



Take Note...

November 30, 2005

Attendance and Routine Matters

GISD Board of Education Member Appointed

Peggy Tortorice, president; Paul Newman, vice president; Lawrence Ford, secretary; and Jerry Ragsdale, treasurer, attended.

As a result of the resignation of trustee Robert Mark, the State Board of Education was given notice of the vacancy in accordance with the revised school code, and a public notice of vacancy and application process was posted, pursuant to board policy. The GISD Board of Education must act within 30 days of a board vacancy to fill the position, or the authority to fill the vacancy reverts to the State Board of Education. Eight applications were received by the November 4 deadline, and public interviews of all candidates were held on November 21, 2005.

At the November 22, 2005 meeting, after reviewing the credentials of the applicants and public discussion of the qualifications of the candidates, the board unanimously appointed Dale A. Green to fill the vacancy created by Robert Mark's resignation. Mr. Green is the Facilities Area Manager for General Motors Corporation. He holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Michigan-Flint and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Science and Engineering from West Point U.S. Military Academy.

Mr. Green currently serves as trustee on the Davison Community Schools Board of Education. During his fourteen years of service in Davison, he has held the offices of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Green has achieved the Michigan Association of School Boards Master Platinum Award. This distinction has only been achieved by 1% of boards of education members in the State of Michigan.

On Saturday, October 29, 2005, the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education received a 2005 MASB Board Visionary Leadership Award. This year, only two school districts in the state received this prestigious award. The Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education was the first intermediate school district in the state to be recognized with this leadership award. The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) established six award eligibility criteria for intermediate school district boards of education to meet in order to be considered for

Continued on next page.

Board Visionary Leadership Award Accepted

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Peggy J. Tortorice	President
Paul D. Newman	Vice President
Lawrence P. Ford	Secretary
Jerry G. Ragsdale	Treasurer
Dale A. Green	Trustee



GENESEE ISD
Thomas Svitkovich, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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

GenNET Tenth Anniversary Update Received

Your Child Coalition Tribute Received

the Board Visionary Leadership Award. The nomination criteria included Leadership for Student Achievement, Client Satisfaction and Service Usage, Resource Efficiency, Board Development/Leadership Effectiveness, Board Conduct, Operations and Ethics, as well as Communication and Community Relations.

An extensive portfolio was submitted which included the GISD Teaching, Learning and Service Plan, Customer Satisfaction Survey, Accountability Study, Services for You, a summary of professional development, publications, budget hearing materials, board evaluation instruments, selected policy sections and other public relations materials. An extensive narrative was also included, describing the board's leadership in relationship to the successful operation of the Genesee Intermediate School District.

The Genesee County school community benefits tremendously from the dedication, commitment and leadership of the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education. On behalf of GISD staff and the school community, the administration saluted the board of education and joined MASB in recognizing their leadership as an intermediate school district board of education. Board members acknowledged the work of the Communications and Development staff and Executive Director Jerry Johnson for their excellent job in preparing the materials for consideration by MASB.

GenNET is celebrating its Tenth Anniversary this year. Under the leadership of the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education, GenNET has built 385 miles of fiber optic cable which provides a robust voice, video and data network that connects 192 constituent district school buildings and serves 84,000 students. GISD Assistant Superintendent Beverly Knox-Pipes provided an update of current GenNET services and an overview of future plans for GenNET III. During the last ten years, GenNET Phase I and Phase II were completed. Some of the highlights include the expansion of instructional television course offerings and online courses, GenNET's connectivity to surrounding regional service agencies and the most recent connection to Genesee County's higher education network (FANET). Ms. Knox-Pipes discussed cost savings, staff development and planned enhancements, and highlighted the increased technology services for Genesee County students and staff.

The GISD board of education extended its sincerest thanks to Ms. Knox-Pipes and her staff for the great work that has been accomplished in building the countywide fiber optic network.

The Genesee Intermediate School District recently received a certificate of appreciation from the Your Child Coalition. GISD is a member of the coalition of 35 entities focusing on quality education for all of Michigan's children. Notable institutions such as the Detroit News, Kent ISD, Wayne RESA, MEA and the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce are members. GISD was invited to become a member of the coalition as a result its accountability study initiative.

GISD's plan, as a member of the Your Child Coalition, is to support forums in the community and help establish lines of communication to build local capacity to create a better educational system. GISD's goal is also to help educators become more aware of community perceptions, misconceptions, ideas and suggestions.

