
BOARD BRIEFS
Highlights of the Public Hearing – 2025 Levy
& Regular Meeting
DECEMBER 17, 2025

PRESENTATION: 2025 LEVY:

Mrs. Avery presented the 2025 Levy to board members. She informed them that she presented the tentative numbers at last month's meeting and changed nothing for the final numbers.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at tonight's meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Dr. Patrick Halloran, Interim Principal, discussed the following:

- Homecoming Week was Dec 8 thru 12, with the dance being held on Saturday, Dec. 13
- Mr. Ward's Government Class held their Mock Campaigns the first week of Dec.
- Admin is currently looking at weight room supervision for after school hours.
- Dec 10 – in service day for teachers. We had group discussions on the 5 Essentials Survey, School Report Card and Student Achievements. We will follow up on those discussions on Jan. 5 during our Teacher Institute Day.
- Hall of Fame – we had our Committee meeting on Dec. 16 and have picked our inductees. The ceremony will be held on Fri, Jan. 16 during our boys' home basketball game.
- Learning Labs – we are currently looking at how to better utilize this period.
- Faculty Meeting was held during our Dec. 10 in service day
- Student Council Meeting – Dr. Halloran attended to meet with the students
- Student Discipline was discussed.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Mrs. Chris Ruddy, Director of Student Services, discussed the following:

- Sophomore Class field trip to GAVC in Morris to tour the facility and look at their course options on Nov. 20.
- Army recruiters – want to be more involved with GSW and our students. Setting up lunch room visits and discussed purchasing a yearbook ad.
- GSW transcripts are all on-line now electronically thru Parchment. The fee has been increased to \$8.00 per transcript for all former graduates. It is still free to our current students.
- Mrs. Ruddy attended the Crete Monee Safety Symposium on Wed, Dec. 3. She shared that statistically, the biggest problem all school districts were having were propped open doors.
- SAT – GSW hosted on Sat, Dec. 6th.
- ACT – GSW hosted on Sun, Dec. 14th.

Mrs. Crystal Aukland, Athletic Director, submitted her report on-line to board members and reviewed some of the highlights:

- Homecoming basketball games were held on Friday, Dec. 12th with all three teams winning.
- Hall of Fame Night will be Friday, January 16 with our new inductees.
- Winter Sports is currently underway with our Senior Nights planned for the season:
 - January 20 – Girls' Basketball
 - January 23 – Boys' basketball, Spiritline, Band and Color Guard
- GSW Home Dance Competition was held on Sat, Dec. 6
- Special Inductee Night is planned for Jan. 13
- Mike Wollgast Night is being planned and the date will be announced

- Freshman Games – we have added a few girls’ basketball Freshman games to our calendar
- Wrestling – we have six GSW members on the Dwight Co-op wrestling team – five boys and one girl. GSW will be hosting a wrestling match in our GSW Gym on January 21 – which will also be Senior Night for our two GSW seniors – Gavin Bafia & Aubree Stein.
- Scholastic Bowl, Chess Team and Math Team are currently competing and doing well
- GoFan is working out great.
- Mrs. Aukland has been working on next year’s volleyball game schedule and is about 90% complete. The boys’ and girls’ basketball game schedules are about 50% built. Athletic Directors are currently looking at the away & home games and trying to balance them out more.
- New Popcorn Machine – Our new machine has arrived. Athletic Boosters and SADD are splitting the cost.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT: Mrs. Avery reported on:

- Snow Plow Bids – we received two bids and have decided to go with Fatlan Trucking.
- Boiler – we have had a few leaks, which have been repaired.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Mrs. Avery presented on the following:

- Triple I Conference held in Chicago in November. Board members discussed sessions they attended.
- Winter Break for GSW runs December 22 through January 5. Jan. 5 is a Teacher Institute Day and students return on Tues, January 6.
- Emergency Remote Days – If needed, we have our E-Learning process board approved
- Grundy County Special Ed Co-op has hired their New Director – Kate Ross. Mr. Neil Sandburg is retiring in May 2026.
- Annual Grundy County Reciprocal Agreement – we approve every year.
- GSW Principal job has been posted. The deadline is January 20th. We will form a hiring committee to start the interview process.
- Spanish teacher job has been posted. As of today, we have not received any applicants.

BOE MEMBERS REPORTS:

Board members asked if Admin can send out a reminder to teachers outlining our Remote Days. Mrs. Monferdini-Wilkey discussed Cooks & Camo – the Army comes into schools and holds classes with PE and/or Health. Board members asked if an alarm goes off or if Admin gets an alert if doors are opened or propped open during school days? Currently there is no alarm system on our doors, but Mrs. Avery will look into the cost.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approve 2025 Tax Levy
- Approve Certificate of Compliance with Truth and Taxation
- Appoint the Superintendent to review closed session minutes
- Approve the Second Reading of Press Policy 120, per IASB
- Approve the Snow Removal Contract – Fatlan Trucking for 25-26 winter season
- Approve the Trap Team Competitive Season

OTHERS: None at this time.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President: Terry Schultz

Vice-President: Kori Speed

Kristen Ashley, Janelle Biros, Elli Monferdini-Wilkey

David Simms & Katy Wepprecht

Superintendent: Mrs. Susan Avery

Interim Principal: Dr. Patrick Halloran