

INNERViews

PUBLISHED FOR THE STAFF OF GENESSEE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
WITH ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND FRIENDS.

Region 10 Rodeo Winners Recognized

The Michigan Association of Pupil Transportation (MAPT) Region 10 Rodeo school bus driving championship was held on May 16, 2009, at Lapeer West High School. This year, 22 drivers participated and the top four moved on to the state finals that were held in Caledonia near Grand Rapids.

Five bus drivers from GISD competed in the MAPT Region 10 Rodeo this year: Dawn Carlson, Andrea Gerth, Dawn Wineman, Walter Davis, and Brian Watson. Dawn Carlson and Andrea Gerth finished second and third, respectively, at the MAPT Region 10 event and represented GISD at the state finals on June 15.

Each year at the MAPT Region 10 championship, the district with the most overall points receives the traveling team trophy. For the first time ever, Genesee Intermediate School District has taken this

honor. At its meeting on June 23, the board recognized the MAPT Region 10 Rodeo winners.



Pictured are GISD Bus Drivers Andrea Gerth (left) and Dawn Carlson who were recognized by the GISD Board of Education for their achievements at the MAPT Regional 10 Rodeo championship held in May.

Biennial Election Conducted

The Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) held the biennial election for its board of education on June 1, 2009.

Voting representatives from 19 of Genesee County's 21 constituent districts were present. The candidate for the six-year term was Dale A. Green. James Cole and Cindy A. Gansen were the candidates for the partial four-year term (to fill the balance of a term created by the resignation of Peggy J. Tortorice).

The incumbents, Dale A. Green and Cindy A. Gansen, were elected. Dale A. Green received 19 votes for the six-year term. Cindy A. Gansen received 18 votes for the partial four-year term, and James Cole received one vote for the partial four-year term.

GISD Four-Day Work Week

The Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) has implemented a four-day work week that will help reduce energy costs for the district and transportation costs for its staff.

GISD is committed to serving the needs of its constituents and the four-day work week will not result in any reduction of services.

Effective June 15 through August 21, 2009, all GISD facilities will be closed on Fridays and the following business hours will be in effect:

**Monday through Thursday
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**



Financial Challenges Continue into 2009-2010

Dear Staff,

Last month, I wrote about a serious budget problem we are facing as a result of dramatic decreases in local property taxes, anticipated decreases in state revenue, and a general drop in grant funding due to shrinking philanthropic investment returns. The financial problems are worsening, causing consideration of more dramatic cuts to schools. Stimulus revenues are being used to “plug the holes” in the 2008-09 school aid budget that ended as of June 30th. As a result, we will not experience a proration, and GISD will finish 2008-09 in a strong financial position. However, the forecast for 2009-10 is not as positive. In addition to the cuts I discussed last month, the Michigan Senate passed its version of the 2009-10 school aid budget a week ago. Math/science centers, ISD early childhood, bilingual education, and millage equalization funds for both special education and career technical education are proposed for elimination. For GISD, these cuts and others will result in a loss of \$ 6,986,924.00 if this version of the School Aid Act is signed into law.

The bill will be considered by a conference committee with members from both the House of Representatives and Senate. This group of legislators will meet over the coming weeks to resolve differences between the two versions of the school aid budget passed by the respective chambers. We hope to have a definitive answer within the next six weeks. In the meantime, we will continue to lobby the legislature to secure revenue for GISD. Our legislative delegation has strongly supported GISD programs. Most recently, during the Senate debate of the school aid budget, both Senator Deborah Cherry and Senator John Gleason offered amendments and argued for support of our outstanding programs. We are appreciative of the work of all of our House and Senate delegates during these extremely challenging financial times and know that they will continue to advocate on behalf of the programs and services we provide to our students and families.

Last month, I wrote about proactive strategies we are implementing to gain resources and revenue. We

are expanding services and increasing capacity, which will create and save jobs. We will expand our energy savings effort. We will gain efficiencies in resources though increasing the paperless operations in our organization. We will increase efficiencies by standardizing operations and by the increased utilization of technology. We are also reducing costs by implementing a four-day workweek this summer. These are just a few of the changes we will continue to implement to overcome some of the financial problems we are facing.

