



Take Note...

March 23, 2005

Attendance and Routine Matters

GISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program Endorsed

April 26, 2005 Meeting Location Changed

Priority Children Representative Appointed

General Enrollment Information Received

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Paul D. Newman	President
Peggy J. Tortorice	Vice President
Robert E. Mark	Secretary
Jerry G. Ragsdale	Treasurer
Lawrence P. Ford	Trustee



GENESEE ISD
Thomas Svitkovich, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Paul Newman, president; Robert Mark, secretary; Jerry Ragsdale, treasurer; and Lawrence Ford, trustee, attended.

The Genesee County Superintendents Association took action at its retreat on March 3, 2005, to continue the Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2005-06 school year with a new 1% factor that will open options for students. The GISD board voted to endorse the Genesee Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for 2005-06.

As has been the tradition for many years, the superintendent and members of the Lakeville Board of Education have cordially extended an invitation to the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education to conduct its April 26, 2005 meeting in the Lakeville Community School District, followed by the annual end-of-maple-syrup-season pancake supper. The board approved changing the location of its April meeting to the Lakeville Middle School Library.

Dr. Thomas Svitkovich's one-year term on the Priority Children Board of Directors expires on March 31, 2005. At the March 22, 2005 meeting, the board designated Dr. Svitkovich as Genesee Intermediate School District's representative for the next one-year term that will run from April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006.

GISD's Business Services staff prepared general enrollment information, including live birth data and three- and five-year enrollment projections for the ISD. The enrollment information was generated from the Single Record Student Database (SRSD). In addition, specific trend data on adult education, special education and vocational education have been developed. As in the past, detailed enrollment projections for each local school district were developed and distributed to the superintendents for their use.

At the March 22, 2005, meeting, Cindy McCain, Executive Director, Business Services, reviewed the reports with the board. Overall, K-12 enrollment has stayed relatively stable since 1995. The 2004 enrollment was at 84,672. During the same period, GISD special education enrollment grew by 20%, and LEA special education enrollment grew by 16%. Career Technical Education has grown over the last five years in particular, reaching a total of 8,623 participating students. The board received the reports.

To keep you informed of actions and information from the GISD Board of Education Meeting.
Questions? Call Communications and Development, 591-4541

Passenger School Bus Bids Approved

Specialized Transportation Consortium

GISD currently provides specialized transportation services for 20 districts that are members of the Specialized Transportation Consortium. When the transportation consortium was formed, older buses were purchased from participating school districts; and each year GISD upgrades the fleet with the replacement of the older buses. This year GISD plans to purchase 13 buses.

Specifications for school passenger buses were developed, and advertisements for bids were mailed to four vendors on February 8, 2005. The bid specifications were for 72-passenger buses complete with required special equipment. Bids were received from Capital City Bus Sales of Lansing and Hoekstra Transportation of Troy, and both met the bid specifications.

The Building & Grounds Committee met prior to the March 22 board meeting to review the bids and the current bus inventory. As a result of that meeting, the committee recommended that GISD award the bid for the purchase of thirteen (13) 72-passenger International buses from Capital City Bus Sales of Lansing based on their low bid of \$79,171 per bus for a total of \$1,029,223. The board approved the purchase.

GASC Transportation Consortium

On August 10, 2004, the board approved the development of the GASC Transportation Consortium for 12 member districts to consolidate the transportation of students to and from the GASC Technology Center. On February 4, 2005, the consortium members met to receive an update on the cost of the consortium and the projected savings for the 2004-05 school year. GISD is pleased to report a projected savings of \$225,000 in transportation costs for the first year. As a result, all current members have indicated that they will continue their participation in the consortium for future school years.

On August 24, 2004, the board approved a lease/purchase agreement for two new 2003, 84-passenger buses from Hoekstra Transportation to be used by the GASC Transportation Consortium. In December, the board approved the purchase of these two buses. GISD also leased older buses from the consortium members, but some of these buses must be returned, as they are needed in local districts next school year. On February 1, 2005, specifications were mailed to four vendors for 89- or 90-passenger transit school buses for the GASC Transportation Consortium. All bidders quoted the cost of 90-passenger buses and met the specifications. Bids were received from Capital City Bus Sales of Lansing, Hoekstra Transportation of Troy and Cardinal Bus Sales of Lima, Ohio.

The Building & Grounds Committee met prior to the March 22 board meeting to review the bids. As a result of that meeting, the committee recommended that GISD award the bid for the purchase of six (6) 90-passenger International transit buses with two-way radios installed to Capital City Bus Sales of Lansing based on their low bid of \$69,273 per bus for a total of \$415,638. The board approved the purchase.

