



Take Note...

January 28, 2008

Attendance and Routine Matters

Participation in Substitute Staffing Pool Approved

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

In March 2007, the Genesee Intermediate School District and 11 constituent districts began exploring working with a third-party vendor to form a substitute staffing pool. Superintendents, in a continuing effort to control costs, share services and increase efficiency, supported the exploration of such an arrangement. Similar arrangements that have been implemented in other counties/regions have experienced a high level of success.

Requests for proposals were issued on behalf of GISD and local districts in July of 2007. After review and analysis of the bids, a recommendation was made at the September 5, 2007, Superintendents Association meeting for Professional Education Services Group, LLC to employ Genesee County substitute staff. The superintendents approved the development of a letter of intent to enter into contract negotiations and to begin implementation. At the October 3, 2007 Superintendents Association meeting, 11 interested districts signed the letter of intent. Three additional districts expressed interest, but have not committed at this time.

At the January 8, 2008 meeting, GISD Deputy Superintendent Michael Moorman presented an overview of the project to the GISD Board of Education. A representative from Professional Education Services Group (PESG), the recommended vendor, was also in attendance to answer questions. After review and consideration, the board approved GISD's participation in the substitute staffing pool and authorized the superintendent to execute agreements with PESG and participating local school districts.

Each January, School Board Recognition Month celebrates the men and women who share their time and expertise to impact the future of Michigan's children. This year's theme was *School Boards Lead Strong*. In honor of School Board Recognition Month, GISD board members were recognized for their vision and dedication to the students and families of Genesee County. Each member has achieved the highest credentials available in the state for school board members, and the GISD board is the only board in the State of Michigan to earn the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB). The GISD board was also recently awarded the Board Visionary Leadership Award from MASB for the second time.

GISD Board Members Recognized

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lawrence P. Ford	President
Jerry G. Ragsdale	Vice President
Dale A. Green	Secretary
Paul D. Newman	Treasurer
Peggy J. Tortorice	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, (810) 591-4541.

Amendment #1 to the 2007-2008 Budgets Approved

The board adopted the budget for the 2007-08 school year in June of 2007. Since the development of the budget begins several months prior to the current fiscal year end, several assumptions are made in forecasting. These assumptions include items such as projected increases in salaries based on the staffing levels and contract settlements, increases in the cost of fringe benefits, utility rates and anticipated funding. The amendment provides an opportunity to make the necessary adjustments based on the known information at this time. In addition, grants that have been awarded since the development of the budget are being added through the amendment process. After administrative discussion, as well as review of the revenue estimates, budget expenditures and projected fund equities, it was determined to recommend the following adjustments as summarized by fund.

GENERAL EDUCATION FUND - Revenue originally projected for the General Education Fund has been adjusted in Amendment 1 to reflect increased funding and grant carryover adjustments for local, state and federal sources since the adoption of the 2007-08 budget. The General Education Fund revenue will be increased by \$6.2 million. A significant portion of the increase is related to state and federally funded programs with corresponding expenditures. Expenditures, as originally budgeted for the General Education Fund, refine original budget assumptions and incorporate new grant awards. Expenditures in grants correspond directly to the projected revenue. Overall, expenditures will be increased by \$5.4 million, which balances expenditures and revenue for the General Education Fund.

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND - Revenue for the Special Education Fund for Amendment 1 increased in the areas of Payments in Lieu of Taxes, Miscellaneous, Special Education Foundation-Section 51.a.2, I.D.E.I.A., Infant and Toddler Early Intervention and Work Force Investment Act. Some of the adjustments were made to reflect carryover dollars on federal grants and to correspond to the current year funding levels. Decreases were made in Income from Deposits and Investments, Special Education-Section 56 and Work Force Investment Act categories. Overall, the Special Education Fund revenue will be decreased by \$1.4 million. Expenditures for the basic Special Education Fund budget have been adjusted to refine the original budget assumptions. Overall expenditures will be reduced by \$191,234 with the remainder taken from fund equity. The grants added during the amendment process include: Flowthrough (GISD) 2006-07 Carryover, Preschool Incentive (GISD) 2006-07 Carryover, Integrated Behavior & Learning Support Initiative 2006-07 Carryover, Integrated Behavior & Learning Support Initiative 2007-08, START Regional Collaborative Network and Transfers to Local Districts-Federal 2006-07 Carryover.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION FUND - Revenue for the Career Technical Education Fund has been adjusted to reflect decreases in Special Grants. The Young Inventors Program has been reclassified to reflect the various funding sources. Additional sources of grant support continue to be acknowledged throughout the year. The state aid line items have been adjusted from the proposed budget figures to the current anticipated amounts. The Career Technical Education Fund revenue will be increased by \$76,074. Expenditures for the basic Career Technical Education Fund budget have been adjusted to refine the original budget assumptions. Expenditures in grants correspond directly to the projected revenue. Overall, expenditures will be increased by \$130,188, which decreases the Career Technical Education fund equity.

ENTERPRISE FUND - The expenditures in the Enterprise fund have been adjusted to refine the original budget assumptions. The following programs fall under the Enterprise Fund umbrella: Technology and Media Services-GenNET, Other-Technology and Media Services, GenNET Capital Projects, Special Education Transportation, Special Education Transportation Capital Projects, Vocational Education Transportation and Vocational Education Capital Projects. Enterprise fund revenue has increased \$1.3 million as a direct result of increases in fees collected for services provided. In addition, Special Education Capital Projects and Vocational Education Capital Projects have been added to the current year budget for the purchase of new buses.