We are in challenging times, which will require great collaboration, cooperation, innovation, and imagination to be able to continue to allow GISD to function as the premier service agency that our organization has become. I believe our future will require great change and the collective courage to do our work differently. As an example, State Superintendent Mike Flanagan attended our recent presentation at the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators Summer Conference. He heard about the success of our countywide seat time waiver, which allows Genesee County students to take all of their high school courses online. At the end of the presentation, he complimented GISD for its work and extended the seat time waiver option to every ISD in the state, if the model GISD created is followed and our system and curriculum are utilized. We are in the process of acquiring funding and developing the protocols to implement a statewide system of providing online education, utilizing our waiver, for every school district in the state. I certainly want to thank Assistant Superintendent Beverly Knox-Pipes and her staff for the outstanding work that has made online learning a success for our constituent districts and for partner districts across Michigan. This is only one example of the outstanding work we do here at GISD.

I again want to thank each of you for the excellent school year we have just completed, and I join the GISD Board of Education in applauding the high quality of your work. I am hopeful that you will have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

2008-2009 Budget Amendment #2 Approved

The GISD business office must present a final budget amendment to the board of education in accordance with the State of Michigan Budget Act. Amendment #2 represents the anticipated revenue and expenditures for the 2008-2009 fiscal year for the delivery of the GISD Teaching, Learning, and Service Plan, as adopted by the board of education. Adjustments are made within the funds to account for items such as, but not limited to, new grants, staff turnover, line item adjustments, special projects, the utilization of deferred revenue, and pilot programs. The district will be finishing the year in a very strong financial position. This is a result of the implementation of cost effective measures such as the subcontracting of substitute teachers and para-educators, the copier/printer project, energy conservation, changes in administrator health insurance, and staff reductions. At its meeting on June 23, the board approved Amendment #2 to the 2008-2009 budget and adopted a resolution amending the budget in accordance with the Uniform Budgeting Act.

Budget Hearing Conducted

Public Act 43 of 1963 requires that intermediate school districts hold a public hearing before adoption of its budget and give notice of the hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the ISD at least six days before the hearing. Notice of the public hearing was published in The Flint Journal on June 14, 2009, and the hearing was conducted on June 23, 2009. A truth-in-taxation hearing was not required, as the district held the budget hearing in accordance with Public Act 43 of 1963.

2009-2010 Budget Adopted

At its meeting on June 23, 2009, the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education approved the 2009-2010 GISD budget, in compliance with the Uniform Budgeting Act. This budget has been adjusted to reflect changes that have occurred since constituent districts endorsed the budgets at the annual budget hearing held on March 11 and during the time that local districts were considering the recommended budgets for approval.

GISD has received information that adjusts revenues and expenditures in certain funds. The budget, as endorsed by constituent district representatives at the hearing on March 11 and approved by every constituent district board of education, was \$121,446,278. The budget approved on June 23 by the GISD Board of Education was \$147,520,335.

Adjustments were made to reflect the deferral of local, federal, and state grant dollars received in the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Adjustments also include grants that have been awarded that will impact the 2009-2010 budgets. Grant adjustments will have a net impact of zero on fund equity. The 2009 taxable value for Genesee County came in lower than originally estimated, as a result of the lowering of assessments on property in the community. Revenue decreases were made in Local Sources, Current Property Taxes in the General Education Fund by \$15,174, the Special Education Fund by \$223,641, and the Career Technical Education Fund by \$89,355 to reflect the 2009 taxable value. The anticipated beginning balances have also been adjusted to reflect the Amendment #2 estimated ending balances.

GASC Technology Center Budget Approved

The Flint Community Schools Board of Education approved its 2009-2010 budget, along with the GASC Technology Center budget, on April 29, 2009. Flint Community Schools anticipates that the Genesee Intermediate School District will provide \$10,430,495 derived from 90% collection of .9628 mill levied in all school districts. The projected tax revenue is higher than can be supported by the final taxable valuable certified by the Genesee County Department of Equalization on May 27, 2009. Flint Community Schools will be addressing the reduction in revenue with the GASC Administrative Advisory Council and ultimately the Flint Community Schools Board of Education through the amendment process. The remaining revenue balance comes from earmarked state revenue, federal grants, miscellaneous sources, and fund balances. Total revenue in 2009-2010 is projected at \$12,227,412, and total expenditures for the GASC Technology Center for the 2009-2010 school year are appropriated at \$12,527,450. The undesignated fund balance for the GASC Technology Center after the 2009-10 school year is expected to be

\$2,643,695. At its meeting on June 23, the GISD Board of Education directed the superintendent to inform the Flint Community Schools administration that the revenue anticipated from local taxes, as included in the budget, exceeded current revenue projections and, as a result, a budget amendment will be necessary.

