

GARDNER – SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #73

BOARD BRIEFS

Highlights of the Regular Meeting

FEBRUARY 20, 2013

FINANCIAL REPORTS

There was more discussion this month regarding the bills presented for February payment. Board Member Craig Male questioned the payment of \$10,129.84 to Robbins Schwartz, the school attorney. Perrott reviewed the GSW attorney's current bill with the Board. Perrott shared that this bill is in addition to the \$13,000 already paid. GSW HS is now close to \$23,500 in legal services for the preparation of documents, research, court appearance, discussions, and negotiations that the district's attorney has had with the Village's attorney and GSW administration and board. The next court date regarding the TIF issue is set for April 4, 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Don Phillips informed the board and audience that he was present at tonight's meeting as a reporter for The Paper. Several teachers and residents of the district were present to show their support for Miss Angel Dallio and the Art Department. Mrs. Susan Heerdt, Teachers' Union President, addressed the board and informed them that the Union opposes the RIF of the current Art Position which would cause Teacher Angel Dallio to move from full-time to 3/7 schedule. Mrs. Heerdt read several letters from former students indicating their support to retain Ms. Dallio. Sara Rodgers, parent of a GSW HS student, spoke to the board about how important the Art Department is for students to express themselves and experience new classes and try something different in high school. Jennifer Arrambide, teacher, spoke on behalf of Angel Dallio. Kurt Fosnaugh, former student, read a letter to the board stating his support. Jennie Rodgers, current student, told the board that taking Art Class and working with the teacher has helped her with self confidence as an individual. Terese Kukman, teacher, asked the Board if cuts were being made due to financial problems or numbers? She stated that 3/7 is not realistic for students to get into an Art class. She questioned the quality of a teacher we could find to replace Miss Dallio if she would leave.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal John Engelman reported that we have continued the MAP testing and the 2nd tests were given to students last week. Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors are being run thru the process of Reading, Language and Math testing to measure individual student growth. MAP training for teachers was scheduled for this Friday, Feb. 22nd, but due to the current weather forecast, it has been re-scheduled for Friday, March 8th. Teachers will be trained on how to read and use the data from the MAP tests.

SPRING MAP TESTING SCHEDULE

The next round of MAP testing is scheduled for the last week of April, starting on April 29. A late start schedule will be used for students as they rotate through the MAP testing. The "late start" schedule will be for 9-days and will be a rotation among the 3 classes (Freshmen, Sophomore, Juniors) with testing from 8AM to 9AM. The abbreviated school day for all students will start at 9:00 AM and will allow all students to move through their entire schedule. The bus schedule will remain the same. Students not testing will be allowed to arrive late or remain in a supervised area until the abbreviated schedule starts at 9:00am.

SCHOOL NAME CHANGE

The board agreed to vote on the topic tonight.

CATEGORIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REDUCTION IN FORCE

Superintendent Perrott reported that Principal Engelman and he met with Union/Administration team for a Joint Committee meeting to review the "Categories for the Purpose of Reduction of Force (RIF)" document that was prepared. The document shows the order in which teachers would be RIF in the event that a reduction in

teaching positions would occur. This meeting and document are in response to Senate Bill 7 which has changed the RIF, retention, and evaluation process for teachers and administrators. When a RIF occurs, this document is used to determine the order in which teachers would be released.

TIF JOINT REVIEW BOARD VILLAGE HALL

The meeting was held today, February 20, 2013 at 11:00 AM. Attorney for the TIF, Mr. Klein presented a report regarding the TIF for FY2011 and FY2012. The report showed how the funds were distributed and what projects the Village is working on and has plans for.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013-2014

Principal, Mr. John Engelman, has been working on the school calendar for next year. A proposed calendar for 2013-2014 was given to the board members to review and vote on at next month's meeting. Mr. Engelman has been working with Morris, Minooka and Coal City high schools to line up our attendance days for GAVC (Grundy County Vocational Center) sessions. He has also spoke with the three local grade schools (Gardner, Braceville and South Wilmington) to set our calendar as close as possible to their calendars. Members were given a side-by-side comparison as well as the copy that will be submitted to the state. There was also a sheet distributed that shows important dates. Mr. Engelman would like more time to review it with the Grade schools and have it approved in March.

