's Day Assembly	9:00 a.m.- HS Gym

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Middle School Principal, Kyle Bielfeldt

Enrollment - 230

6th: 72

7th: 75

8th: 83

Help for Billy - Book Club

12 Middle School staff members are currently reading and discussing the book Help for Billy. It is a manual for parents and teachers addressing methods for managing school room behaviors of children/students with complex drama. There is a lot of great discussion that is coming out of these meetings.

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is coming up the week of October 29. We will have dress up days for the students, school assembly organized by the 8th grade, and door decorating contests.

Unity Day

October 24th we are having our Unity Day to go along with National Bullying Prevention Month. All students and staff at the middle school are encouraged to wear Orange in support of the anti-bullying campaign.

Title Literacy Night

Thursday, November 1 we will be hosting our Title Literacy Night. The theme is Family Movie Night. Students and parents will be able to come to the gym and watch *Hidden Figures* and all students that come will receive a free book.

MS Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Time
October 17	Vision & Hearing Screening	MS
October 18	Team meetings	MS
October 20	Twin County Conference Girls Basketball Tournament Begins	9:00 a.m. MS & HS
October 24 & 25	Parent Teacher Conferences	MS
October 29 - November 2	Red Ribbon Week	MS
November 1	Title I Literacy Night	MS Gym
November 9	Veteran's Day Assembly	9:00 a.m. - HS Gym

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Elementary Principal, Justin Kean

Enrollment - 475

ECE: 18

Pre K: 40

K: 59

1st: 66

2nd: 81

3rd: 66

4th: 72

5th: 73

BUG Program

The Elementary School is changing how students will be recognized for BUG awards this year. There will be one winner in each section, each week. The new BUG character has been painted on the wall and this month's theme is "Responsibility." Staff members are also recognizing students for "token acts" this school year. Any staff member can recognize a student with a token for a special act during the week.

5th grade Band

5th grade students were given the opportunity to register for band on September 18. 41 5th grade students signed up out of the 73 possible in the 5th grade. What a great turn out!

Homecoming

Dress up days were a hit (America, Team, Western, Tacky, Falcon). Students and staff members participated in the week's activities and many of the students attended the Homecoming game to cheer for their "Falcon Readers."

ALICE drill

The elementary school had their ALICE drill on September 25. The drill went well with staff and students and Mr. Kean thanked Mr. Bielfeldt at the middle school and the Gibson City police department for assisting the elementary school with their arrival at the middle school.

Head Lice Check

The annual head lice check occurred on October 4.

ES Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Time
October 10	Reading Incentive for K-2	ES
October 19	PreK field trip	GC Fire Station
October 19	3rd Grade Walking Trip	Gibson City
October 21-23	IPA Conference	Springfield

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October 24 & 25	Parent Teacher Conferences	ES
October 29 - November 2	Red Ribbon Week Grandparents Lunch	
November 9	Veteran's Day Program	9:00 a.m.- HS Gym

Special Education Director, Jesse McFarling

All GCMS Special Education staff participated in IEP training on September 21 to learn about changes to IEP procedures. Meetings have also taken place with Individual Building Teams to discuss annual review scheduling. Continued follow up and training will occur with individual teachers as IEP meetings occur this fall and winter before annual review season in the spring.

In addition to updating IEP procedures with teachers, Mrs. Nuss, building principals and Mr. McFarling are reviewing Rtl (response to intervention) procedures to ensure proper identification and support of students with special education needs.

FCSEC Occupational Therapist, Abbey Conrad, presented on occupational therapy resources to the elementary school staff during the in-service day on October 5.

The September fund balance: \$627,523.03

The start of the year fund balance: \$398,000.00

Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss

Mrs. Nuss provided a brief update on assessments around the district. Illinois Science Assessment results were returned to us by the state sooner this year, so last spring's results were sent home with students in the past few weeks. Kindergarten teachers have also completed collecting observation data for the KIDS assessment and our results were submitted to the state. The practice SAT and NMSQT tests at the high school were very successful.

Mrs. Nuss thanked the GCPD, especially Srgt. Kaleb Kraft, for the assistance with our October 5 Institute Day. On last year's Faculty Survey in May, 35% of staff ranked their self-confidence in implementing ALICE as a 1 through 3. On the survey after our Institute Day that number dropped to only 18% AND more impressively, NO ONE indicated a confidence level of 1 or 2. That means 100% of our staff has average or better confidence in their ability to implement ALICE. We believe this means the Institute Day was very successful!

Josh Carter, Mark Berry, and Sara Frankie were specifically thanked for their presentations to GCMS University on the topic of involvement in the GCMS community as a commuter.

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Superintendent's Report

Refund of Existing School Bond

Kendall King with Kings Financial Consulting Inc. presented the board with information on his education and professional experience along with his credentials specializing in public finance. Mr. King discussed with the board consideration of an adoption of a resolution providing for the issue of \$4,469,400 Taxable General Obligation Refunding School Bonds, Series 2018, of the District. Superintendent Darnell summarized the relevant terms of the proposal and bonds, including the length of maturity, rates of interest, purchase price and tax levy for the bonds.

Motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion was made by board member Elder and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with members Tucker-Davis, Whitehouse, Leonard, Young, and Elder voting yes. Board member Swearingen voting no.

One Earth Energy Resolution

Superintendent Darnell discussed with the board the signing of a settlement agreement with One Earth Energy at the City Council meeting which will take place on Tuesday, October 16. This agreement will end the nine plus year standoff on the valuation of the ethanol plant. Financially, the school district will retain \$2,400,000 of escrowed money by defending the value of the ethanol plant as set by the county assessor. Additionally, the district will receive nearly \$500,000 annually from this plant. The settlement helps to solidify the Operations and Maintenance fund which is used to improve and maintain the school district's facilities.

Presentation of the tentative Board of Education Meeting Calendar for 2019

The first view of the 2019 meeting dates was presented. The 2019 board meeting schedule will be adopted at the November 12, 2018 meeting.

2019 Tentative BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATES

Monday, January 28	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, February 25	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, March 18	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, April 15	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, May 20	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, June 17	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, July 22	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, August 19	FCSEC Budget Hearing	6:00 P.M.
	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, September 23	GCMS Budget Hearing	6:00 P.M.
	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, October 21	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, November 18	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.
Monday, December 16	Regular Session	6:15 P.M.

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Review of the GCMS and FCSEC annual audits

Russell Leigh presented on the annual audit for both GCMS and FCSEC. Mr. Leigh shared with the board that both GCMS and FCSEC had “clean opinions” with no issues as they have been for several years now. As of June 30, 2018, the district has solid balances in the Education, Operations & Maintenance and Transportation Funds. Overall expenses from last year to this year stayed relatively flat which is important for long term financial stability for the school district. Mr. Leigh also shared with the board there were no findings on federal programs with the FCSEC and it is maintaining and moving along like it should.

Motion to approve the FCSEC FY18 annual audit as presented. Motion was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to approve the GCMS FY18 annual audit as presented. Motion was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Illinois Association of School Boards Resolution Report

Superintendent Darnell asked board members to please review the resolutions prior to the November 12 board meeting for a district determination of position at the Illinois School Board Convention. Also board member Swearingen has agreed to represent GCMS as the board appointed representative for the Resolution Meeting on November 17 in Chicago. **Motion to approve Board member Steve Swearingen as the GCMS representative for the IASA/IASB/IASBO Delegate Assembly in November 2018.** Motion was made by board member Elder and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion to **adjourn the meeting** was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Elder at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.

Vice President Phil Whitehouse

Board Secretary Lori Kristensen