Layoffs Rescinded

On April 28 and May 12, 2009, the GISD Board of Education acted on recommendations for employee layoffs in Health, Safety, and Nutrition Services to be effective June 30, 2009, due to lack of funding. Subsequent to the layoff process, Gloria Bourdon, director of Health, Safety, and Nutrition Services, received grant award notification from the Michigan Department of Education for new funding through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant which also allows for redistribution of funding for other positions and recall of the following employees: Freda S. Hearsch, Aimee T. Phillips, Marisa M. Ulmer, Connie I. Smith, and Elaina A. Conklin. Funding for the recalled positions is effective July 1, 2009. At its meeting on June 23, the board was made aware of the circumstances that allowed GISD to rescind the layoffs.

Shared Education and Learning Services Contract with Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District Approved

Since the 2007-2008 school year, the board has approved education and learning services contracts to form partnerships to provide education and learning consultant services with the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District, the Lapeer County Intermediate School District, and the St. Clair County Regional Education Service Agency (RESA). The services are customized based on the request of the districts, and GISD's Business Services staff worked with the Thrun Law Firm, P.C., to develop a standard contract that includes options for defining the specific details of customized services and payments.

Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District (BAISD) Superintendent Michael Dewey worked with GISD's Education and Learning department to finalize the customized shared education and learning services provided to BAISD. Specifically, the services

requested are for social studies consultant services. A contract was submitted to BAISD, and Mr. Dewey has returned the signed contract. At its meeting on June 23, the GISD Board of Education approved the contract for GISD to provide shared education and learning services for Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District.

Bid Approved for Summer Youth Career Exploration Program

GISD is the recipient of a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) grant from Career Alliance, Inc. for a summer youth career exploration program. Career Alliance, Inc.'s procurement policy requires that services utilized for this summer youth career exploration program be formally bid by GISD. A request for proposals (RFP) was issued on May 16 and May 17, 2009. The RFP was posted on GISD's website, and a notice was published in The Flint Journal. The GASC Technology Center was the only respondent. The proposal was reviewed, and it was determined that the GASC Technology Center meets all of the criteria specified in the RFP and was awarded the bid.

Bid for Roof Replacement at EKLC Approved

On January 22, 2008, the board of education approved the updated GISD Capital Improvement Long-Range Plan, which outlines the ongoing renovation and repair of GISD facilities. A major summer project this year is the roofing of the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center. THA Architects Engineers provided the plans for the project, and Wolgast Corporation will continue in its role as construction manager. The bidding process was conducted in accordance with state law, including advertising on the state website and in local newspapers. Bids were opened at a public meeting at the Erwin L. Davis Education Center on June 11, 2009.

The Building and Grounds committee met prior to the June 23 board meeting to review the bid results and Wolgast Corporation's recommendations. As a result of those reviews and recommendations, the board awarded the bid to the low bidder, Thomas Brown & Son Roofing of Bay City, in the amount of \$275,000.

First Reading of Board Policy Revisions Approved

GISD's contract with NEOLA includes a policy update service to keep the district abreast of changes needed to ensure compliance with recent legislation and to maintain quality and usefulness of the board policies. Recently, NEOLA provided drafts of recommended new or revised policies for consideration by the board. The Policy Committee met prior to the June 23 board meeting to review the revisions and make recommendations to the board. As a result, the board approved the first reading of the board policy revisions.

Donations Accepted

Generous donations to Early Childhood Programs and Services and the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center were received by the board. The donations included adaptive equipment for student use, in addition to cash donations that included \$1,891.44 from the Knights of Columbus – Michigan State Council.



Musical Fun at ECPS

The incredibly talented Guy Louis sang his way into the hearts of Early Childhood Programs and Services (ECPS) students when he performed a concert for them on May 20. His joyful exuberance, upbeat music, and obvious love of children won him many fans at the show. Guy Louis' Chataqua Express took the audience on a diverse musical adventure that included sing-along songs and dance-along songs. Several promising young ECPS soloists took the



microphone and performed along with Guy. Students and staff were so fortunate to be treated to this wonderful experience!

ECPS students enjoy the musical entertainment of Guy Louis.

Excellence in Transportation Award Winners Recognized

The third annual Excellence in Transportation award was presented at the GISD Transportation Services Employee Appreciation event on May 1, 2009. This award is presented to one bus driver and one transportation aide each year who, in the eyes of their peers, demonstrate outstanding performance in their duties. These individuals are nominated by a co-worker and not by supervisors. Criteria for the award include good attendance, positive attitude, attention to detail in service to students and parents, meeting job responsibilities, and maintaining a safe and clean environment for students. Each nomination must be accompanied by at least one supporting letter. At its meeting on June 23, the board recognized Carla Diehl, driver, and Deanna Yurk, transportation aide,



as the 2009 Excellence in Transportation award winners.

