



Take Note...

June 28, 2006

Attendance

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

Amendment #2 to the 2005-06 Budget Approved

At the June 13 meeting, GISD's Business Office presented 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 2005-06 school year for the delivery of the *GISD Teaching, Learning and Service Plan*, as adopted by the board of education. Adjustments were made within the funds to account for items such as, but not limited to, prorations, 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 copier/printer project and energy conservation.

The board approved Amendment #2 to the 2005-06 budgets 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. GISD conducted its budget hearing at the June 13, 2006 board meeting. Notice of the public hearing was published in the *Flint Journal* on June 6, 2006. A truth-in-taxation hearing was not required, as the district held the budget hearing in accordance with Public Act 43 of 1963.

2006-07 Budget Adopted

At its June 13 meeting, the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education approved the 2006-07 GISD budget. 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 16, 2006, and during the time that local districts were considering the recommended budgets for approval.

Most recently, GISD received information that adjusts revenues and expenditures in certain funds. The budget, as endorsed by budget representatives at the hearing on March 16 and approved by every constituent district board of education, was \$113,874,276. The budget approved on June 13 by the GISD Board of Education was \$115,091,156. Adjustments were made due to grants that GISD has received since the March date, portions of grants that will be deferred to 2006-07 and updated state aid adjustments. Given these changes, the board is confident it is able to maintain fund balances within acceptable levels and continue the financial support promised to constituent districts at the March hearing. However, GISD is planning to use \$8,317,450 of fund equity to guarantee this support.

As the budget was reviewed for final adoption on June 13, GISD's administrative staff

(Continued on next page)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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



GENESEE ISD
Thomas Svitkovich, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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Board Policy Revisions Adopted

reported that over 90% of GISD's comprehensive budget is linked to direct student support services for its constituent districts. Further, 92% of GISD's personnel costs are also linked to direct student support services in your districts. As all districts continue to move through difficult financial times, GISD is using its fund equity to maintain support of local districts in addition to maintaining GISD financial stability.

At the June 13, 2006 meeting, the board approved a first reading of board policy revision recommendations from NEOLA's policy update service to keep the district abreast of changes and additions needed for legal compliance and to maintain quality and usefulness of the board policies. At the June 27 meeting, the board held a second reading and approved the recommended policy changes. The revised policies will now become part of GISD's electronic policy manual accessible through the GISD website at: www.geneseeisid.org.

Boiler Replacement at SECC-North Approved

On May 25, 2004, the board approved a long-range capital improvement plan for the district. The plan included the replacement of the boiler at Special Education Services Center-North during the summer of 2006. As a result, specifications were developed with the assistance of Clark Trombley Randers Consulting Engineers; and a request for bids was advertised in the newspaper and posted on the state website. Five bids were received for the project and all bidders met the specifications.

Following a review of the bids, representatives from Clark Trombley Randers recommended that GISD award the bid to William E. Walter, Inc., based on their low bid of \$63,778. At the June 13 meeting, the board approved the bid from William E. Walter, Inc.

Project CHOICE Update Received

The Genesee Intermediate School District recently received recognition from the Michigan Association of School Boards with an Education Excellence Award for Project CHOICE. Project CHOICE was originally developed in response to parent concerns regarding the need for more options for student placements in center programs.

At the June 13 meeting, Jan Russell, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education Services, presented the board with a Project CHOICE update. During the presentation, he noted that the program has grown from a single classroom in 1986 to over 30 classrooms today, involving 300 students and over 90 staff. He also mentioned the importance of the numerous disability awareness activities conducted by GISD staff every day in general education classrooms. The board accepted the update.

Calendar Recommendation Approved

On October 11, 2005, the board of education approved three-year contract extensions for the Genesee Intermediate Education Association (GIEA) and the Genesee Intermediate Educational Support Personnel Association (GIESPA). Since that time, GISD received information from the Michigan Department of Education that indicates its calendars are in conflict with the ACT/Michigan Merit Examination makeup test dates scheduled for the last week in March each year, the same time as spring recess. As a result, the Genesee County Negotiators and the Genesee County Superintendents Association recommended changing the common school calendar spring recess dates so that they do not conflict with the test dates.

Both bargaining units concurred with the recommendations to move spring recess to the traditional Easter recess, the Friday before Easter Sunday (Good Friday) and the week following Easter Sunday. In 2007-08, Easter Recess would be the Friday before Easter Sunday, March 21, 2008, and the week of March 31 through April 4, 2008. This allows for Mott Middle College students to be in school the full week of March 24, 2008, to take the makeup tests if needed. In 2008-09 and thereafter, GISD will be on the traditional Easter recess, the Friday before Easter Sunday (Good Friday) and the week following Easter Sunday.

At the June 27 meeting, the board approved the revised calendars for 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

GASC Technology Center Budget Approved

The Flint Board approved its 2006-07 budget, along with the GASC Technology Center budget, on Wednesday, June 21, 2006. Flint Community Schools anticipate that the Genesee Intermediate School District will provide \$10,299,006 derived from 90% collection of .9628 mill levied in all school districts. The necessary balance must come from earmarked state revenue, miscellaneous sources and fund balances. Total revenue in 2006-07 is projected at \$12,461,101, whereas total expenditures are appropriated at \$12,369,315. The undesignated fund balance for the GASC Technology Center after the 2006-07 school year is expected to be \$719,668.

