

GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES OF
April 22, 2019

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, April 22, 2019, 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 Board President Josh Johnson. Roll was called with board members Whitehouse, Elder, Young, Tucker-Davis and Leonard in attendance. Also present were: High School Principal Chris Garard, Elementary School Principal Justin Kean, Middle School Principal Kyle Bielfeldt, 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: None

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

Recognition of Visitors:

Girl Scouts from Troop #2407 - Leader: Amy Doman, Scouts: Hadley Doman and Natalie Aberle.

Janna Friday, newly appointed board member.

GCMS Board of Education Organization

Motion to proclaim winners of the April 2019 School Board Election of Miranda Leonard, Emily Tucker-Davis and Steve Swearingen. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to accept the resignation of Steve Swearingen as GCMS Board Member effective immediately. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to appoint Janna Friday as GCMS School Board Member for a two year term. Motion was made by board member Leonard seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to appoint Jeremy Darnell as President Pro Tem and Lori Kristensen as Secretary Pro Tem for the purpose of Board Reorganization. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to approve Josh Johnson as President of the GCMS Board of Education for this two year term. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Elder. Motion carried by roll call with members Young, Leonard, Elder, Tucker-Davis, Whitehouse, and Friday voting yes. Board member Johnson voted to abstain.

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Motion to approve Phil Whitehouse as Vice President of the GCMS Board of Education for this two year term. Motion was made by board member Elder seconded by board member Leonard. Motion carried by roll call with members Young, Leonard, Elder, Tucker-Davis, Johnson, and Friday voting yes. Board member Whitehouse voted to abstain.

Motion to approve Tyler Young as Secretary of the GCMS Board of Education for this two year term. Motion was made by board member Leonard seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with members Johnson, Leonard, Elder, Tucker-Davis, Whitehouse, and Friday voting yes. Board member Young voted to abstain.

Board Member oath of office

Board President Johnson administered the oath of office to recent elected board members Leonard and Tucker-Davis and appointed board member Friday.

A motion to **go into executive session** was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Leonard at 6:28 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 Young and seconded by board member Tucker-Davis at 6:35 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 **approve the early retirement incentive request for Veronica Kirkpatrick** allowing a 6% increase, less \$5 per year, for the school years 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 per the negotiated agreement with an irrevocable letter of retirement at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was made by board member Elder seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **accept the retirement of Sandy Freehill** effective May 31, 2019 with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Edler seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to accept the resignation of Elizabeth Maske as middle school literacy teacher effective the end of the 2018-2019 school year with thanks for service. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by voice vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve a maternity leave request for Ashley Schwenk** beginning August 19, 2019 for 10 weeks and 4 days with a return date of November 1, 2019. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the paternity leave request for Michael Schwenk** beginning August 19, 2019 for a period of two weeks. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **hire Caity Heap as the ESY teacher for the 2019 summer term** at rates determined by the negotiated agreement. Motion was made by board member Leonard seconded by board member Elder. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **hire Brooke Fairfield as an ESY paraprofessional** at \$12.00 per hour for the 2019 summer term. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **hire Allison Case as an ESY paraprofessional** at \$12.00 per hour for the 2019 summer term. Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

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Motion to **approve the hire of Stephanie Bialka as a special education teacher for GCMS** on Step 2 Bachelors of the negotiated agreement for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the hire of Rachel Ballard as a special education teacher** for GCMS on Step 11 Bachelors of the negotiated agreement for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the hire of Jori Maynard as an elementary teacher for GCMS** on Step 1 Bachelors of the negotiated agreement for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the early graduation request for Tristan Copher** for December 2019 pending completion of all required coursework. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the contract for Mike Allen as GCMS High School Assistant Principal for the 2019-2020** school year as presented with a salary of \$77,979. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the contract for Staci Lindelof as GCMS Elementary School Assistant Principal** for the 2019-2020 school year as presented with a salary of \$62,400. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Tucker-Davis. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the three year contract for Erin Nuss as GCMS School District Curriculum Director** as presented for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 school years with a salary of \$83,200, \$86,528, and \$89,989 respectively. Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve the three year contract for Justin Kean as GCMS Elementary Principal** as presented for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 school years with a salary of \$93,917, \$96,838, and \$99,966 respectively. 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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Motion to **approve the three year contract for Kyle Bielfeldt as GCMS Middle School Principal** as presented for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 school years with a salary of \$78,000, \$80,425, and \$83,023 respectively. Motion was made by board member Young seconded by board member Whitehouse. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve a five year contract for Chris Garard as GCMS High school Principal with an irrevocable retirement date of June 30, 2024** as presented for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and the 2023-2024 school years with a salary of \$96,229, \$99,097, \$102,051, \$105,093, \$108,225 respectively. Motion was made by board member Tucker-Davis seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Motion to **approve a five year contract for Jeremy Darnell as GCMS School District Superintendent** as presented for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 school years with a salary of \$129,780, \$136,269, \$143,082, \$147,347, and \$151,738 respectively. Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