The GISD board proudly accepted the tribute and will continue to endorse GISD's participation in this endeavor.

GASC Technology Center Presentation Received

At the November 22, 2005 meeting, GASC Technology Center Principal Doug Weir and School and Business Liaison Beverly Brown presented a report describing the GASC Technology Center. They reported that the GASC technology programs have changed dramatically and will continue to change to meet the needs of Genesee County's school community. As an example, the GASC Technology Center is involved in sharing its programs with constituent districts using the GenNET instructional television system. Enrollments have been over allocation for many districts over the past years, indicating increased interest in vocational-technical programming. They also reported that annual survey responses indicate that students are well satisfied with their career-technical experience, and the vast majority are pursuing further education in the postsecondary system to achieve their career goals.

Mr. Newman, Vice President, GISD Board of Education and Dr. Thomas Svitkovich, Superintendent, both serve on the GASC Technology Center Administrative Council, along with representatives of the 21 constituent districts, Mott Community College and the Mott Foundation.

The board received the report and thanked both Mr. Weir and Ms. Brown for an excellent presentation. A similar report may be made to constituent district boards of education at the request of the local board.

2004-2005 Audit Report Received

For the past 41 years, the GISD has utilized the firm of Lewis & Knopf, Certified Public Accountants, to conduct the audit for the district's numerous funds. At the November 8, 2005 board meeting, Mr. Kim Lindsay, CPA and lead auditor, was present to review the 2004-05 audit with the board and answer questions. The district received a clean audit opinion, the highest level of assurance possible for the district's financial statements. With increasing regulations and state requirements, each year is a little more challenging. For the first time, revenue exceeded \$100 million. The General Fund, Special Education Fund and Career Technical Education Fund still remain very healthy, but the General Fund revenue stream is the most uncertain. Transfers to local districts comprised 41% of the total expenditures. With federal grants exceeding \$30 million, a full-time person will be required to oversee compliance. The district remains in a strong financial condition. The Business Services staff members were commended for their attention to quality financial management, and budget administrators were acknowledged for an excellent job managing their budgets. The GISD board accepted the audit report and extended its appreciation to Lewis & Knopf for the continued positive working relationship that GISD has with the firm.

Business Services Contract with Westwood Heights Schools Approved

Over the last few months, the GISD Board of Education has been apprised of the shared business services requests from local districts. The board authorized the superintendent to continue to take the necessary actions to address the requests as relationships are defined. The defined services are customized based on the request of the local district.

Business Services worked with the Thrun Law Firm, P.C., on a standard contract, including options for defining the specific details of customized services and payments. Westwood Heights Schools Superintendent Jerri Lynn Williams worked with Business Services to develop a concept for GISD to provide the management of the Westwood Heights Schools business office. At its November 2, 2005 meeting, the Westwood Heights Board of Education approved the contract.

At the November 8, 2005 meeting, the GISD board approved the contract for GISD to manage the business office of the Westwood Heights School District.

Student Discipline

A Mott Middle College student was expelled for violation of the school's "Student Code of Conduct" and Michigan State law.

Donations Accepted

Generous donations to the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center and the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center were received by the board. The donations were given by parents, staff, church members and a community organization.

Employee Hired

At the November 22, 2005 meeting, the board approved the hiring of Jessica A. McCallum, School Social Worker, Special Education Services.

Leaves of Absence Approved

Leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Julie H. Cooper, Physical Therapist, Special Education Services; Christine M. Emmendorfer, Bus Driver, Transportation Services; Michelle L. Grifka, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Project CHOICE Classroom, Grand Blanc-Reid Elementary; Jill A. McCarthy, Bus Driver, Transportation Services; Dalberta McField, Transportation Aide, Transportation Services; and Jeanette Miller, Teacher, Early Childhood Special Education, Project CHOICE Classroom, Swartz Creek-Mary Crapo Building.

Resignations Accepted

Resignations for the purpose of retirement were accepted from: Thomas B. Princinsky, Deputy Superintendent, Human Resources and Operations; and Janet L. Beardslee, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Project CHOICE Classroom, Flint-Northern High School.

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

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meetings—Nov. 8 and 22, 2005.



GENESEE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
2413 West Maple Avenue
Flint, Michigan 48507-3493