



Take Note...

April 27, 2007

Attendance and Routine Matters

State of the Lakeville Community Schools Presented

General Education Fund Restructuring Plan Approved

Annual GISD Budget Hearing Evaluation Results Received

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

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

The GISD Board of Education accepted an invitation to conduct its April 24, 2007, meeting in the Lakeville Community School District. At that meeting, Superintendent Theodore Gardella provided the board with a briefing on the status of the Lakeville Community Schools and the programs they offer. The GISD Board of Education expressed its appreciation to the Lakeville Board of Education for hosting its meeting and joined them for the annual pancake supper, marking the end of the maple syrup season.

On February 13, 2007, the board of education approved amendments to the 2006-07 budgets and approved the presentation of the 2007-08 budgets.

Both budget years reflect a continuing trend of spending down general education fund balance to operate programs and services for constituent districts. It was determined that bringing the general education fund to a revenue neutral position is most desirable to maintain services in the face of additional funding cuts from the state. GISD administrators were directed to restructure departmental positions, where possible, to minimize the loss of jobs while maximizing services to local school districts. The overall plan will save the general education fund nearly \$1 million.

The plan involves combining existing positions, adjusting workdays, eliminating positions and several layoffs. Every effort was made to reassign affected staff to vacancies for which they are qualified. Based on the recommendations of administrative staff and the board Finance and Personnel Committees, the board of education approved the restructuring plan and authorized the layoff of employees, effective June 30, 2007.

Each year, at the end of the annual GISD Budget Hearing, constituent district board members and the audience are asked to complete an evaluation form. GISD staff are very proud that the evaluations resulted in all A and B grades. Of the 28 total respondents, 93% gave GISD an overall grade of A, with 7% (2 respondents) giving GISD a B. In addition to the grades, GISD received many positive telephone calls and messages, as well as outstanding comments included on the actual evaluations. Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich extended his personal thanks to staff and members of the board of education for their work to make this year's Budget Hearing a great success.



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.

**Jim Lee Fine Arts
Camp Support
Approved**

**One-Year
Administrative
Contract Extensions
Approved**

**Superintendent and
Board Evaluation
Reports Received**

Donations Accepted

Resignations Accepted

Employee Hired

**Leaves of Absence
Approved**

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Maintaining the district's practice established in 1991, the board authorized \$500 to support students participating in the Mott Community College (MCC) Jim Lee Fine Arts Camp. The Summer Fine Arts Camp on the MCC campus is for Genesee County area students in seventh through ninth grades.

Each year at the regular meeting in April, the board of education considers the one-year extension of administrative contracts, as recommended by the superintendent. Consideration for contract extensions is a result of budget review, input from evaluations and recommendations from supervising administrators, and input from constituent district superintendents if the position is funded through a local school district consortium. At the April 24, 2007 meeting, GISD board members reviewed the recommendations of the superintendent and approved one-year contract extensions for administrative staff within the district.

Each spring, the GISD board conducts an evaluation of itself and the superintendent. The results of the 2006-07 evaluations were presented at the April 24, 2007 meeting. The overall rating of the board was 3.9 (outstanding); the overall rating for the superintendent was 4.0 (outstanding). The board acted to document the performance status of each evaluation and place them in the permanent files of the District.

Generous donations for use by the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center and the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center were received by the board.

A resignation for the purpose of retirement was accepted from Janice I. Blanck, Ed.D., Principal, Early Childhood Programs and Services. A resignation for the purpose of accepting a new position with GISD was also accepted from Mark E. Deschaine, Principal, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center.

The board approved the hiring of Mark E. Deschaine as Teacher Consultant for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Nicole Heavilin, Early Childhood Programs; and Darlene White, Transportation Services.

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meeting — April 24, 2007.



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