VSA arts of Michigan Board of Directors selected Judith K. Purdy, principal of GISD's Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center, as their 2005 Michigan Educator of the Year. Judy will be honored at a reception/dinner and awards ceremony at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival on May 13, 2005. Judy was nominated by MCIC staff members Susan O'Brien, Carolyn Vierkorn-Houtaling and Randee Pieper. They were joined by Lora Frankel, executive director, VSA arts of Michigan, and Sam Huff, Genesee County VSA arts, to present the award to Judy.

The board joined the staff and VSA arts of Michigan in honoring Judy Purdy.

VSA arts of Michigan "Educator of the Year" Award Presented

National Civic Star Award 2005 Received

On Saturday, February 19, 2005, at the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) Conference general session, the Genesee Intermediate School District was recognized as one of 28 school districts nationwide to receive a National Civic Star Award. SKIP to a Great Start, providing birth to five programs for students and parents, was GISD's winning program. GISD is joined by 15 community agencies and our 21 constituent districts in receiving this recognition. Following the general session, GISD was honored at an awards ceremony during which a plaque recognizing the Genesee Intermediate School District "as a leader among the nation's best educational systems in promoting academic achievement through school and community partnerships" was received. GISD is also the first district in Michigan to receive a National Civic Star Award; and as a result, Superintendent Tom Svitkovich accepted a special plaque on behalf of the Michigan Association of School Administrators, recognizing GISD as the first recipient of this prestigious award in Michigan.

An article in MASA's *Fortnighter* publication stated, "GISD Superintendent Dr. Thomas Svitkovich and his team initiated the SKIP to a Great Start project in 2000 and have continued to develop it into a far-reaching program open to all parents of children from birth to kindergarten age. With the cooperation of community agencies, Genesee ISD aims to enhance readiness for school, decrease enrollment in special education, enhance family stability and improve the quality of child care available in the community."

SKIP to a Great Start is consistent with the GISD Teaching, Learning and Service Plan, focusing on goals to improve student achievement and develop successful partnerships and collaborations that focus on student achievement. On behalf of GISD staff, Superintendent Dr. Thomas Svitkovich extended sincerest thanks to members of the GISD Board of Education for their ongoing support of this important program. Congratulations were also extended to all partners and staff as recipients of this national recognition for outstanding partnership programs. As a way to recognize GISD's SKIP to a Great Start staff and the many community partners for their work in making SKIP to a Great Start a very successful program for the entire school community, the award was presented to Gloria Bourdon, Director, Health, Safety and Nutrition Services.

The National Civic Star Award presented to GISD is the third national award received by the school district in the last six years. Previously, GISD received two national awards for the Student Mock Election, sponsored by GISD and Michigan Government Television.

Summer Programs Approved

For many years, GISD has successfully operated a summer recreational day camp program at the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center. The program has provided activities for moderately cognitive impaired and autistic impaired students without an extended program like the one at the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center. The program for the 2005 summer will begin on July 12 and end on August 11, 2005. The program will run three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staffing will be similar to the staffing configuration of the past, which includes group leaders, camp coordinators and necessary support staff. The anticipated number of group leaders for AI and MoCI is 50 plus and will be determined by student enrollment. Transportation is provided to students whose resident district participates in GISD transportation services. Transportation for all other resident districts is at the discretion of the district. As in the past, a hot lunch program will be available through the Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools Food Service.

In January 2005, 160 surveys were sent to Early Childhood Programs and Services families asking if they were interested in a summer enrichment program. One hundred twelve (112) surveys were returned, and 98 (88.4%)

of the families indicated an interest in a summer enrichment program. A 2005 summer enrichment program for Early Childhood Programs and Services students, ages 3-7 years, was proposed to the GISD board at the March 22 meeting. The program will run three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) from 8:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and begin on July 12 and end on August 11, 2005. Staffing will be similar to the staffing configuration for the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center summer program, with 10-18 group leaders, two camp coordinators and necessary support staff. The anticipated number of group leaders will be determined by student enrollment. Transportation will be provided to students whose resident district participates in GISD transportation services. Transportation for all other resident districts will be at the discretion of the district. Daily snacks will be provided by the families.

In addition to the program for 3-7 year old students, a program for Early On families with children birth to 36 months will be offered. This program will be available one day per week up to two hours and include music, literacy, gross motor, sensory and fine motor activities. This program will be available through the district's Early On grant and available for all Early On families within Genesee County.

The board approved the proposed summer programs.

On behalf of several GISD programs, the board accepted numerous donations from parents, grandparents and current/former GISD staff members. Donations included: cash designated for use by various classrooms at the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center (\$135.00 total); a piano, Pony Walker and refrigerator for use at Early Childhood Programs and Services (\$2,350 total value); books and flowers to the Office of Education and Learning for use at the GISD spelling bee (\$255.00 total value).

Resignation for the purpose of retirement was accepted from Sherry L. Bell, Paraprofessional, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center.

Donations Accepted

Resignation Accepted

Visit GISD's web site at:
www.geneseeisd.org

This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meeting — March 22, 2005.



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