Additional Agenda Items:

None

Consent Agenda

GCMS Accounts Payable bills approved were \$687,644.13

Education fund	\$490,823.72
Building fund	\$47,062.51
Debt Service fund	\$0.00
Transportation fund	\$60,839.84
IMRF/FICA fund	\$34,190.76
Capital Projects fund	\$0.00
W/C	\$0.00
TORT	\$54,727.30
F/HLS	\$0.00

GCMS Payrolls approved were \$400,976.72

Education fund	\$349,096.19
Building fund	\$18,661.30
Transportation fund	\$1,145.78
TORT	\$32,073.45

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FCSEC Accounts Payable bills approved were \$66,787.22

Education fund	\$64,794.82
Building fund	\$137.58
IMRF/FICA Fund	\$1,854.82

FCSEC Payrolls approved were \$36,709.97 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 October 2016.

Approve Field Trips for:

8th Grade Trade Up	Parkland College	May 3, 2019
3rd Grade	Fair Oaks Farm	May 8, 2019
5th Grade Bug	State Capital	May 7, 2019
FFA	Springfield	June 11-13, 2019
BSAA/Ag Class	U of I Meat Lab	April 30, 2019

Approve the following donations:

Amount	From	Designation
\$2,000	Anonymous	GCMS Athletics
\$500	Old Trail Wind Farm	FFA
\$1,000	GCMS Booster Club	GCMS Athletics
\$443	Allgoods, LLC	GCMS Athletics

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

- FCA Power Camp - June 27-30, 2019, MS Cafeteria, Fields and Gym
- WGCY - March 23, 2019, High School Gym and Commons

Approve the minutes of the GCMS Regular and Executive Session Minutes of March 18, 2019 as presented.

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

Advisory Reports:

Policy: Members - Miranda Leonard & Janna Friday
Meeting scheduled for April 24 at 6:45 p.m.

Building, Grounds, and Transportation: Members - Adam Elder & Tyler Young
Meeting scheduled for April 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Personnel and Finance: Members - Josh Johnson and Phil Whitehouse
Meeting scheduled for April 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Strategy and Enrichment: Members – Josh Johnson & Emily Tucker-Davis
Meeting scheduled for April 24 at 5:15 p.m.

Building Administration Reports:

Principal's Reports:

High School Principal, Chris Garard

Enrollment - 305

Freshman: 77

Sophomores: 76

Juniors: 79

Seniors: 73

New students: 1

Non-returning students: 0

Student of the month is Senior, Makenzi Bielfeldt

Jostens Renaissance in Mattoon

Mrs. Funk and Miss Leake took 30 students to Mattoon in February for an assembly on school climate and culture. The students came home with ideas of what can be implemented at GCMS.

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Testing and IEP annual reviews

Special Education annual reviews are coming to a close. Great meetings have taken place with parents, students and staff. Annual testing is also complete.

HS Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Time
April 23	Boys Track Invitational	HS Track
Prom	April 27	Cityview, Champaign
May 10	Host Girls Sectional Track Meet	HS Track
May 13	Host Girls Softball Regional	HS Softball Field
May 13	Host Boys Baseball Regional	HS Baseball Field
May 12	Baccalaureate	Gibson City Bible Church 7:00 p.m.
May 17	Senior Awards Assembly	HS Gym 2:00 p.m.
May 18	Graduation	HS Gym 7:00 p.m.

Middle School Principal, Kyle Bielfeldt

Enrollment - 233

6th: 72

7th: 76

8th: 84

February Students of the Month

6th Grade - Austin Casper

7th Grade - Cally Kroon

8th Grade - Austin Corry

IEP Meetings

Annual reviews for IEP's are finalized and student schedules are nearly complete for next year.

Illinois Assessment of Readiness

IAR testing is complete. A big thank you to all the teachers and support staff for creating different schedules for the students and making the testing week run smoothly. Also, a big shout out to Mrs. Jamison for organizing and running the testing week and to Mr. Worthington for making sure there were no technology issues.

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New Employee for 2019-2020 School Year

Welcome to Stephanie Bialka to the middle school staff. Ms. Bialka comes to GCMS from Rantoul and will be taking over the Life Skills program.

Scholastic Bowl

The middle school scholastic bowl team won 2nd place in the TCC Scholastic Bowl Tournament for the 2nd year in a row. Great job to Mrs. O'Neill and all of the students.

5th Grade Visit

Mr. Bielfeldt reported that he and Mrs. Jamison will visit with the 5th grade students about what they can expect next year at the middle school. This is a great opportunity to meet the students and allow them to ask questions about what to expect at the middle school.

