

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

April 20, 2009

The Board of Education of Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley Community Unit School District #5 met in regular session on Monday, April 20, 2009, at 7:45 p.m. in the GCMS Board Room. Roll was called with members Duquette, Taylor, Sarantakos, and Cope. Member Nettleton entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Members McCall and Kerber were absent. Also present were Jill Doran, Tyler Young, Susan Riley, Frank Titus, Doris Benter, Jim Killian, Jean Thackeray, Jean Noellsch, Rick Brackmann, Mike Lindy, Mike Bleich, Shelley Overman, Chuck Aubry and Marge Ehlers.

A motion to go into executive session at 7:46 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), 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), the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (5) was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Taylor. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. The meeting returned to regular session at 7:14 p.m.

There was one agenda addition, Item 8.11 – Transportation Fund. A motion to add item 8.11, Transportation Fund was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Nettleton. Motion carried by voice vote.

Visitor and Band Director, Frank Titus, addressed the Board. Mr. Titus asked for permission for spring 2010 band trip to go to Disneyworld in Florida from March 20-26, 2010. This will make the fourth time Mr. Titus has taken the band to the Magic Kingdom. The trip will basically follow the same format as the previous trips. A motion to approve the 2010 band trip to Florida was made by member Duquette and seconded by member Taylor. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by member Taylor and seconded by member Sarantakos. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. Bills approved for GCMS were \$495,243.00 (Education fund \$370,857.36 Building fund \$48,999.95 Debt Service fund \$-0-, Transportation fund \$56,107.92, IMRF fund \$19,277.77, Capital Projects fund \$-0-, W/C \$-0-, Tort \$-0-, F/HLS \$-0-, and payroll of \$362,704.07 (Education fund \$339,896.32, Building fund \$20,219.22, and Transportation fund \$2,588.53. Bills approved for FCSEC were \$63,387.52 (Education fund \$61,547.69, Building fund \$142.24, IMRF fund \$1,697.59) and payroll of \$28,865.55 education fund.

The policy committee met on April 7th. Member Taylor reviewed the following policies recommended for adoption for the first reading: 4:55, 4:120, 4:130,4:170,5:35,5:120, 5:185,5:310,7:60,7:170, and 7:190.

Member Taylor reported the Building, Grounds & Transportation Committee met on Monday, April 13th with the architect, Craig Gillett. The group reviewed the elementary facility proposals (drawing) as outlined with the architect. Minor changes were noted. An estimate of projected costs for the proposals will be the next step. Member Taylor also reviewed the summer projects list by building. A motion to approve the 2009 summer projects list as presented was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Duquette. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes. Estimated project costs by building are: Elementary - \$107,836; Middle School - \$81,921; High School - \$110,243 for a total of \$300,000. Three to four smart boards are included for each building in the project list.

The Personnel & Finance Committee will review support staff pay rates at the May 4th meeting in executive session. School fees for next year will be on the agenda.

Rick Brackmann of FCSEC advised the IDEA Grant is projected for FY10 to be \$549,000 plus possible additional stimulus funds projected to be at \$596,000. It is not clear as to how the stimulus funds may be used. They can be used over two years. The majority of this money goes back to the PBL (60%) and GCMS (40%) districts to help defray special education costs.

A total of \$411,499.20 has been approved for payment by ISBE but has not been released by the State of Illinois Comptroller. Funds for mandated programs, such as transportation, are not being released that are causing a drain on the districts finances.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is stimulus money that is slated to be available to schools for May & June 2009. The biggest requirement will be that the money must “supplement” our present programs, it cannot “supplant”. Most districts will not get the money until the 2009-10 school term. There will have to be separate accounting for this money to show that it was spent within the regulations.

A current GCMS fee schedule was briefly reviewed. It was suggested GCMS consider a slight increase in registration fees and lunch rates. GCMS is experiencing deficit spending (over \$40,000) in the hot lunch program.

A majority of our district vans have odometer readings over 100,000 miles. It was suggested this might be a good time to replace one of them and/or consider purchasing a midsize vehicle for use when a van is not needed. The matter will be tabled until Item 8.11 is discussed.

White Van – 126,194
Red Van - 125,083
Café Van - 139,566
New Mini Bus - 31,694

Blue Van – 48,266
Green Van- 123,746
Maintenance. Truck – 18,235
Old Mini Bus – 71,701

Each principal reviewed the recommended student handbook changes for the 2009-10 school year for their building. The changes will be voted on at the May 4th meeting.

Updated the job descriptions for the District Technology Coordinator, the District Instructional Technologist, and the Literacy Specialist were presented. A motion was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Nettleton to approve the job descriptions for the District Technology Coordinator, District Instructional Technologist, and the District Literacy Specialist. Motion carried by voice vote.

The McCormick Tutoring Program was started by Steve & Helen McCormick as a memorial to their son, Tom. Steve has since passed away. The tutorial program has served 138 students over the past 11 years. Steve and Helen initially funded the entire program. However, recently other community groups have also committed funds for the operation of this program. The district took a few moments to publicly thank Helen McCormick-Keener for her continued financial support of the McCormick Tutoring Program. This program offers one more resource for our schools to help individual students succeed academically. A motion to direct the superintendent to write a letter of appreciation to Helen McCormick-Keener for her contributions to the GCMS School System was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Duquette. Motion carried by voice vote.

Superintendent Aubry advised the district has received two payments from the state for our transportation fund out of four that are due. The first payment received was actually due last year. The second payment is the only payment received for this school years transportation expenses. Our transportation fund will go into deficit spending without these payments. If another payment has not been received by the regular May meeting, money will be borrowed from the education fund and transferred to the transportation fund to keep it solvent. Based on this information, a vehicle purchase will be tabled until the next meeting.

A motion was made by member Nettleton and seconded by member Taylor to appoint the following personnel for summer school. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Teacher

Angela Testory
Amanda Wetherell
Kristin Wilson
Courtney Hohulin
Debbie Hohulin
Diana Harmon
Pat Anderson
Jim Lewis
Julie Withrow
Nancy Knittel

Teacher Aides

Kristin Massey
Lisa Boma (Elem & Middle School)
Kim Young
Terri Acree (16 days)
Sherri Knerr (13 days)

A motion was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Nettleton to employ Sara Crawford as a teacher for the 2009-10 school year. Ms. Crawford will be placed on step 1 of the bachelor's column and will be assigned to teach art at the elementary and art and home

economics at the middle school. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion was made by member Nettleton and seconded by member Taylor to appoint Kristin Wilson as an assistant middle school track coach for the spring of 2009. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

A motion was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Nettleton to accept the resignation of Jenny White as a teacher and sponsor effective at the end of the school term. Motion carried by voice vote.

A motion was made by member Sarantakos and seconded by member Duquette to approve the two-year agreement with the teacher assistant's bargaining unit. The monetary increases will be the same as negotiated by the GCMSEA (4.56% 2009-10 & 4.58% 2010-11). Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes except member Taylor voting no.

Principal reports were given by building.

A motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. was made by member Nettleton and seconded by member Taylor. Motion carried by voice vote.

President

Secretary