



Take Note...

September 28, 2007

Attendance and Routine Matters

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

English as a Second Language Tutor Services Contracts Approved

The GISD English as a Second Language (ESL) program is a service provided to local districts. Without this service, each district would be responsible for implementing compliance frameworks, including the creation of a district-wide instructional program. GISD has taken additional steps to help its constituent districts serve English Limited Language students and families and to comply with state and federal laws. At the August 14, 2007 and the August 28, 2007 meetings, the GISD Board of Education authorized the recommendation proposed by administration to offer an additional service to our constituent districts by employing ESL tutors as GISD employees. GISD currently has contract agreements with Atherton, Bentley, Carman-Ainsworth, Davison, Flushing, Grand Blanc, Kearsley, Lake Fenton, Linden, Montrose, Mt. Morris and Linden Charter Academy.

At the September 11 meeting, the board reviewed copies of contracts for Genesee and Westwood Heights, and at the September 25 meeting, reviewed copies of contracts for Clio, Goodrich and Swartz Creek. As a result, the board authorized the superintendent to execute the newest agreements, employ necessary staff and fully define the working relationships with the districts, as outlined in the contracts.

Shared Technical Services Agreement Approved

Last school year, the board approved technical services agreements to form partnerships to provide technical support with the following districts: Atherton, Beecher, Bendle, Bentley, Davison, Goodrich, Kearsley, Lake Fenton and Linden. The shared technical services partnership allows GISD to provide effective, cost efficient services to local districts through collaborative efforts.

Details for customized technical support have also been worked out, and an agreement has been finalized for the Flint Community Schools. At the September 11 meeting, the board authorized the superintendent to execute the agreement, employ the necessary staff and fully define the working relationship with Flint, as outlined in the agreement.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lawrence P. Ford	President
Jerry G. Ragsdale	Vice President
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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.

Participation in Early Childhood Investment Corporation Approved

Genesee Intermediate School District has been actively engaged in developing and delivering birth-to-five programs in Genesee County. GISD staff has been recognized on several occasions for the outstanding early childhood programs which are in place in various school communities. GISD is also an active partner in the Ready, Set, Grow! Passport program and many other initiatives. Most recently, GISD was the successful recipient of a grant from the Early Childhood Investment Corporation. GISD staff members have been working tirelessly with community representatives to strengthen partnerships and expand programming options.

GISD has now been invited to be a participating member of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC). As a member of ECIC, GISD will also become a part of the ECIC governance structure through appointment of a representative to the ECIC Corporate Board of Directors. At the September 11 meeting, as a part of the process in preparing the recommendation to “enter into and become a participant in the interlocal agreement that established the Early Childhood Investment Corporation and share in the governance as a member of the corporate board,” board members reviewed a legal opinion requested of Thrun Law Firm, P.C. As a result, the board approved the Early Childhood Investment Corporation resolution and authorized the superintendent to execute the required documents related to the interlocal agreement and the Early Childhood Investment Corporation. Further, Superintendent Thomas Svitkovich stated his intention to work with the Great Start collaborative to make a recommendation for GISD’s representative on the ECIC board.

Career Technical Education Administrator Services Contract Approved

Because of the recent retirement of the Director of Career Technical Education, and GISD’s continued search for an Assistant Superintendent for Education and Learning, GISD administration determined that it would be in the district’s best interest to contract for the services of an experienced regional career and technical education (CTE) administrator. Administration reviewed applicants and determined that Mr. Frederic Stanley has the leadership and vision to fill this position. He has a proven track record of developing innovative CTE programs and has experience as a building administrator, Regional Career and Technical Education Director for St. Clair RESA, and most recently, had been CTE Director for Utica Community Schools.

At the September 11 meeting, the board authorized the superintendent and deputy superintendent to negotiate and execute a contract for career technical education administrator services to be provided by Frederic Stanley with PCMI, Inc. Due to the fact that benefits and retirement costs are not paid on contracted positions, the district will realize a minimum savings of \$35,297.

Virtual Field Trip Presentation Received

At the September 11 meeting, Dr. Mary Lavengood, formerly the Assistant Superintendent for Education and Learning, presented a curricular program connected to the [Journey of the Dead Mosquito](#) video. The program, in partnership with Bill Harris (abc12 News), Greg Seago (Advanced Pest Management), Dr. Ned Walker (MSU Microbiology Lab) and the students of Mott Middle College, has been piloted in local district school buildings. Additionally, the Office of Education Learning and the Genesee Area Math/ Science Center updated the board on the development of several products that can be accessed by teachers to be used as resources for classroom instruction. They were highlighted as curriculum tools and products that integrate core academic components for teachers that can be easily used with their students to address science and mathematics, as well as provide more information about the Ligon Outdoor Center.

