

GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #5
MINUTES OF MEETING

January 20, 2009

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at 6:15 p.m. in the GCMS Board Room. Roll was called with members Duquette, Taylor, Nettleton, Sarantakos, McCall, Cope, and Kerber. Also present were Susan Riley, Judy Weber-Jones, Eric Sommers, Brandon Martino, Jean Noellsch, Doris Benter, Jim Killian, Jean Thackeray, Rick Brackmann, Mike Lindy, Chuck Aubry and Marge Ehlers.

A motion to go into executive session at 6:17 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), discussion of lawfully closed meeting minutes, whether for the purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the closed minutes &/or tapes as mandated by Section 2.06 5 ILCS/2 (c) (21), collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (2) was made by member McCall and seconded by member Cope. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. The meeting returned to regular session at 6:47 p.m.

There was one agenda addition to Item 8.4 - Elementary Addition Discussion. A motion to add Item 8.4 - Elementary Addition Discussion was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Taylor. Motion carried by voice vote.

Judy Weber-Jones introduced Eric Sommers and Brandon Martino as students active with Project Ignition. Their trip to Washington DC to compete in the National Rural Youth Safety Campaign was an outstanding experience. The group was in third place going in and ended up on top in first placing winning a \$5,000 award. They have also been invited to Nashville, Tn to speak at Lifesavers Conference. The Ladies Home Journal will feature an article on the GCMS group in the March/April 2009 issue.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member McCall. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. Bills approved for GCMS were \$470,002.37 (Education fund \$337,549.30 Building fund \$51,621.04 Debt Service fund \$-0-, Transportation fund \$55,641.25, IMRF fund \$20,111.78, Capital Projects fund \$-0-, W/C \$-0-, Tort \$5,079.00, F/HLS \$-0-, and payroll of \$347,737.97 (Education fund \$325,259.47, Building fund \$19,944.74, and Transportation fund \$2,533.76. Bills approved for FCSEC were \$64,117.72 (Education fund \$62,332.31, Building fund \$124.86, IMRF fund \$1,660.55) and payroll of \$28,063.84 education fund.

There were no committee reports from the policy, building and transportation, and personnel and finance committees.

Rick Brackmann of FCSEC reported on the Maintenance of Effort (MOE). MOE consists of calculations taken from the PBL and GCMS Annual Financial Reports, December 1st Special Education Child count along with the district enrollment for the fall housing report. This is a requirement for the

federal grant monies the districts receive. In February 2005, GCMS and PBL adopted an Eligibility Determination Criteria Developmental Delay that is a checklist to determine eligibility for special ed services. The old document identified the age group as bring ages 3-7. This needs to be changed to ages 3-9 and some wording changes. FCSEC would like to have this adopted at the next meeting and will consider this the first reading of the changes.

A spring schedule for reading and math at the high school using the Auto Skill Academy Program was presented showing 23 students would benefit for reading and 60 for math. The program was further researched and administrators spoke with the Altamont Superintendent, Jeff Fritchitch about the Auto Skill Academy Reading and Math Intervention Program. He had nothing but praise for the program and had proof that students learning levels were increased significantly from half a grade level to one or two levels after 20 hours of instruction. No negative remarks have been heard about the program. The cost estimate is \$23,455. Reoccurring software support for the system would be \$1,900 annual or could be reduced to \$1,425 annually if banked for up coming years. There would be some miscellaneous costs for additional manuals, headphones, etc. if there is a need. It may or may not be necessary to amend the budget for this purchase in the spring if approved, however, either way, GCMS has the money in reserve to cover the expenditure. A motion to approve the purchase of the Auto Skill Academy Program for the high school was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Cope. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

It was learned the State of Illinois is still behind in payments due to GCMS totaling \$224,531.82 in early January 2009.

A Building and Grounds Committee meeting will be held on Friday, January 30th at 5:00 p.m. in the GCMS Board Room to discuss plans for the Elementary expansion.

A motion to accept the resignation of Mark Ward as an assistant football coach, effective immediately was made by member Cope and seconded by member Nettleton. Motion carried by voice vote.

A motion to appoint Alicia Koester as assistant high school girl's basketball coach, retroactive to November 3, 2008 was made by member Taylor and seconded by member Sarantakos. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

A motion was made by member McCall and seconded by member Cope to open the closed minutes of July 21, 2008, and the redacted closed minutes of August 6, 2008, to the public. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

A motion to accept the maternity leave request from Chrystal Little was made by member Nettleton and seconded by member Taylor. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Principal reports were given by building.

A motion to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. was made by member McCall and seconded by member Duquette. Motion carried by voice vote.

President

Secretary