



# Take Note...

**August 26, 2005**

## **Attendance and Routine Matters**

### **Paul Newman Recognized**

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

Since July 1, 1999, Mr. Paul Newman has served the Genesee Intermediate School District as president of the board of education. During that time period, the district has changed dramatically. New programs have been introduced and expanded. Examples include services to constituents in the areas of transportation; technology; support for student instruction; special education; career technical education; health, safety and nutrition services; communications and development; staff development and business services. Thanks to the leadership of Mr. Paul Newman as president and the board of education, many new cost efficiencies have also been implemented.

Communication with constituent district boards of education and the Genesee County Association of School Board Members (GCASBM) has increased during Mr. Newman's terms as president. Involvement with the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) and the National School Board Association (NSBA) has also increased. Thanks to Mr. Newman's vision, GISD has been recognized as an outstanding regional service agency. Many awards and honors have been bestowed on the board and the district as a tribute to the dedication, leadership and commitment of Paul Newman.

At the August 23 meeting, the board of education made a special presentation to Mr. Newman and recognized him for his leadership and dedication on behalf of Genesee County's school community as President of the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education.

GISD's Career Technical Education staff has worked to finalize details of a new contract for Educational Development Plan (EDP) software. Third Coast Software Development, Inc., the district's current vendor for EDP software, and Career Cruising formed a partnership to provide enhanced software with new career exploration and EDP features. Career Cruising will provide this improved software for the current annual licensing fee of \$20,000. The contract was reviewed by legal counsel, and all suggested changes were made. The software received outstanding reviews from the Superintendents Career Technical Education Committee, principals and counselors.

At the August 9, 2005 meeting, the GISD board voted to approve the contract for EDP software.

## **Educational Development Plan Software Contract Approved**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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

## **Board Committee Assignments Established**

Based on recommendations by Peggy Tortorice, president, the following board committee assignments were approved for the 2005-06 school year:

<b>Personnel/Salary/Labor Relations</b>	Lawrence Ford, Chairperson Paul Newman Robert Mark (alternate)
<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	Paul Newman, Chairperson Jerry Ragsdale Robert Mark (alternate)
<b>Policy</b>	Robert Mark, Chairperson Paul Newman Peggy Tortorice (alternate)
<b>Finance</b>	Jerry Ragsdale, Chairperson Lawrence Ford Paul Newman (alternate)
<b>MASB Liaison/LRN Member</b>	Peggy Tortorice Paul Newman (alternate)
<b>Liaison to Local Boards</b>	Lawrence Ford Robert Mark (alternate)
<b>GASC Technology Center Administrative Council</b>	Paul Newman Peggy Tortorice (alternate)
<b>Education Advisory Group (EAG)</b>	Lawrence Ford Paul Newman (alternate)
<b>Genesee County Educational Foundation</b>	Peggy Tortorice Jerry Ragsdale (alternate)
<b>Mott Middle College Advisory Committee</b>	Jerry Ragsdale Peggy Tortorice (alternate)
<b>Genesee/Shiawassee Workforce Development Board</b>	Lawrence Ford Paul Newman (alternate)
<b>Genesee County Association of School Board Members Executive Committee</b>	Paul Newman Jerry Ragsdale (alternate)

## **GCASBM Officers Ballot Cast**

The district received a communication from the Genesee County Association of School Board Members concerning the election of association officers and a ballot for the 2005-06 school year. At the August 9 meeting, the GISD board cast its official ballot for John Schafsnitz, Vice President; Loretta Bendall, Secretary; and Brian Simons, Treasurer.

## **MASB Ballot Cast for Lillian Mason**

The board cast its ballot for the election of one Region 5 Director on the MASB Board of Directors. This year, the Genesee Intermediate School District board unanimously cast a ballot for Lillian Mason, Grand Blanc Community Schools, for MASB Region 5 director.

## **MASB Voting Delegate and Alternate Appointed**

This year the Michigan Association of School Boards will hold its fall conference at the Lansing Center in Lansing on October 27-30, 2005. As a part of the conference, the MASB Delegate Assembly will meet and decide MASB's positions on a wide variety of issues affecting education. Michigan intermediate school districts are entitled to one voting delegate and one alternate. The board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Jerry Ragsdale as the voting delegate and Mr. Robert Mark as the alternate to the Delegate Assembly.

## **GASC Transportation Consortium Members Approved**

During the 2003-04 school year, the Genesee County Superintendents Association developed several cost-containment committees to explore cost-saving ideas and programs. One of the committees was charged with analyzing transportation to and from the GASC Technology Center. It was determined that if all of the 21 school districts worked together to form a consortium, the districts could save over \$450,000 annually in transportation costs.

