

**GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**February 19, 2018**

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, February 19, 2018, 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, 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:

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

**Recognition of Visitors:**

Ms. Jennifer White, Middle School Guidance Counselor along with 8th grade students Hailey Wahl, Parker Chase and Braylen Kean shared information with the board from the 8th grade Career Day put on at the Middle School. Each of the students talked about how they participated and what they learned from the conversations they had with the presenters. Ms. White shared a powerpoint presentation with the board and provided photos of the students and presenters interacting during the event.

A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Elder at 6:27 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 Swearingen and seconded by board member Young at 7:23 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 early graduation request for Kaileigh Koonce in December 2018** with successful completion of all graduation requirements of the GCMS School District. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the early graduation request for Allison Roberts in December 2018** with successful completion of all graduation requirements of the GCMS School District. Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis and seconded by board member Swearingen. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the early graduation request for Hannah Vaughn in December 2018** with successful completion of all graduation requirements of the GCMS School District. Motion was made by board member Young and seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve Michael Wilson as a volunteer coach** for GCMS Middle School Track for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

**Additional Agenda Items:**

None

**Consent Agenda**

**GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved were \$525,754.55**

Education fund	\$371,090.82
Building fund	\$41,784.52
Debt Service fund	\$0.00
Transportation fund	\$57,683.26
IMRF/FICA fund	\$27,903.41
Capital Projects fund	\$11,250.00
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$16,042.54
F/HLS	\$0.00

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**GCMS Payrolls approved were \$398,519.24**

Education fund	\$353,275.58
Building fund	\$16,793.44
Transportation fund	\$2,434.71
TORT	\$26,015.51

**FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$28,589.77**

Education fund	\$26,350.26
Building fund	\$197.01
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$2,042.50

**FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$33,829.17 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 August 2016.

**Approve Field Trips for:**

- High School Choir to Bloomington on March 18, 2018
- High School Art to Illinois State University on March 2, 2018
- 3rd Grade to Fair Oaks Farm on April 19, 2018

**Approve the following donations:**

Amount	From	Designation
\$1,666.50	Knight of Columbus	Special Education
\$700.40	GCMS Booster Club	Cheer Team
\$3,050	GCMS Booster Club	Volleyball Program
\$458.72	Anonymous	Junior In-service

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

- WGCY Radio has requested use of the High School Gymnasium on March 17, 2018 for the All Star Basketball game.

Approve the minutes of the GCMS Regular and Executive Session Minutes of January 22, 2018.

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

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**Advisory Reports:**

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

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

Report on the long range facilities considerations - Darnell

**Personnel and Finance:** Members - Josh Johnson and Phil Whitehouse  
The personnel and finance advisory is scheduled to meet on February 12 with the GCMS Education Association representatives for Negotiations on the 2018 contract.

**Strategy and Enrichment:** Members – Tyler Young and Josh Johnson  
No meeting scheduled.

**Building Administration Reports:**

**Principal's Reports:**

**High School Principal, Chris Garard**

**Enrollment**

Freshman - 78

Sophomores - 84

Juniors - 78

Seniors - 65

Total: 305 students

February Student of the Month is Senior Daisy Jaramillo

**LEAD Team to Illinois State University for All-HOIC In-Service**

Several staff members participated in an All-HOIC personal development day with Dr. Adolph Brown as the keynote speaker.

**Junior in-service will be on Thursday, January 25 at the Gibson City Bible Church.**

In-service was a success and staff received great feedback from the students.

**Valentines Fundraiser**

Mrs. Young, who teaches Family and Consumer Science, along with two other students made over 500 cake pops on February 12 to raise money for the consumer science department.

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8th grade

High school students presented elective class information to current 8th grade students to assist them in preparing for high school.

School Improvement Days

In preparing for the 2018-2019 school year, staff are compiling 12 different categories of life skills for students to concentrate on during student in-service days. Students will experience four new life skills during each of the four school improvement days. The skills may include, but not limited to: interview skills (proper attire and appropriate behaviors), social etiquette, vehicle maintenance as in changing a tire, basic tax preparation, basic domestic skills like cooking and cleaning, and household budgeting.

Congratulations

- Cale Horsch, placed 2nd at the IHSA State Wrestling tournament.
- GCMS Dance Team placed 6th at the IDTA State Dance finals in the category of Hip Hop.

