

GARDNER – SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #73

BOARD BRIEFS

Highlights of the Regular Meeting

July 15, 2020

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public at tonight's meeting – no public comment.

Communication – Mr. DeLong read a “Thank You” note from the family of Daisy French . She is the grandmother of our District Bookkeeper, Sherri Garrett, and board of education member, Tim Harvey.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal, Mr. John Engelman, informed the board that he did not have anything for the month of July to discuss tonight.

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

- IHSA Guidelines – GSW is following current guidelines. Spiritline has been holding outside practices and volleyball just started outside open gyms. Both teams are currently using the VFW Park in South Wilmington. The rules seem to change daily, so Mr. DeLong is keeping up on current regulations and informing the coaching staff.
- Sports Boosters Update – The Boosters have recently purchased new basketball hoops / rims with orange borders. This group has put a lot of money into our GSW programs. They are planning on holding our Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, September 5th at the Dwight Country Club.
- Potential Live Streaming for Sports – we have discussed FaceBook Live Streaming for indoor sports, due to limiting fans at these events to a certain number or building capacity. We would have volunteer students using iPads to record.
- Sports – Cutting at the JV level was discussed. This topic was brought to a board member. Mr. Engelman addressed his thoughts and concerns with the board. He also spoke to all of our JV and Varsity level coaches to get their input. There was much discussion on this topic and is one the board has voted against in the past. Board members shared their thoughts on the topic as did Mr. DeLong and no action was taken.

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

- Building update: A lot of work has already been done by our summer crew. Most of it has been cosmetic updates throughout the building. Locked filing cabinets have been added to the 2nd floor outside of the Guidance area for student files. This space was opened by lockers that had previously been taken out. The gym floor is complete and looks great.

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

- School Board Conference – Mr. DeLong will see which board members still want to attend the Annual Conference in Chicago when the registration opens up.
- School Re-opening:
 - Plan – The reopening plan that has already been sent to the public was discussed. As of now, we plan to start school on August 17, with half-days, 8 am until 12 noon, with a 1-hour online daily instruction, to meet the 5-hr daily requirement. The plan to try to symptom screen instead of self verify was discussed at length.
- Residency – A parent has inquired about paying out of district tuition. The cost is the per pupil expenditure price from the last fiscal year.

- Next year's calendar – The tentative calendar was approved in March. November 3 is now a state holiday for Election Day and it cannot be waived. Mr. DeLong would like to use a remote learning planning day on November 25 and it would not change our original calendar. He also wants to wait until early August to submit the final calendar to see how the next month goes. .
- Transportation next year during potential closure – Mr. DeLong is going to discuss a potential contract with Illinois Central School Bus detailing payment in writing, in case of another extended school closure.
- Board Committees:
 - GAVC: Pam Brooks
 - SPECIAL EDUCATION CO-OPERATIVE: Allison Wright
 - IASB GOVERNING BOARD / IASB CONVENTION DELEGATE: Katy Wepprecht
 - BOARD POLICY: Kristen Ashley
 - BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Pam Brooks & Tim Harvey
 - INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT(S) COMMITTEE: Allison Wright
 - COMMUNITY COUNCIL / SAFETY COMMITTEE: Cindy Gerber & Kori Speed
 - DWIGHT / GSW IGA COMMITTEE: Kristen Ashley & Kori Speed
- Announcement of Vendors of Record:
 - Newspaper: The Paper, Dwight, IL
 - Bonds: First Midstate, Inc., Bloomington, IL
 - Attorney Services: Robbins Schwartz, LTD, Chicago, IL
 - Architectural Services: Healy, Bender, & Associates, INC., Naperville, IL
 - Banking and Investments: First Midwest Bank, Gardner, IL
- Employee Travel = Mr. DeLong and the board discussed employees who travel to COVID hotspot states. They discussed following the current guidance from IDPH and GCHD.
- Technology Grant for IL schools. Mr. DeLong will be applying for the Technology Grant money.
- Extra-Curricular Stipends – The teachers union agreed that only 25% of the stipend will be paid if NO season is held. The remaining 75% will be paid at the halfway and ending points of the season/activity. If a season/activity is cut short the remaining 75% of the stipend will be prorated depending on the start and end period and how much was done with the individual teams/activity.

OTHER(s):

Board member, Katy Wepprecht informed the board that Mr. Leone (Band instructor) and Mrs. Leigh (Spiritline coach) worked together on purchasing new uniforms for the Spiritline to wear during parades. These uniforms will match and compliment the current band uniforms. Band Boosters split the cost with GSW to purchase.

Board member, Kori Speed, asked about the Perfect Attendance policy for the 2020-21 school year. Administration said this particular session in our Hand Book will be removed / revised. There will not be any special awards, parties, exemption from finals, etc for students with perfect attendance. We do not want kids coming to school sick.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approve Caydan Landry as supplemental summer maintenance worker
- Renew Health Insurance Proposal from The Horton Group for Blue Cross / Blue Shield
- Approve increase in admission prices for extra-curricular activities, as presented
- Approve destruction of Closed Session audio recordings 18-months and older
- Approve opening of Board of Education Written Closed Session minutes from January 2020 thru June 2020.

Vice-President: Katy Wepprecht
Kristen Ashley, Cindy Gerber, Tim Harvey,
Kori Speed & Allison Wright
Principal: John Engelman
Superintendent: Joshua DeLong