

**GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**October 16, 2017**

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, October 16, 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 Whitehouse, Elder, Swearingen, Tucker-Davis and Leonard in attendance. Also present were: FCSEC Director Jesse McFarling, Curriculum Director Erin Nuss, Ross Brown with the Ford County Record, GCMS Education Association Treasurer Angie Funk, School Board Secretary Lori Kristensen and District Superintendent Jeremy Darnell.

Absent: Board Member Young

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

**Secretary Pro-Tem**

A motion was made to nominate Lori Kristensen as secretary pro-tem in Tyler Young's absence for this meeting. Motion made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by voice vote, with all board members present voting yes.

**Recognition of Visitors:**

None

A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Swearingen 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). 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 Elder at 6:38 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 maternity leave for Bethany Schwieter on or near January 8, 2017 through March 16, 2017**. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by voice vote 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: Key-Shawn Girkin
- Band: Eric Meece, Christina Harmet, and Pat Harmet

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

**Additional Agenda Items:**

None

**Consent Agenda**

**GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved were \$549,194.15**

Education fund	\$384,239.68
Building fund	\$43,087.84
Debt Service fund	\$0.00
Transportation fund	\$73,022.71
IMRF/FICA fund	\$26,799.52
Capital Projects fund	\$0.00
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$22,044.40
F/HLS	\$0.00

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**GCMS Payrolls approved were \$375,890.44**

Education fund	\$330,455.47
Building fund	\$16,336.30
Transportation fund	\$2,345.71
TORT	\$26,752.96

**FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$44,269.17**

Education fund	\$42,120.19
Building fund	203.63
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$1,945.35

**FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$34,585.37 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 April 2016.

**Approve Field Trips for:**

- Middle School Student Council to Student Council Leadership Conference on 11/4/17
- Pre-K classes to the Gibson City Fire House on 10/13/17

**Approve the following donations: NONE**

Amount	From	Designation

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

- Falcon Youth Wrestling requests the use of GCMS facilities for practice November 2017 - March 2018 and a December 2 meet with fees waived.
- Our Lady of Lourdes Church requests the use of kitchen equipment for their annual Turkey Dinner on 11/10/17.
- The Gibson City Girl Scouts request the use of the Middle School cafeteria and gymnasium on 2/10/17 for the Daddy Daughter Dance.

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Approve the minutes of the GCMS Regular and Executive Session Minutes of September 24, 2017.

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

**Advisory Reports:**

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

Motion to accept 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. Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

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

Darnell reported that cost specs are anticipated for an air conditioning unit at the elementary school gymnasium. As soon as these are received, Darnell will forward to the board members to review.

**Personnel and Finance:** Members - Josh Johnson and Phil Whitehouse  
Meeting Report from October 6, 2017

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

The board had a first reading of goals they wish to establish to help drive their decision making for 2017-2018:

1. GCMS Board of Education will promote the individualization of student learning for all students by investing in the advancement of intervention.
  
2. GCMS Board of Education will support the advancement of our facilities to accommodate 21st century learning. Darnell shared that instruction has changed and will continue to do so. The board will continue to look for ways to upgrade technology and facilities to accommodate 21st century learning for all GCMS students.

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**Building Administration Reports:**

**Principal's Reports:** All building principals were in attendance at the annual Illinois Principals Conference in Springfield, Illinois. Written reports are included with the minutes.

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

No Report

Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss

Mrs. Nuss provided a brief overview of all the professional development activities staff have been participating in so far this year. She also outlined the PSAT and practice SAT testing which occurred at the high school on October 11. The state may reimburse GCMS for the cost of administering these tests this year because ISBE has realized the importance of assessment feedback for 9th and 10th graders (GCMS has always provided these tests for students even when funding was not available from the state). Mrs. Lindelof and Mrs. Nuss are looking forward to meeting with the 14 new teachers in GCMS University later this month to discuss professional development, grading, and parent teacher conferences.

**Superintendent's Report**

**Illinois Association of School Boards Resolution Report**

Superintendent Darnell asked the board members to please review the resolutions prior to the November 13 board meeting for a district determination of position at the Illinois School Board Convention. Also at the November 13 board meeting, a consideration of a board representative appointment will be determined for the Resolution Meeting on November 18 in Chicago.

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**FY 2018 Levy Presentation**

The FY 2018 tentative levy was approved which would have a 7% tax rate drop from 5.89 to 5.45. The rate drop is very positive for the GCMS school district and community. Superintendent Darnell commented that the decrease is a result of the current board and past boards for being aggressive and prudent in how fiscal resources have been managed and used.

**Motion to approve the FY 2018 tentative tax levy as presented.** Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

**Presentation of the Tentative 2018 Board of Education Meeting Calendar**

Mr. Darnell publically thanked the board members for their commitment to regular meeting attendance. He also thanked the board members for participating in a professional development day at the iHotel in Champaign.

The first view of the 2018 meeting dates was presented at the meeting. The third Monday of the month will continue to be the consistent meeting dates except for the January 22 meeting which is being held the fourth Monday due to Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and the November 12 meeting due to the Illinois State School Board convention. The 2018 board meeting schedule will be adopted at the November 13 meeting. The tentative meeting schedule is included at the end of the board minutes.

**Additional comments:**

Board member Swearingen commented he would like to go over the investment summary in the next few months to discuss the low interest rates the district investments are earning. Jeremy Darnell addressed the concern and added when the time is right, the investments will be assessed.

A motion to **adjourn the regular session** was made by board member Tucker-Davis and seconded by board member Whitehouse at: 6:56 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.

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Board President Josh Johnson

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Board Secretary Pro-Tem Lori Kristensen