**High School Upcoming Events**

Date	Event	Location & Time
February 17	Dancing with the Stars Dinner & Show	Dance Team - HS
February 24	FFA Auction	High School
February 25	Band Double Donation Dinner and Concert	HS Gymnasium & Commons 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
March 2	HOIC Art Festival	Illinois State University
March 9 & 10	Spring Musical Beauty and the Beast	HS Gymnasium 7:00 p.m.
March 13	HOIC Honors Music Festival	Illinois State University

**Middle School Principal, Kyle Bielfeldt**

Enrollment

6th Grade - 78

7th Grade - 78

8th Grade - 71

Total: 227 students (5 new students)

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Career Day

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Fair was a resounding success! The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students had the amazing opportunity to speak to 26 people representing 14 different career fields. The day was kicked off with a keynote address from Marc Chagnon and ended the day with Mr. McDevitt (High School Counselor), Mr. Garard (High School Principal), and several high school students speaking to the students about what to expect when they enter high school next year. A huge thank you to the following individuals for coming and speaking to students: Marc Chagnon, Tyler Smith, Nicole McGuire, Walker Willis, Rich Dammkoehler, Ramie Lantz, Jeremy Darnell, Dan Grieser, State Representative Tom Bennett, David Littlefield, Doug Fanson, Barb Meyer, Patrick Bean, Jordan Baldoratta, Tim Leonard, Misti Tompkins, Jill Doran, Ray Goin, Jenny DeSchepper, Matt Brown, Austin Maske, Ford County Sheriff Mark Doran, Angelena Hampton, Matt Barnard, Kari Ryan, and Renee Sier. This could not have been done without the work of Ms. White and the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade team (Mr. Berry, Ms. Rubarts, Mr. Dinkins, Mrs. Schwieter, and Mrs. Stevenson). Truly a great day to be a Falcon!

Pheasants Forever Pollinator Day

On March 16, Pheasants Forever will be hosting a pollinator day at the middle school. There will be sessions for students in the morning and afternoon showcasing pollination and pollinators, soil conservation, Conservation Law Enforcement, Seed Balls and seed planting. Two areas were sprayed by Tyler Young (West and North sides of the middle school) in October to prepare for the planting of the habitat. The goal is to have a thriving wildflower area by the summer/fall of 2019.

MGLS Testing

Middle Grade Longitudinal Study testing was conducted on February 1. Make-up testing will be concluded on February 14. The testing took just over an hour and 28 students participated. The same students will be tested again as 7<sup>th</sup> graders and as 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

7th Grade Enrichment Classes

The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Theme this year is "Think Like a Scientist." The enrichment classes have been doing different activities with the students throughout the year. On Friday, February 9, they had a guest speaker. Will Swain, who is the district's Horace Mann representative, came in to speak to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes about his science background and to perform several different experiments. The students really enjoyed having him as a guest speaker. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade team will continue to do more experiments and activities that will lead up to their field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry in April.

January Students of the Month:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Jacob Henrichs

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Elsie Sizemore

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Kaity Halcomb

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**Middle School Upcoming Events**

Date	Event	Location & Time
February 20	8th Grade Night -girls volleyball	MS gymnasium, 6:30 p.m.
March 1	Character Assembly	MS gymnasium
March 5	Miles of Smiles	Elementary School
March 6	Regional BOE Meeting	
March 16	Pheasants Forever Pollinator Day	MS

**Elementary Principal, Justin Kean**

Enrollment

Early Childhood - 16

Pre K - 37

Kindergarten - 61

1st Grade - 85

2nd Grade - 64

3rd Grade - 70

4th Grade - 72

5th Grade - 66

Total: 471 students

BUG (Being Unbelievably Good) Assembly was on February 2. The theme for the month of February is HONESTY.

Book Fair

The book fair was held January 22-26 which was a busy five days for Miss Titus. \$1,364 went to the library for new book purchases.

2nd Grade Olympics

2nd Grade celebrated the Olympics on February 9 with a parade of flags and competed in different events.

Staff social events

- Winter Blues Party was held in Mahomet on January 27 with 50 staff members and significant others in attendance.
- A steps challenge is underway with teams of staff members working on challenges each Tuesday and Thursday.
- Massage therapy students treated the staff to chair massages in the staff lounge on February 13.

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**Elementary School Upcoming Events**

Date	Event	Location & Time
February 20, 22 & March 1	Guided reading training	ES
March 1 & 2	Dr. Seuss activities	ES
March 5	Miles of Smiles	ES Cafeteria
March 8	Spring pictures	ES
March 9	NED Show Assembly	ES Gymnasium
March 12-21	PARCC testing	ES classrooms

**Special Education Director, Jesse McFarling**

FCSEC was randomly selected by the Illinois State Board of Education for an audit of the 2016 financials. The IDEA grant and expenditures from 2016 will be audited. This audit will take place at the GCMS Unit Office on March 1 and 2.

Preschool screening dates have been set for May 3 and 4 at the Gibson City First Christian Church. These screenings are open to children birth-age 5. This screening gives parents and families information on pre-academics or concept skills, speech, motor skills and vision and hearing. This screening also determines eligibility for the Early Childhood program and the Pre-K program at GCMS Elementary School.

**Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss**

Mrs. Nuss thanked the staff members who provided local professional development through Third Thursdays and CCC meetings in the last few months. General updates from the most recent CCC meeting were shared including a review of SIP plans and the anticipated district-wide focus on soft skills. Information from the state on what will happen with PARCC testing in the future was briefly reviewed.