Pictured are GISD Board of Education members with the transportation staff that have been honored by their peers.

NOTICE TO GISD STAFF

Starting with the September 2009 issue, GISD will begin to implement paperless distribution of the *InnerViews* newsletter, which will help increase efficiency and eliminate costs associated with printing and mailing.

Each month, staff will receive *InnerViews* via email. GISD staff can also access the electronic version of *InnerViews* by visiting GISD's website, located at www.geneseeisid.org.

If you are a GISD staff member that does not have a GISD email address or Internet access, please contact Eileen Jackson, Communications and Development, at (810) 591-4425, to receive a printed version of the *InnerViews* newsletter.



Genesee Intermediate School District



GISD Crim Team 2009

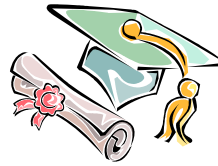
The Crim Festival of Races will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2009. All GISD employees participating in a Crim race are eligible to receive a GISD Crim Team 2009 shirt, and GISD will reimburse one-half of the cost of one event for which staff members are registered. Staff are not required to train or run as a team. The Crim Festival of Races registration form is accessible online, and you can also register online at www.crim.org.

To obtain your GISD Crim Team 2009 shirt and reimbursement, you must submit a copy of your Crim event registration form and receipt to GISD's Communications and Development department. For more information, or to schedule a time to drop off your paperwork and pick up a shirt, contact Eileen Jackson at 591-4425.

Remember that when registering for a Crim event, you can make a designation or donation to Area 13 Special Olympics at the same time. This is an easy way to support local programs that benefit many of GISD's students.

Business Certification Achieved

Jamie Kendall, Business Services, recently met the requirements for certification under the Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO) Voluntary Certification Program and has earned the Business Office Manager certification. Jamie's accomplishment reflects a high degree of academic and professional preparation established by the MSBO Board of Directors through its Professional Development Committee. Congratulations on this accomplishment, Jamie!



Congratulations Graduates!

Ashley Wisniewski, daughter of Laura Hawks, Day Treatment, recently graduated magna cum laude from Grand Blanc High School. Ashley will be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall. Best wishes, Ashley!

Justin Mattiuzzo, son of Rhonda Mattiuzzo, ECPS, graduated from Carman-Ainsworth High School with honors on June 4, 2009. Justin will be attending UM-Flint and Mott Community College in the fall. Congratulations, Justin!

Mike Hubbard, son of Theresa Kelly, SESC-N, and husband Mike, recently graduated with high honors from Grand Blanc High School. Congratulations, Mike!

Aryonna ReNee Watkins, granddaughter of Vickie Buckley, Transportation Services, graduated from kindergarten at Potter Community School on June 10, 2009. Congratulations, Aryonna!

Dean Sensabaugh, TMS, graduated on June 24 from the Baker College Center for Graduate Studies earning a Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in Leadership Studies. Dean, who maintained a 4.0 GPA, reported that his achievement would not be possible without the constant support and understanding supplied by his wonderful wife, Janet. Congratulations, Dean!

Leave of Absence Approved

A leave of absence was considered and approved for Nicole L. Heavilin, Early Childhood Programs and Services.

Resignations Accepted

Resignations for the purpose of retirement were accepted from: Dianne A. Dunchock, SESC-N; June D. Downey, HSNS; Margaret J. Smithwick, Transition Center; and Kenneth W. Duncan, Transportation Services. A resignation was also accepted from Michelle C. Stafford, EKLC, who declined a recall to an available 2009-2010 position following a board-approved leave of absence in 2008-2009.