**Elmer A. Knopf Learning
Center Interim
Principal Appointed**

**MASB Excellence Award
Sign Received**

**Genesee Early College
Student Handbook
Approved**

**GISD Teaching, Learning
and Service Plan and
Annual Report Approved**

**First Reading of
Recommended Board
Policy Revisions
Conducted**

Donations Accepted

At the September 11, 2007 meeting, the board authorized the appointment of Jeanne Quinlan as Interim Principal at the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center (EKLC). Prior to the Interim Principal appointment, Ms. Quinlan served as Assistant Principal at EKLC.

In May, Genesee Intermediate School District received an MASB-SEG Education Excellence Award in the ISD Career Technical Education category for its Bridges to the Future program. This is the fifth MASB Excellence Award that the GISD has received. As a sponsor of this awards program, SetSeg takes great pleasure in drawing positive attention to public schools. At the September 11 meeting, Katie Slavik, SetSeg Regional Account Representative, presented a sign that proclaims Genesee ISD as an Education Excellence Award Winner for 2007.

At the August 28, 2007 meeting, the board approved the first reading of the Genesee Early College Student Handbook. Changes, as recommended at the first reading, were made to the handbook. At the September 11, 2007 meeting, the board conducted a second reading and adopted the Genesee Early College Student Handbook.

Throughout the summer, GISD's administrative team reviewed the goals, objectives and outcomes of the 2006-2011 GISD Teaching, Learning and Service Plan. As a result of this intensive review, the plan was updated with minor adjustments in terminology and an annual report was developed. At the September 25, 2007 meeting, the revised GISD Teaching, Learning and Service Plan was presented, along with the 2006-2007 Annual Report. The presentation included highlights of various outcomes and future directions, and GISD Advisory Council members responded to questions regarding the updated plan and annual report.

The board of education accepted the 2006-2007 Annual Report and the GISD Teaching, Learning and Service Plan, as revised, so that the district can continue to evolve in the positive directions that have been established.

Recently, GISD board members received revised versions of GISD Board Policies 3120.06 (Selecting Student Teachers/Interns), 5421 (Grading), 5430 (Class Rank), 5500 (Student Conduct), 5514.01 (Student Use of Motor Vehicles), 5710 (Student Grievance) and 8330 (Student Records) for review. These policy revisions are necessary to incorporate the Genesee Early College Student Handbook. At the September 25 meeting, the board of education conducted the first reading of the aforementioned GISD Board Policies.

Generous donations to Early Childhood Programs and Services, Health Safety and Nutrition Services, the Office of Education and Learning and the Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center were received by the board. The donations included a \$1,692.00 cash donation from the Holy Redeemer Knights of Columbus, Council #6742, and \$1,000 from Target Community Relations, in addition to donations of cash and equipment from friends and community members.

Employees Hired

At the September 11 meeting, the board approved the hiring of Barbara McCurry, Teacher of Students with Emotional Impairment–Day Treatment Program, Carman-Ainsworth Dye Elementary School. At the September 25 meeting, the board approved the hiring of Marisa M. Ulmer, School and Community Liaison, Health, Safety and Nutrition Services.

Leaves of Absence Approved

At the September 11 meeting, leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Melinda S. DeWyse, Bus Driver, Transportation Services; Deborah Driskill, Bus Driver, Transportation Services; and Michele L. Pfeiffer, Bus Driver, Transportation Services. At the September 25 meeting, leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Christine Emmendorfer, Bus Driver, Transportation Services; Tamieka Miller, Transportation Aid, Transportation Services; and Marcia Pavkovich, Teacher Consultant, Visually Impaired/O&M Specialist, Special Services-North.

Leave of Absence Denied

At the September 25 meeting, the board denied a request for a short-term medical leave to care for a sibling under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. The leave was denied based on the employee being ineligible under the guidelines of FMLA, which state that leaves are available to employees for the care of a spouse, son or daughter, or parent only.

Resignation Accepted

A resignation for the purpose of retirement was accepted from Evelyn K. Andrews, Para-Educator, Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center.

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

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meetings — Sept. 11 & 25, 2007.



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