



Take Note...

May 25, 2006

Attendance and Routine Matters

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

Honor Board Award and Standard of Excellence Award Accepted

At the May 9, 2006 meeting, the GISD Board of Education proudly accepted the Honor Board Award and Standard of Excellence Award, presented by the Michigan Association of School Boards.

These prestigious awards have been earned by the GISD Board of Education for their participation in the MASB Certified Board Member Awards program and leadership at the local, state and national levels. The Honor Board Award is given to boards when all board members achieve certification status. The Standard of Excellence Award is given to boards when all board members have received the Award of Merit. Only 11 boards of education in our state have earned the Standard of Excellence Award, and only 19 boards of education have received an Honor Board Member Award.

Purchase of Mat Platform Tables Approved

On April 11, 2006, the Genesee Intermediate School District submitted a request for bids for the purchase of ten (10) Performa™ Power Mat Platforms with rails to meet the needs of our students at the Marion Crouse Instructional Center. The specifications were sent to seven (7) medical equipment vendors. On May 2, 2006, the district received two (2) responses.

Prior to the May 9, 2006 meeting, the Buildings and Grounds Committee met to review the bids. Based on the review of bids and recommendations by the Building and Grounds Committee, the board approved the purchase of ten (10) Performa™ Power Mat Platforms with rails from Sammons Preston Rolyan, based on their low bid of \$42,520.00.

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.

Specialized Transportation Consortium Bus Purchase Approved

During the 1997-1998 school year, the district formed the Specialized Transportation Consortium. GISD currently provides specialized transportation services for 21 local districts. This year, GISD is transporting over 1,100 special needs students on 80 bus routes, operating out of ten locations. In the beginning, the consortium purchased older buses from participating school districts; and each year has upgraded the fleet to replace the older buses. This year, the consortium plans to purchase seven (7) buses.

The Building and Grounds Committee met prior to the May 9, 2006 board meeting to review the requested bids, the current bus inventory and a five-year plan for replacing buses in the future. Based upon the review of bids and the recommendation made by the Building and Grounds Committee, the board voted to award the bid to purchase seven (7), 72-passenger buses with air conditioners, two-way radios, lifts to accommodate wheelchairs and track systems to tie down wheelchairs to Capital City Bus Sales of Lansing based on their low bid of \$84,949 per bus for a total cost of \$591,983.

Property Transfer Hearing Conducted

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jarvis, who are residents of Lapeer Community Schools, submitted a request to transfer their property to the Goodrich Area Schools. GISD Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich informed both superintendents of the request, and they discussed the issue with their respective boards of education. Further, Superintendent Svitkovich talked with Mr. Joe Keena, superintendent of the Lapeer Intermediate School District about the request and the property transfer process. Mr. Keena stated that the Lapeer Board would prefer to travel to the Genesee Intermediate School District to hold the property transfer hearing.

At the May 9, 2006 meeting, the GISD board made the recommendation that a property transfer hearing to consider the request of Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis to transfer property from the Lapeer Community Schools to the Goodrich Community Schools be held Monday, May 22, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. After review and consideration at that meeting, the property transfer request was denied.

GISD Facilities Approved for Wireless Genesee Initiative

At its April 25, 2006 meeting, the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education approved support of the Wireless Genesee initiative to provide no-cost Internet access for all Genesee County residents, businesses and organizations. At that meeting, Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich was authorized to designate GISD facilities as antenna locations for Wireless Genesee.

Subsequently, Superintendent Svitkovich presented a recommended list of GISD facilities as potential sites for antenna locations for Wireless Genesee, along with conditions for facility use consistent with GISD policy and Michigan law. At its May 23, 2006 meeting, the board approved the list of potential sites to be offered to the Wireless Genesee initiative.

Automation Alley Membership Approved

Genesee Intermediate School District has been offered a one-year free membership to join the 620 Automation Alley businesses, governments and educational institutions dedicated to the development and promotion of a first-class technology cluster in Southeast Michigan. Such a formal relationship would enhance numerous initiatives and activities in which GISD is already involved.

This partnership would provide GISD access to/participation in current and prospective grants, event postings, IT Training consortium, member directory, press release system, recruitment assistance, RFP system and scholarship programs through Baker College, Kettering University, Michigan Jewish University, Northwood University, Oakland Community College and Walsh College.

Membership would also allow GISD to assess the value of an ongoing partnership at the cost of \$500 per year. Numerous Genesee County organizations are currently members in this partnership. It makes good business sense to further align GISD with a myriad of technology and economic efforts emerging between Genesee and Oakland counties, along the I-75 corridor. At the May 23, 2006 meeting, the GISD board authorized acceptance of the one-year membership. Based on the perceived value of the membership, board approval will be sought for subsequent annual memberships.

50th Flint Olympian Games

Preparations are underway for the celebration of the 50th Annual Flint Olympian Games. The 50th celebration is being dedicated to the memory and contributions of C.S. and Ruth Mott, as well as Frank and Marie Manley. Their insight created this nationally renowned program. GISD has been asked to support the participation of students in this program and join the long list of community leaders who are working to make this program a reality. Mr. Paul Newman, GISD Board Vice President, is one of these leaders working to make the 50th Olympian Games a huge success. The games are made possible through the work of hundreds of volunteers sponsoring agencies, businesses and civic organizations. At the May 23, 2006 meeting, the board authorized support of the program at the "gold level" at a cost of \$250.00.

GISD Excellence in Educational Leadership Award Established

Over the past several months, the GISD board has discussed ways to recognize educational leaders in the Genesee County community who have provided support for GISD programs, activities and initiatives. Out of those discussions came suggestions that the award: be presented by the GISD board annually; be given at the discretion of the board; be given as recognition of leadership and support for GISD programs; and the award be titled "*Genesee Intermediate School District Excellence in Educational Leadership Award*." Additionally, it was suggested that a board/staff committee prepare a recommendation to the entire board selecting the recipient(s). At the May 23, 2006 meeting, the GISD board authorized Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich continue the process to implement this annual award.

Organizational Meeting Scheduled

Consistent with Michigan School Law and GISD policies, “the Board of Education shall organize annually on or before the fourth Monday in July at a meeting called for that purpose.” At the May 23, 2006 meeting, the board scheduled Wednesday, July 19, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. as the date for the GISD Board of Education organizational meeting.

Donations Accepted

Generous donations to the Davis Education Center Staff Appreciation event; GISD Hurricane Katrina – Victim Support; Parent Advisory Committee Library; Health, Safety and Nutrition Services; Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center and Early Childhood Programs and Services were received by the board. The donations were given by numerous businesses in Genesee County, as well as GISD staff, family and friends.

Employee Hired

At the May 9, 2006 meeting, the board approved the hiring of Alicia J. Jeffery as Teacher of the Speech and Language Impaired at the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center.

Resignations Accepted

Resignations for the purpose of retirement were accepted from Betty M. Thorson, Transportation Aide, Specialized Transportation Services; and Claudia J. Mercier, Bus Driver, Transportation Services.

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

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meetings – May 9 and 23, 2006.



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