OTHER FUNDS - The remaining funds include Capital Projects, Special Education Capital Projects, Durant Settlement Fund, Debt Retirement Durant Fund and School Lunch Services Fund. The majority of the revenue generated in each of these funds is a result of transfers from other funds.

At the January 8, 2008 meeting, the board approved Amendment #1 to the 2007-08 Budget and adopted a resolution amending the budget in accordance with the Uniform Budgeting Act.

**Education and Learning
Services Contract with
Eastern Upper Peninsula
Intermediate School
District Approved**

**Capital Improvement
Long-Range Plan
Approved**

**GASC Technology
Center Report Received**

**Safe & Drug Free
Schools Annual
Report Received**

**Support for “Ready,
Set, Grow!” Passport
Initiative Approved**

**Furniture Bids
Approved**

At the January 8, 2008 meeting, the GISD Board of Education authorized the superintendent to execute an agreement to provide educational learning consultant services for Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District. For the most part, consultant services will be provided by current GISD employees. The board also authorized the superintendent to employ necessary additional staff to fulfill any additional need for consultant services, as defined by the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District, and work with them to fully define the working relationship, as outlined in the agreement.

On May 25, 2004, the board of education adopted the Capital Improvement Long-Range Plan, which was later updated and approved on February 1, 2006. This document outlines plans for each facility year by year, and may be amended each January, depending upon project costs and budgets. The philosophy of the district in considering such projects includes providing students and staff optimal learning and working environments, safety and security, and maximizing the board’s financial investment. The Building and Grounds Committee is kept up to date on the progress of capital projects and reviews future plans for facility improvement. At the January 22, 2008 meeting, GISD Deputy Superintendent Mike Moorman presented an updated plan to the board and answered questions. After review and consideration, the board approved the updated Capital Improvement Long-Range Plan.

At the request of the GISD Board of Education, Mr. Clyde Bell, principal of the GASC Technology Center, was invited to make a brief presentation on the status of programs at the center. At the January 22, 2008 meeting, Mr. Bell was present to discuss some of the new programs at the GASC Technology Center, share enrollment data with the board, as well as answer specific questions about GASC Technology Center operations. The board accepted the report.

Health, Safety and Nutrition Services continues to provide Safe & Drug Free Schools technical assistance to public school districts, public school academies and nonpublic schools in Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties. The emphasis of Safe & Drug Free Schools is the implementation of comprehensive K-12 health, including conflict resolution, violence prevention, alcohol, drug and tobacco education and safety. Ms. Gloria Bourdon, Director of Health, Safety and Nutrition Services, was present at the January 22, 2008 GISD Board of Education meeting to share the annual report of accomplishments. During the presentation Ms. Bourdon highlighted special programs such as Bully Prevention, School Climate and School Safety. The board accepted the report.

The Genesee County Superintendents Association continues to endorse this program that identifies children as they are born in local hospitals. This concept helps educators develop a closer relationship with the area’s newest parents, as well as increase the health and learning levels of incoming preschool and kindergarten students. Local district superintendents support the program at \$.75 per student for operation costs in partnership with the health and business communities. GISD Superintendent Dr. Thomas Svitkovich currently serves on the Passport Board of Directors, providing leadership and coordination for “Ready, Set, Grow!” Passport activities. At the January 22, 2008 meeting, the board of education approved financial support of \$3,000 to the “Ready, Set, Grow!” Passport Initiative. This amount is in addition to the in-kind support the district is currently providing to the program.

On December 10, 2007, separate invitations to bid were mailed to 27 vendors for the purchase of furniture for the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center-Phase 2 and Phase 6 renovations, and for the Genesee Early College new office space on the University of Michigan-Flint campus. The bids were opened on December 19, 2007.

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Student Discipline

Donations Accepted

Employees Hired

Leaves of Absence Approved

Resignations Accepted

The Building and Grounds Committee met and reviewed the bid documents prior to the January 22 board meeting. After consideration of all of the bid results and the options presented, the board of education awarded each separate furniture bid to the low bidders, as follows: Allsteel-Creative Office Concepts in the amount of \$37,292.68, Hospital Purchasing in the amount of \$15,245.94 and Office Products Outlet in the amount of \$1,582.67.

At the January 22, 2008 meeting, the board approved the expulsion of a Mott Middle College student for the remainder of the school year for violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Generous donations to the Early Childhood Programs and Services, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center, Genesee Early College, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center, Mott Middle College and the Transition Center were received by the board. The donations included various adaptive equipment items, supplies for classroom and student use, as well as cash donations from the Knights of Columbus – Council #6694 and New Detroit, Inc.

At the January 8, 2008 meeting, the board approved the employment of: Susan M. Gilliam, Manager - Information Systems; Amy L. Scherrer, Teacher of Students with Cognitive Impairments; Kristen M. Tanner, Teacher of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders; and Darcy G. Coon, School Nurse.

At the January 22, 2008 meeting, leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Nicolette J. Cheff, Special Education Services; Michelle M. Shaw, Transportation Services; Carrie L. Shelly, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center; and Debra L. Wright, Business Services

At the January 8 and 22, 2008 meetings, resignations for the purpose of retirement were accepted from: William J. Welch, Ph.D., Genesee Early College Instructor/Coordinator-Science; and Marsha J. Fortner, Ph.D., Coordinator, Achievement Group Grant, Education and Learning.

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

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meetings – Jan. 8 and 22, 2008.



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