Upon review at the June 27 meeting, the GISD Board of Education approved the GASC Technology Center 2006-07 budget.

Health Reimbursement Arrangement Adopted

On April 25, 2006, the board of education approved one-year contract extensions for administrators and salary schedules for supervisory staff. Included with the approval was a provision whereby administrators and supervisors would have the opportunity to enroll in health insurance coverage under the Flexible Blue Plan 2 (PPO) instead of MESSA Super Care I. Since that time, Cindy McCain, Executive Director for Finance, has been working with Attorney Janet Lanyon of Dean & Fulkerson, P.C., to ensure compliance with the Internal Revenue Code for offering a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) to reimburse co-payments, deductibles, co-insurance and prescription drug expenses which are not covered by the Flexible Blue Plan 2 (PPO), up to a maximum of \$1,250 for single coverage and \$2,500 for two-party and family coverage. Wells Fargo Health Benefit Services will be the third party administrator for the HRA handling the payment of claims for reimbursement made to the HRA.

Based upon the review and recommendations of the Personnel Committee, the board approved the arrangement and authorized the Executive Director for Finance to take the actions necessary to implement the HRA for participating administrators and supervisory staff.

Business Services Contract with Westwood Heights 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 the relationships are defined. The services are customized based on the request of the local district.

Business Services worked with the Thrun Law Firm, P.C., to develop a standard contract, including options for defining the specific details of customized services and payments in the attachments. On November 8, 2005, the GISD Board of Education approved a contract for GISD to manage the business office of the Westwood Heights School District for the remainder of the 2005-06 school year. Superintendent Jerri Lynn Williams worked with Business Services to develop a contract for the 2006-07 school year. This contract will continue in full force until such time that the parties terminate the agreement per the conditions described in the agreement. A continuing contract was submitted to Westwood Heights, and Superintendent Williams returned the signed contract.

At the June 27 meeting, the board approved continuing the contract for GISD to provide payroll services, human resources and online attendance for the Westwood Heights School District.

Shared Technical Services with Beecher Approved

Over the last several months, Beecher Superintendent Forrest Gunderson, GISD Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich and GISD Technology and Media Services staff have discussed the possibility of forming a partnership with the Beecher Community Schools to provide technical support for all of Beecher's technology. Details have been considered and a formalized agreement was presented to the GISD board for consideration. At the June 7, 2006 meeting of the Beecher Board of Education, the agreement was approved by the Beecher board.

At the June 27 meeting, the GISD board approved the agreement and authorized the superintendent to employ necessary staff and fully define the working relationship with Beecher Community Schools as outlined in the agreement.

This is a new concept developed by Technology and Media Services. It is patterned after GISD's very successful Shared Business Services program. It is anticipated that GISD will expand this service over the next months to several other constituent districts. At the current time, GISD staff is discussing the concept with five other districts and hope to be able to bring additional agreements to the board for approval.

Genesee County Transportation Millage Endorsed

Mr. Michael Zelle, President of the Disability Network, has asked the GISD Board of Education to support the renewal of the upcoming public transportation millage. GISD students in all of our programs benefit from MTA services. The community is also a direct recipient of these special services which allow residents to obtain transportation for jobs, medical appointments, school attendance, family visits and many other important activities. These services are extremely important to our community.

At the June 27 meeting, the board approved support for the renewal of the transportation millage and authorized completion of the endorsement authorization form.

Membership in GFEC Approved

The Greater Flint Educational Consortium has been in place in Genesee County for over 20 years. Membership includes the CEOs of the University of Michigan-Flint, Baker College, Mott Community College, Kettering University, Genesee Intermediate School District, Flint Community Schools and two K-12 superintendents. Dr. Robert Burek,

(Continued on next page)

Strategic Planning Report Accepted

Donations Accepted

Employee Hired

Leave of Absence Approved

Resignation Accepted

former superintendent of Fenton Area Public Schools, serves as the executive director. The mission of the organization is fulfilled by many unique projects. The GFEC sponsors the following programs which are acknowledged for their impact on student learning and performance: K-16 Writing Committee, K-16 Math Committee, Beyond High School Program, Senior Year in Crisis, Administrative Leadership Academy, Institute for Beginning Administrators, New Superintendent Cohort Group and the High School Exit Survey.

At the June 27 meeting, the board voted to continue its active support of the Greater Flint Educational Consortium and approved the membership fee of \$8,607 for the 2005-06 school year. In addition to the annual dues, which have not increased for several years, GISD also provides in-kind support, including technology, as well as secretarial and office support.

At the June 27 meeting, GISD Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich presented a brief report outlining GISD staff involvement in the Montrose Community Schools strategic planning process. He reported that GISD Advisory Council members facilitated the process in Montrose. As a result, the GISD team received an outstanding evaluation from the participants.

Generous donations to the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center; Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; Early Childhood Programs and Services and the Special Education Services Center were received by the board. The donations were given by staff, family and friends.

At the June 13, 2006 meeting, the board approved the hiring of Allison G. Emmerling, as an Occupational Therapist for Special Education Services.

A leave of absence was considered and approved for Lisa M. Hocutt, Paraprofessional, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center, Project CHOICE, Otisville Elementary.

A resignation for the purpose of retirement was accepted from Beverly A. Kelly, Teacher of the Emotionally Impaired, Davison Day Treatment Program.

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

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meetings — June 13 and 27, 2006.



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