

GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING
November 13, 2017

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, November 13, 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: High School Principal Chris Garard, Elementary School Principal Justin Kean, 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: Board member Young, Principal Bielfeldt, FCSEC Director McFarling

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

Recognition of Visitors:

None

GCMS FY2017 and FCSEC FY2017 Audit Presentations - Russ Leigh and Associates

Russ Leigh presented on the annual audit for both GCMS and FCSEC. Mr. Leigh shared with the board that both GCMS and FCSEC had “clean audits” with no issues pertaining to school code or state statutes. The audit showed that the GCMS School District had healthy fund balances, with the education fund being a little short of recommendations, but still in good shape. Leigh warned to maintain strong fund balances due to the continued uncertainty of the State of Illinois. He also made note that the expenditures went down in 2017 which is rare in today’s financial climate.

Superintendent Darnall also added that GCMS is in a healthy financial position at this time. There are however several unknowns looming in the fiscal future of the school district. The potential TRS cost shifts, the new school funding formula, the ongoing litigation of One Earth Energy, and the property tax freeze. Darnell stated the board will continue to be vigilant in their decision making on expenditures that will ensure the best programing and facilities for the students, staff and families of GCMS School District.

Motion to accept the FY 2017 Audit as presented for the FCSEC. Motion made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by roll call with all board members present voting yes.

Motion to accept the FY 2017 Audit as presented for GCMS. Motion made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Elder. Motion carried by roll call with all board members present voting yes.

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A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis at 6:46 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 Elder and seconded by board member Leonard at 6:55 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 Caitlin Heap as a volunteer coach for the GCMS Cheer program.** 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 **accept the the resignation of Paula Middendorf as lunch clerk/cook effective January 5, 2018** with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Elder and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve Courtney Burton for early graduation in December 2018** pending course completion. Motion was made by board member Leonard and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. 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 \$981,653.17

Education fund	\$413,791.70
Building fund	\$41,394.66
Debt Service fund	\$407,787.50
Transportation fund	\$65,226.55
IMRF/FICA fund	\$27,878.87
Capital Projects fund	\$0.00
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$25,573.89
F/HLS	\$0.00

GCMS Payrolls approved were \$396,371.77

Education fund	\$350,931.59
Building fund	\$16,293.48
Transportation fund	\$2,416.18
TORT	\$26,730.52

FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$313,756.94

Education fund	\$311,423.82
Building fund	201.81
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$2,131.31

FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$36,341.86 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 May 2016.

Approve Field Trips for:

- Cross Categorical Class to visit County Market on 11/16/17.
- Chamber Choir's annual holiday caroling throughout Gibson City on 12/13/17.

Approve the following donations:

Amount	From	Designation
\$500	Whitt Law	GCMS Board of Education
\$3,300	Anonymous	GCMS High School

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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 October 16, 2017.

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

Board Member Young arrived to the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Advisory Reports:

Policy: Members - Adam Elder and Miranda Leonard

No Report - the next meeting will be on December 6th at 11:45 a.m.

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

No Report - There will be a meeting in December 2017 on performance contract consideration.

Personnel and Finance: Members - Josh Johnson and Phil Whitehouse

No Report - A meeting will be scheduled for December 2017

Strategy and Enrichment: Members – Tyler Young and Josh Johnson

No Report

Building Administration Reports:

Principal's Reports:

High School Principal, Chris Garard

Principal's report is attached to the minutes.

Middle School Principal, Kyle Bielfeldt

Mr. Bielfeldt was absent from the meeting. He provided a written update for the Middle School. It is attached to the minutes.

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Elementary Principal, Justin Kean

Principal's report is attached to the minutes.

Special Education Director, Jesse McFarling

No report

Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss

Mrs. Nuss provided a review of recent professional development activity throughout the district. Mr. Darnell and Mrs. Nuss then collaborated to provide Board members with an overview of the recently released Illinois Report Card data for GCMS Schools. The scatter-plot of the Percentage of Students Ready for the Next Level by Per Pupil Instructional Expenditure was highlighted because it shows how academically successful GCMS students are in comparison to districts with similar instructional expenditures. The graduation rate, health/wellness information, and academic progress data were also discussed. Mrs. Nuss also briefly updated the board on the progress of all subject areas which are currently completing 18-month Curriculum Studies.

Superintendent's Report

Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony

Superintendent Darnell reflected on the annual GCMS School District's Veterans Day Ceremony held on Friday, November 10. He shared with the board this year's ceremony may have been the largest crowd since the inception of the program. He highlighted the student participants, the high school band and chorus and the elementary school student's song. Darnell also commented on the guest speaker, Vonda Coulter Rodgers, and how moving her message was to all who attended. A special thanks to Kyle Bielfeldt for leading the organization of this year's ceremony and Walker Willis and Don Worthington for an awesome job with technical and online expertise.

Transfer of 179D Tax Deduction

GRP has requested to submit a 179D tax deduction for work completed on GCMS buildings. In order for GRP to file a tax deduction form, the school district is required to give GRP permission for the tax deduction.

Motion to approve GRP to submit a 179D tax deduction form for work completed at GCMS. Motion was made by board member Elder seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

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Presentation of the FY 2018 Tax Levy

The tax levy hearing occurred at the October 16 board meeting and was presented by Superintendent Darnell. A couple adjustments were made since the hearing with the District likely to see a very slight deduction in rate.

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 Annual Board of Education Meeting Calendar for 2018

The 2018 Board of Education meeting dates were presented at the October 16 board meeting.

The scheduled meeting dates are as follows:

Monday, January 22	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, February 19	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, March 19	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, April 16	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, May 21	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, June 25	Regular Session FCSEC Budget Presentation	6:15 p.m.
Monday, July 16	Regular Session GCMS Budget Presentation	6:15 p.m.
Monday, August 20	FCSEC Budget Hearing Regular Session	6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
Monday, September 17	GCMS Budget Hearing Regular Session	6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
Monday, October 15	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, November 12	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.
Monday, December 17	Regular Session	6:15 p.m.

Motion to approve the 2018 GCMS Board of Education meeting dates as presented.

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

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2017 Resolution Committee

One of the GCMS board members will be designated to be the district's standing delegate at the School Board Convention in Chicago, November 18-21.

Motion to have Tyler Young represent GCMS at the 2017 Delegate Assembly on November 18 and cast votes as prescribed by the Board of Education. Motion was made by board member Swearingen seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

GCMS will host the IHSA 2A football semi-final game on Saturday, November 21 at 2:00 p.m. against Sterling Newman Central Catholic High School. Go Falcons!

A motion to **adjourn the regular session** was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis at: 7:35 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.

Board President Josh Johnson

Board Secretary Tyler Young