SUMMER INDUSTRY INTERNSHIPS

Grundy County High Schools in partnership with Senator Sue Rezin, Grundy Economic Development Council, Aux Sable, Exelon, Morris Hospital, Chicago Aerosol, Grainer, etc. have developed summer internship opportunities for High School Students. Applications for the positions are being developed and students are being sought for these opportunities.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY

GSW has been invited to have interested students submit applications for this program. The program is a partnership between Wilco Area Career Center and Local 150 Operating Engineers. The cost to the program will similar to our cost to the send a student to GAVC. Application is not a guarantee of acceptance into the program. Students are interviewed and drug tested. The Application was distributed to board members.

MORRIS SUMMER DRIVER EDUCATION

Once again Morris High School has requested the use of one of our driver education vehicles. Perrott reported that "This worked out well for us last year." The contract requires that Morris High School pay for vehicle mileage and maintenance on the vehicle. Mr. Perrott's recommendation is to approve this arrangement.

COACHES HANDBOOK

Mr. Shane Tucker, Athletic Director, has done a good deal of work to put together a Coaches Handbook. Copies of the Draft were given to each board member. Mr. Perrott distributed this information for a first review with approval at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS:

- TIF Agreement with Village of Gardner – we are currently waiting for the next court date, which is scheduled for April 4, 2013.

ACTION ITEMS

- School Name Change = The board voted against adding the name of Braceville to the existing school name.
- Approval of Driver Education Vehicle Loan to Morris High School – one vehicle
- Approval of Categories for the purpose of the Reduction in Force

- Teacher Reduction in Force (RIF) = TABLED
- Grant Teacher Tenure Status for Michelle Scaccia
- Grant Teacher Tenure Status for Erin Ferrari
- Approval to cancel the 2nd meeting for the month of February = February 27, 2013 meeting

Superintendent Information Items:

- **FOIA Requests** = There were no requests in the month of January.
- **Fund Raisers** = Cheerleaders Spaghetti Fundraiser at the Gardner Firehouse on Sunday, March 10th for the Harvey family. Softball Banner – Mr. Posing has requested a traveling banner fundraiser for the Girls' Softball team.
- **Awards Banquets** = Winter Athletic Awards will be held on March 6th at 6:30 PM. Academic Awards will be held on April 30th at 7:00 PM.
- **School Info App** = The Athletic Boosters have purchased an App that anyone can download for free that connects the user directly to the school information. It can be loaded on smart phones / iPads. It is on the BOE iPads to review. The app is called "School Info App".
- **ACT Prep Class** = We are again offering an opportunity for our kids to take this prep class. Junior students will be an opportunity to brush up on English / reading, Math and Science. Classes will be held 2-days a week (Wed and Fri mornings) from 7 to 8 AM.
- **Five Essentials Survey** = Schools in the state of Illinois are being asked to participate in this online survey. We sent a letter to allow parents to opt their students out of the survey. We had one "no" letter. The survey takes less than 10 minutes. Our students will take it during their English classes. Parents and teachers are also being surveyed. The survey is on our Webpage and is open now through beginning of March.
- **Communication from Grundy County Sheriff** = We received a letter from the Grundy Co. Sheriff informing us that Deputies will be more present in schools throughout the county and thanking us for the partnership. A copy of the letter was distributed to board members.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUESTS

- Banners
- Rules for Sports - interpretation

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President: David Doglio

Vice-President: Pam Brooks

Joe Elens, Matt Finn, Cindy Gerber,

Craig Male, Rita Wright

Principal: John Engelman

Superintendent: Michael Perrott