

GARDNER – SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #73

BOARD BRIEFS *Highlights of the Regular Meeting* December 16, 2020

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public at tonight's meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Principal, Mr. John Engelman, reported on the following:

- Problem Solving Team Meeting – The team met and reviewed current ineligibility lists and discussed how to help these students. The team spoke about the one large Junior English class, and decided to split that particular class into 2 separate classes. That way, those struggling students will get more one-on-one help.
- One of our regular substitute teachers gave a very nice compliment, stating that our GSW students are great kids. The sub said that our students follow the rules and that GSW is a great environment to work in.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. John Engelman, Athletic Director, reported on the following:

- Momence and Clifton-Central have been added to the RVC and will be included starting next school year. This was official as of the November 2020 meeting. Now that these 2 additional teams have been added, there are now 10 teams in the RVC.

Mr. DeLong, Superintendent, added:

- The IHSA is still in a holding pattern with sports. They have indicated that they still want to have every sports season take place for the 2020-21 school year. These will all take place in the Spring/Summer.
- Ms. Dallio, Academics Coordinator and Mr. Williamson, Technology Director will give reports during the January meeting.
- GSW still has 90 Chrome books on back order. We are exploring the purchase/lease of about 50 more to be able to move towards a 1:1 program for next school year.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT: Mr. Josh DeLong presented the following:

- Building update = The building is very clean right now. Mr. Debelak is keeping up with the daily boiler maintenance. The epoxy floor down the band stairway/hallway and weight room hallway should be put in over winter break. We will then look to add new lighting in those areas with a drop ceiling. We are exploring potential mural options for the updated gymnasium and waiting on the new mats to arrive.
- Tentative Summer work discussion:
 - The cafeteria and kitchen will be getting a face lift. Mr. Debelak is taking classes in order to be certified to remove the floor tiles. The rooms will be painted, new tile flooring will be installed and we will look to move from gas to electric.
 - Routine deep cleaning from our summer staff
 - Begin a rotation of painting in classrooms
 - Parking Lot – summer of 2022. We will look at a few different options.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. DeLong presented on the following:

- GAVC Director's Award Winners – for the month of November:
 - Nathan Weese – Criminal Justice
 - Lee Veverka-Cardwell – Culinary Arts
 - Jacob Mammosser – Health Occupations
- COVID update = We will have remote learning days Dec. 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22 for our students. Winter Break runs Dec. 23 thru January 6th for students. Monday, Jan. 4th is a Teacher Institute Day,

Tues. & Wed, Jan. 5 & 6 are Remote Planning Days for our teachers, and students will start back-up with remote learning on Jan. 7 & 8. Students will return in-person to school on Monday, January 11th.

- Solar Farm Project update = There have been several zoom meetings between the impacted school district superintendents, all 15 taxing bodies and RES, the solar farm company. RES is asking for a 4 million dollar tax abatement over the first 3 years of the project. While everyone feels this solar farm is beneficial for all the taxing bodies as it will greatly increase the EAV of that land creating more revenue for the taxing bodies, Mr. DeLong and others are hesitant on the abatement amount being sought after. The impacted superintendents have been negotiating with RES on this and will be holding another meeting Friday, December 18th.
- Transportation update = We will be going to bid soon. GSW will look to go to bid using an Intergovernmental Agreement with the three feeder Grade Schools (South Wilmington, Braceville and Gardner). There is some concern on the number of companies who may submit a bid.
- Mr. Michael Perrott, former GSW HS Superintendent, stopped by last week and donated a large Panther Head Logo, that his son carved out of wood, to GSW. Ms. Dallio and her art class will be painting it, and it will be displayed in the school. This donation was very much appreciated.
- GSW has also been dealing with fraudulent unemployment claims. This is happening all over the state and several GSW employees have been hit by this.

BOE MEMBERS REPORTS:

None at this time.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approve 2020 Tax Levy, as presented.
- Certificate of Compliance with Truth and Taxation
- Appoint the Superintendent to review Closed Session Minutes

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President: Pam Brooks

Vice-President: Katy Wepprecht

Kristen Ashley, Cindy Gerber, Tim Harvey,

Kori Speed & Allison Wright

Principal: John Engelman

Superintendent: Joshua DeLong