**Superintendent's Report**

**2017-2018 Certified Teacher Seniority List**

Mr. Darnell shared with the board information regarding the current certified teacher seniority list. This list includes employee's name, employment date, grade levels and subject areas that staff members are certified to teach. Mr. Darnell also shared with the board the list has been initialed by each certified staff member for accuracy.

**Motion to approve the 2017-2018 Certified Teacher List as presented.** 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.



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**2018-2019 Calendar/Dates Listing**

The 2018-2019 pending calendar was reviewed and important dates were pointed out to the board. The 2019 High School graduation date will be the weekend before Memorial Day weekend moving forward. *Both the 2018-2019 calendar and High School graduation dates are pending approval and will be ratified at the March 19 board of education meeting.*

**Tentative 2018-2019 Calendar Dates**

August 2	Registration (8:00 am – 12:00 and 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm)
August 3	Registration (New Student by Appointment)
August 6-7	New Staff Induction Orientation (8:30 am – 3 pm)
August 9	Kindergarten Roundup (5:30 pm)
August 9 7:45 pm)	6 <sup>th</sup> grade Transition and Social Night (Middle School 5:45 pm–
August 13	Freshmen Transition Day (3:30pm – 6:30 pm)
August 13	Back to School Bash – (6:30pm – 8:30 pm)
August 15	Teacher Institute
August 16-17 3:35)	Student attendance (students dismissed at 2:20, Teacher Workshop (2:20 –
September 3	Labor Day – No School
September 14	Mid-Term of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter
September 21	SIP day (Student dismissal @ 11:30 AM) (Teacher meetings 12:15 - 3:30)
September TBD	Homecoming
October 5	Teachers Institute
October 8	Columbus Day – No School
<b>October 19</b>	<b>End of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</b>
October 24 & 25	(Student Dismissal @ 2:20) Two Nights of Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:15 pm – 8:00 pm) Report Cards Distributed
October 26	No School
November 9	SIP day (Student dismissal @ 11:30 AM) (Teacher meetings 12:15 - 3:30)
November 9	Veteran’s Day Program
November 16	Mid-Term 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
November 20	Early Dismissal (Student and staff dismissal 2:20)
November 21 - 23	Thanksgiving Vacation – No School
<b>December 21</b>	<b>End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter - (Early dismissal for students and staff – 2:20)</b>
December 22 – January 6	Winter Vacation
January 7	Teacher Institute
January 8	Student Attendance Resumes
January 21	Martin Luther King Holiday Observance – No School
February 8	Mid-Term 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
February 15	SIP day (Student dismissal @ 11:30 AM) (Teacher meetings 12:15 - 3:30)
February 18	Presidents’ Day - No School
<b>March 8</b>	<b>End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b>
March 25 – March 29	Spring Break
April 18	Mid-Term 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
April 18	SIP day (Student dismissal @ 11:30 AM) (Teacher meetings 12:15 - 3:30)
April 19-22	Spring Holiday
May 18	High School Graduation
May 27	No School – Memorial Day
June 3	Last full scheduled day of student attendance – (Early Dismissal 2:20)

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June 3	Report cards distributed – Tentative (Based on Emergency Days Used)
<b>June 3</b>	<b>End of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter</b>
June 4	Teacher Institute – Tentative (Based on Emergency Days Used)

**Note: 5 emergency days are built into this calendar. We will take one day off the end of the year for each unused emergency day. Please, do not plan vacations/appointments/personal days/etc. before the last day on the calendar. Plan to be in attendance through June 3(Students) and June 4 (Staff).**

**2018-2019 GCMS Fees**

The GCMS Fee Schedule will remain the same pending approval and be ratified at the March 19 board of education meeting.

**Facilities Improvements**

Superintendent Darnell discussed with the board potential facilities improvements. The current scope of work includes a necessary replacement of the Elementary School electrical main panel, addition of central heat and air to the Kindergarten classrooms, and potentially air conditioning added to the elementary gym. These jobs are being considered as a package for both scope and price to complete. The total cost for this project ranges from \$485,000 to \$625,000. These improvement would be paid for by operations and maintenance out of capital improvements. This is a significant investment in long term solutions for these spaces. A final decision will be made on these discussions next month for summer 2018 completion.

**GCMS Board of Education and GCMSEA Negotiated Agreement**

The Board voted 7-0 to ratify the new GCMSEA Negotiated Agreement for 2018-2022 for certified staff. This contract is for 4 years and includes an average overall raise of 3.07% per year, plus an additional \$15 per year contributed to insurance, plus increase of \$300 annually for those who seek tuition reimbursement, plus increase in internal sub pay, plus increase in nightly duty pay. Superintendent Darnell publicly thanked both the Board and Teacher negotiating teams for an amicable process that will provide financial improvement for staff, and will maintain financial security for the district and community.

**Motion to approve the GCMS Teacher Negotiated agreement for the 2018-2019 through 2021-2022 school year as presented.** Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Whitehouse at 8:06 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.  
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A motion to **adjourn the second executive session** was made by board member Swearingen and seconded by board member Whitehouse at: 9:30 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 Tyler Young