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**BOARD BRIEFS**  
*Highlights of the Regular Meeting*  
**JANUARY 21, 2026**

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at tonight's meeting.

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

- Mon, Jan 5<sup>th</sup> was a Teacher Institute Day. Our teachers started the day with breakfast at Coal City High School, followed by a Keynote Speaker Presentation. In the afternoon they were back at GSW for group sessions.
- Hall of Fame Night – Fri, Jan. 16. Inductees this year were Scott Halpin and The Sandeno Family – Tami Hansen, Ken Sandeno & the late Todd Sandeno. We had a great crowd for the ceremony and it was well deserved.
- Teacher Evaluations – will be completed by February. There are six non-tenured and three tenured teachers being evaluated this school year.

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

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

- Semester 1 Report Cards were mailed out after Winter Break on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. This year they showed both weighted and non-weighted GPAs.
- Registration for GAVC classes is happening now. Feb 15 is the date our student list needs to be sent to GAVC.
- Registration for GSW classes will start in March.
- New RTI process – starting 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. We will pull grades every Monday morning at 9:30 AM. The D/F list of students will attend RTI for Math, English and Science. Teachers will work with these students during the 5<sup>th</sup> hour Learning Lab to get their grades up. Students with good grades will receive an incentive – Fun Fridays – which will be open-gyms, Just Dance sessions, and other fun alternatives during 5<sup>th</sup> hour Learning Lab. Grades are already going up. Students want to participate in the Fun Friday events!
- ACT test – GSW High School has been approved as a testing site – both Saturday and Sunday dates (Feb. 14 & Feb. 15) this year.

Mrs. Crystal Aukland, Athletic Director, submitted her report on-line to board members:

- Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony – Fri, Jan. 16
- Senior Nights:
  - Girls' Basketball – Tues, Jan. 20
  - Wrestling – Thurs, Jan. 22
  - Boys' Basketball, Band, Color Guard – Fri, Jan. 23
- Spiritline Team qualified for state for both of their routines
- Special Honoree Night – new event this year – held during the home girls' basketball game on Tues, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>. The basketball player ceremony started at 5:25 PM before the game. The Spiritline Ceremony was held at halftime. There was a special performance by the GSW HS Spiritline team and Honoree recognitions.
- Michael Wollgast Night – Wed, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> boys' basketball game vs. Dwight
- Wrestling Meet on Thurs, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> will be held at GSW High School. Senior Night for our two GSW Seniors – Gavin Bafia & Aubree Stein.
- Softball and Baseball will be starting up soon. The teams will be having open gyms and using the weight room.

- Game Changer App was ordered for both Baseball and Softball teams. Our coaches will use iPads during games to enter stats.
- The Scholastic Bowl Team and Chess Team are doing well this year.
- The Math Team is at the RVC Conference in Grant Park tonight – hoping for their 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive win!
- Working on next year’s sports schedules. Athletic Directors are trying to even out home and away games.
- NFHS – sports app – we receive a profit from the company for using.
- Winter Sports will be scheduling their Awards Nights
- Weight Room Supervisor for after-school.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT:** Mrs. Avery reported on:

- We will be starting the bid process for the HVAC Project for this summer. Heating and cooling for the gym area.
- Athletic Boosters is looking at moving the baseball batting cages to the outside of the fence along the 3<sup>rd</sup> base line.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> floor classroom –the room walls were repaired and painted over Winter Break by our GSW custodial and maintenance crew. Great job to Wally Debelak and the team!

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

- Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held on Friday night, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>
- Michael Wollgast Night – Wed, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – Boys’ Home Basketball game vs. Dwight
- Software Conversion is going well.
- Remove SLO’s from the Teacher Evaluation Tool – a majority of the schools are removing this.
- Grundy County Cooperative will be interviewing and hiring a new Assistant Director to replace the existing one who will be retiring.

**BOE MEMBERS REPORTS:** None at this time.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Accept the Resignation of the Assistant Spiritline Coach – Mrs. Crystal Aukland
- Approve to move the February Board Meeting from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>
- Approve the Destruction of Closed Session Audio Recordings 18-months and older
- Approve the Opening of Board of Education Closed Session Minutes from January 2025 through December 2025.
- Update Board Policy 2:125 to reflect the statutory maximum of \$1,000 for school board members to be compensated for service to the school district and community.
- Remove Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s) from the Teacher Evaluation Tool.

**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