## **Shared Business Services Expansion Approved**

Last year, the boards of education of Beecher, Bendle, Clio, Davison, Flushing, Genesee, Goodrich, Grand Blanc, Kearsley, Montrose, Mt. Morris and Westwood Heights passed resolutions to have GISD serve as the fiscal agent and to operate the consortium. The GASC Transportation Consortium is similar to the Specialized Transportation Consortium, yet it operates under a separate agreement along with a separate operating structure and funding. The 12 participating districts realized collective savings of over \$200,000 in 2004-05.

On June 28, 2005, the board approved the membership of Flint Community Schools to the consortium. Since that time, the boards of education of Atherton, Bentley, Carman-Ainsworth, Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden approved resolutions to join the consortium.

At the August 9 meeting, the board approved Atherton, Bentley, Carman-Ainsworth, Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden as new members of the GASC Transportation Consortium in accordance with the consortium agreement and authorized the superintendent to sign the agreements.

In 2003, the Business Services Department began a pilot program with Flushing Community Schools to provide payroll services. This concept of providing shared services was presented to the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education at its September 23, 2003 meeting. The 2005-06 year will be the third year of the continued partnership between both districts.

In June, Superintendent John Angle, Bendle Public Schools, requested technical assistance from the Business Services Department. Business Services staff members, along with Technology and Media Services staff members, have been working collaboratively to provide both business office support and technology support.

In July 2005, Superintendent Jerri Lynn Williams, Westwood Heights Schools, requested a review and analysis of the current utilization of the SchoolsOPEN software and the business office functions. Pending review and approval of shared business service recommendations by the Westwood Heights board, GISD will move forward to develop a formal relationship.

On May 6, 2005, the Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education authorized the superintendent to enter into a partnership arrangement with Beecher Community School District resulting in the operation of the Beecher Business Services Office. Several other districts have indicated an interest in partnering with Genesee Intermediate School District Business Services in providing a variety of customized services depending on the current status of the individual district's business operation. At the August 23 meeting, the GISD Board of Education authorized the superintendent to continue to develop and implement the plans, hire necessary staff and execute appropriate documents that define each individual district's shared business office relationship.

## **PAC Members Appointed**

Benny Wrose, representing Beecher Community Schools, and Deborah Nelson, representing Clio Area Schools, were both reappointed by the board to serve on the GISD Special Education Parent Advisory Committee.

## **Judy Purdy Recognized**

At the August 9, 2005 meeting, Board President Peggy Tortorice presented Judy Purdy with an engraved clock for her 32 years of service to the Genesee Intermediate School District. Judy has earned the appreciation of her staff and school community for her leadership and service to the students of MCIC. Members of the board of education and administrative staff expressed deep gratitude for Judy's great service as an administrator and member of the Genesee Intermediate School District staff.

## **Donations Report Received**

During the 2004-05 school year, the board accepted 131 donations with a total value of \$50,484. Donations ranged from cash, furniture and wheelchairs to diapers and bowling trophies, and were received from parents, staff members, organizations, businesses and community members. All GISD special education center programs, as well as Health, Safety and Nutrition Services; Education and Learning; Mott Middle College and the Ligon Outdoor Center received donations during the 2004-05 school year.

## **Administrative Contracts Approved**

## **Employment Rights Terminated**

## **Employees Hired**

## **Resignations Accepted**

## **Leaves of Absence Approved**

## **Leave of Absence Rescinded**

Visit GISD's web site at:  
[www.geneseeisd.org](http://www.geneseeisd.org)

At the August 9 meeting, the GISD board approved administrative contracts for: Susan M. O'Brien, Principal, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center; and Terese K. Knag, Shared-Time Director of Business Management Services, Business Services.

Employment rights were terminated for: Brenda J. Paulson, Bus Driver, Transportation Services and Pamela A. Wagner, Bus Driver, Transportation Services.

At the August 9 and August 23 meetings, the board approved the employment of: Sherry E. Dykes, Teacher, Early Childhood Programs and Services; Pamela A. Marsack, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; Andrea M. Camero, Teacher of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; and Jennifer M. Malzahn, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center.

Resignations were accepted from Sara N. Sikes, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; Judith R. Frantz, Paraprofessional, Early Childhood Programs and Services, Project CHOICE Classroom at Mary Crapo, Swartz Creek; Betty T. Nelson, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; and Patricia D. Gora, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairment, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center.

Leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Jeffrey S. Reno, Paraprofessional, Special Education Services Center; Mary E. Rickard, Teacher Consultant, Early On Services, Early Childhood Programs and Services; Claudia J. Mercier, Bus Driver, Transportation Services; Ronald Ledford, Custodian, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center; and Audrey Fickle, Teacher of the Speech and Language Impaired, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center.

The board approved the request to rescind the personal leave of absence for Kathleen S. Brenner effective August 15, 2005.

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meetings—August 9 and 23, 2005.



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