MS Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Time
April 23	5th Grade Meeting	ES
April 26	7th Grade Field Trip	Museum of Science & Industry
April 27	MS Cheer Tryouts	MS
April 27	After Prom	MS
April 29	Student Advisory Meeting	MS
April 29	TCC Meet	Watseka at 3:00 p.m.
May 1	ISA Testing	MS
May 3	8th Grade Trade Up	Champaign
May 3	6th Grade Living Wax Museum	MS Gym
May 3	School Dance	MS 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
May 6	8th Grade Field Trip	Parkland College
May 10	6th Grade Field Trip	Brookfield Zoo
May 15	TCC Athletic Recognition Luncheon	
May 20	5th Grade Visit to MS	MS

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Elementary Principal, Justin Kean

<u>Enrollment - 472</u>	2nd: 82
ECE: 20	3rd: 64
Pre K: 41	4th: 70
K: 59	5th: 73
1st: 63	

The BUG theme for March is Cooperation.

4th Grade Economy Unit

The 4th grade studied an economy unit involving designing a product, marketing the product and sales of the product. This was a great life skills unit for the students.

Special Education annual reviews

64 meetings were held over a two week period with administrators, staff, parents and students. Kean commented it is always a busy time, but a great way to stay connected and to communicate with families annually.

Open Positions - Interviews

The 4th grade and Kindergarten Special Education teaching positions have been filled. Currently there is an open position for a half time paraprofessional.

Preschool screenings

Preschool screening was held at the First Christian Church and 40 kids were screened 0-3 year old and above 3 years old. Board member Elder asked if the screening process is how the school district fills up the preschool class? Mr. Kean responded that in order for families to register their children in the GCMS Preschool class or Early Childhood class, the children are required to have a preschool screening.

Lunch Connect

Lunch connect for grades 3rd, 4th and 5th brought many parents, grandparents and family members to the building over a three week period. Mr. Kean thanked Cathy Walker-Steidinger for organizing the elementary school lunch connect and making sure families knew where to go for lunch and student's classroom.

IAR Testing

A special thank you to Walker Willis, Staci Lindelof, Erin Nuss, and Kristin Welborn for working hard to make sure the IAR testing ran smoothly for three days and to the elementary school staff for their continued ability to be accommodating with the schedule change.

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ES Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location & Time
April 25	Open House & Kindergarten Pre-registration	5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
April 26	Falcon Walk	HS Track
April 26	Parent's Night Out	ES Gym
April 30	Patricia Polacco	ES
May 1	Falcon Walk winners	North Park
May 3	5th Grade Safety Day 4th Grade Field Trip	GC Bible Church Springfield
May 6 & 7	Map Testing	ES
May 7 & 8	Kindergarten screening	ES
May 8	3rd Grade Field Trip	Fair Oaks Farm
May 9	Kindergarten Field Trip	Miller Park Zoo
May 10	2nd Grade Field Trip	Children's Museum
May 10	4th Grade Fun Night	ES Gym & Cafeteria
May 15	Reading Incentive Party	ES
May 16	Prairie Fire Theatre	
May 17	5th Grade Fun Night	MS

Special Education Director, Jesse McFarling

McFarling reported the annual IEP reviews are close to being completed. Special Education teachers are submitting IEP's to the Special Education Office and are currently being entered in IStar by the records clerk.

CPI training for Illinois Central Bus staff will be on April 18 at the GCMS Unit Office. DLM alternate assessment testing is underway with many students already completed and all students will be finished well before the May 8 deadline.

On May 1, 2019, GCMS High School and the GCMS Special Education staff will host a Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) information day for parents of students with disabilities who will be graduating soon. There will be two separate sessions on resources available to students after graduation.

March Fund Balance: \$424,692.13

Beginning of the year Fund Balance: \$398,220.62

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Curriculum Director, Erin Nuss

Mrs. Nuss described recent professional development teachers have been participating in including two separate book clubs at the middle and high schools. Despite the long list of assessments which have recently been administered at GCMS, Mrs. Nuss explained that in reality, GCMS student spent less time taking state and local assessments this year than previous years. Highlights from the recent Fine Arts and Social Studies Annual Reviews of Curriculum were shared with the board. Fine Arts continues to spend a lot of time discussing performance versus creation and critique as is expected with the new standards. The Social Studies representatives spoke extensively about the new inquiry standards and adding current events in curriculum at all levels.

Superintendent's Report

GCMS Amended FY 19 Budget

Superintendent Darnell presented to the board the revised FY19 budget. The adjustments included the One Earth Energy settlement and the purchasing and selling of the school district's own bonds. Both of these items help to secure the financial position of the district moving forward. **Motion to approve GCMS Amended FY 19 Budget as presented.** Motion was made by board member Whitehouse seconded by board member Young. Motion carried by roll call with all members present voting yes.

A motion to **adjourn the meeting** was made by board member Whitehouse and seconded by board member Leonard at 7:06 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote, with all members present voting yes.

Board President Josh Johnson

Board Secretary Lori H. Kristensen