July Birthdays

1	Lynn Bengelink	EKLC
1	Susan Boegner	Transportation
1	Carol Rumminger	Project CHOICE
1	Karen Seeley	EKLC
2	Andrea Camero	Project CHOICE
2	Heather Sandrik	MMC
4	Gail Jahn	Transition Center
4	Melva Kaiser	Day Treatment
5	Paula Meredith-Faris	ECPS
5	Beverly Nelson	MCIC
5	Joan Lynn Olsen	Project CHOICE
5	Josephine Singleton	EKLC
6	Nell LePard	Project CHOICE
6	Michael Ritchie	Transportation
6	Crystal Sprague	Project CHOICE
6	Latisha Young-Bowie	Day Treatment
7	Doretha Bright	Transportation
7	Mary Jo Cardinal	Transportation
7	Mark Fisher	Day Treatment
7	James Horton	Transition Center
8	Melinda McGraw	Human Resources
9	Helen Dettore	MMC
10	Sheila Birdsall	Transportation
10	Charlotte Byrd	Transition Center
10	Linda Scheffler	SESC-N
10	Cynthia Vizcarra	HSNS
11	Shannon Reynolds	ECPS
12	June Downey	HSNS
12	Cynthia Harris	Transition Center
12	Kim Warren	HSNS
13	Scott Delong	Transportation
13	Lisa Iordanou	SESC-N
13	Jamie McClelland	Transportation
14	Mathew Krantz	Transportation
14	Rose Lawson	HSNS
14	Bonnie Massoud	EKLC
14	Sharon Reinhart	EKLC
14	Lillian Yuncker	MCIC
15	Allen Ford	Transportation
15	Russell St. Onge	TMS
16	Ana Frazee	Business Services
16	Bonnie Mariucci	HSNS
18	Angela Ethridge-Jones	ECPS
18	Holly Martin	Transportation
18	Luann Murray	Education & Learning

18	Simone Thomas	Transportation
19	Tawana Bingham	Project CHOICE
20	Sheri Mykietiuk	Transition Center
20	Barbara Stewart	Business Services
21	Melinda Dewyse	Transportation
21	Susan Hayes	Transportation
21	Anthony Lewis	MCIC
22	Michelle Dowdall	TMS
22	Treasa Gill	Transportation
22	Diane Hamilton	MCIC
22	Sara Rainwater	Education & Learning
22	Cherie Snyder	SESC-N
22	Diane Wright	TMS
24	Michael Riley	MCIC
24	Tracee Shaw	Transportation
25	Catherine Durkin	MCIC
25	Wendy Eaglen	Project CHOICE
25	Giuseppe Finateri	Project CHOICE
25	Tonia Jennings	EKLC
26	Vickie Buckley	Transportation
26	Traci Kita	SESC-N
26	Stefanie O'Donnell	EKLC
26	Sharon Royce	Transportation
26	Denise Trantham	MCIC
27	Demetrius Davis	Transportation
27	Denise Dorland	ECPS
27	Robert Gazso	Transition Center
27	Susan Gilliam	TMS
27	Donald Herrington	Transportation
29	Suzanne Reed	Transportation
29	Charles Richards	MCIC
29	Brenda Wilson	ECPS
30	Jason Bentley	Education & Learning
30	Jamie Johnson	MMC
30	Randee Pieper	Project CHOICE
30	Amandajane Schade	GEC
30	Jenny Thompson	MCIC
31	Brooke Emerson	ECPS

August Birthdays

1	Kelli Horner	Project CHOICE
2	Kim Putney	Transition Center
2	Kimberly Slezsak	HSNS
3	Susan Fulton	Project CHOICE
3	Erin Lamb	HSNS
3	Andrea Peters	SESC-N
4	Lori Hitchcock	TMS
6	Susan Hall	Transportation
6	Denise Wilder	MCIC



Genesee Intermediate
School District
2413 West Maple Avenue
Flint, Michigan 48507-3493
Phone: (810) 591-4400
TTY: (810) 591-4545
www.geneseeisd.org



GISD Jobs

The Human Resources and Operations department at Genesee Intermediate School District is accepting applications for numerous positions. **To view openings and complete an online application, visit the "employment" link at: www.geneseeisd.org.**

If you need additional information, please contact Cindy Workman at (810) 591-4404.

InnerViews Submissions

InnerViews is published for the staff of Genesee Intermediate School District with additional distribution to community partners and friends.

Please submit articles and information to Eileen Jackson, Communications and Development, by mail, fax at (810) 591-7570 or email: ejackson@geneseeisd.org. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

Articles will be reviewed for information that is appropriate for the publication, timeliness, as well as relevance to the InnerViews newsletter audience.

INNERViews

**A Publication of Genesee Intermediate
School District's Communications
and Development Department**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lawrence P. Ford..... President
Jerry G. Ragsdale..... Vice President
Dale A. Green Secretary
Paul D. Newman..... Treasurer
Cindy A. Gansen..... Trustee

Thomas Svitkovich, Ed.D., Superintendent
2413 West Maple Avenue, Flint, Michigan 48507-3493
(810) 591-4400 TTY (810) 591-4545

EDITOR

Jerry D. Johnson
Executive Director

TEXT PROCESSING AND DESIGN

Eileen Jackson

www.geneseeisd.org

