

**GARDNER-SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
GARDNER, IL 60424**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2023
REGULAR MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Gardner-So. Wilmington High School Board of Education, Counties of Grundy and Kankakee, IL was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-President, Mrs. Kori Speed.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright. Also in attendance were Superintendent Mrs. Sue Avery and Principal Mr. Brian Davis. All members were present “in person.”

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Mike Serena, Gardner’s Mayor, was present at tonight’s meeting to discuss the safe walks to school program. He introduced this program and asked the school board members for help. The Village would need a letter from GSW High School and the Board of Education indicating that they support this program. Our students would fill out a survey, and these responses will be forwarded to the Village. The deadline to submit data to the reimbursement company is October 2, 2023. If the Village of Gardner receives money from this program, it will be used for brand-new sidewalks and signage throughout the town.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Wright motioned and seconded by Mr. Harvey to approve the meeting minutes for the month of *June*: (June 21, 2023 Budget Amendment Hearing, Regular Meeting minutes and Closed Session minutes), bills for the month of *August* and payroll for the month of *June & July*, and Financial Reports for the month of *June & July*.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Principal’s Report: Mr. Brian Davis, Principal, reported the following:

- Update on the first few days at GSW:
 - Monday, August 14 was a 12 noon late-start Teacher Institute Day. We held teacher meetings, and then at 6:00 PM, we held Freshmen Orientation.
 - Tuesday, August 15 was another Teacher Institute Day with Virtual Reality training, PO training, new copy machine training, etc.
 - Wednesday, August 16 – was our 1st day with students for the new school year. It went well. The day started off with an All School Assembly to review the Hand Book and changes in policies and procedures and to meet our teachers / staff. We held break-out sessions to take student pictures for ID cards, complete bus evacuation drills, and hand-out Chromebooks to all students.

Directors’ Reports: Mr. John Williamsen, Technology Director, was at tonight’s meeting to discuss:

- Fire Panel – Our current fire alarm panel is in the boiler room, hooked to the fire alarm. The phone lines are analog lines, and AT&T charges around \$8,000 a month. It is very costly. We will save money in the district budget to update and keep current. The new system would be digital and run thru our existing internet. Then, our old phone fees would be dropped. The cost of the new product would be \$19,800 to update the system

entirely. We would then only pay for monitoring after the initial cost. This update is necessary, as the system is out of date, and parts are not available if we encounter an issue. We need to replace the technology and go thru our internet connection system using fiber optic lines. Updating our system will pay for itself in 3 months.

Building and Grounds Report: Mrs. Sue Avery presented on the following:

- Walk-in Refrigerator – One of our two refrigerators went out this summer. We ordered parts and are still waiting for the parts to come in. We have started off the new school year with only one full-size walk-in fridge.
- Air-Conditioning in the kitchen – the air went out in late July but is now fixed and working.
- Lift – the lift is still not working. We are currently “in-scheduling” and waiting for repair. We have four students that need to use the lift this school year. We are working on compensating their schedules.
- Parking Lot Issue – over the summer, the garbage truck got a flat tire, and the maintenance vehicle that came out to repair the flat left a divot in our new GSW HS parking lot by using jacks on the blacktop. The company has offered to pay for the parking lot repair. Mr. Debelak, Maintenance Director, will contact D Construction to make the repairs.

Superintendent’s Report: Mrs. Sue Avery discussed the following:

- The final use of ESSR III Funds – this was a 3-year grant and this school year will be the final year to use up our funds.
- FY2024 Tentative Budget Presentation – The Budget Hearing will take place on Wed, September 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm before the regular Board of Education meeting.
- Threat Assessment Protocols – This must be reviewed and approved annually.
- SRO Update – GSW HS is working with the three feeder grade schools (Braceville, Gardner and South Wilmington) to share one Resource Officer between the four schools, potentially. The salary would be split between the four schools, with additional costs paid by the Grundy County Police Dept.

BOE Members Reports:

None at this time.

ACTION ITEMS:

AFFIRM THE HIRE OF PARAPROFESSIONAL: Mrs. Ashley motioned and seconded by Ms. Wright to affirm the hire of Paraprofessional, Ms. Danielle Diamond.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0.

APPROVE THE THREAT ASSESSMENT PLAN AND PROTOCOLS: Mrs. Schultz motioned and seconded by Mr. Simms to approve the Threat Assessment Plan and Protocols.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0.

APPROVE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY2024 BUDGET ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 7:00 PM: Ms. Wright motioned and seconded by Mrs. Schultz to approve the Public Hearing for the FY2024 Budget on September 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0.

APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF PRESS PLUS POLICY 112, AS PRESENTED BY IASA: Mrs. Ashley motioned and seconded by Mrs. Schultz to approve the First Reading of Press Plus Policy 112, as presented by IASA.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0.

APPROVE TO REPLACE AND UPDATE THE FIRE PANEL: Mr. Harvey motioned and seconded by Mrs. Ashley to approve to replace and update the fire panel.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTIONED CARRIED: 6-0.

OTHER(s): Board Members discussed our sports programs, co-ops with other schools, and declining numbers in our girls' sports.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Harvey motioned and seconded by Mr. Simms to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed and Wright.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

VICE-PRESIDENT, KORI SPEED

SECRETARY, CARLA HUSTON