



Take Note...

December 18, 2009

Attendance and Routine Matters

Contract with Genesee Intermediate Education Association Approved

Lawrence Ford, president; Jerry Ragsdale, vice president; Paul Newman, secretary; Cindy Gansen, treasurer; and Dale Green, trustee.

During the 2008-2009 school year and through the fall of this year, representatives from the Genesee Intermediate Education Association (GIEA) and the Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) Board/Administrative team met to negotiate a new collective bargaining agreement. This was the first extensive bargaining process since 1999, so several areas that had not been reviewed over the last two contract extensions were updated. The contract expired on August 31, 2009.

Both groups continue to hold the belief that long-term agreements are better for planning purposes for both parties, even during these extraordinary economic times. Therefore, a three-year agreement was recommended, which will cover 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012. Of special note is the "reopener" language that has been added to the contract to assist the district and the association in dealing with unforeseen financial circumstances. This language is unprecedented for the district and reinforces the CAPSC process.

On November 10, 2009, the board Personnel Committee received a presentation on the status of all aspects of the contract negotiations. Later that evening in executive session, the full board had the opportunity to hear the same presentation and ask questions of the negotiations team. On November 30, 2009, a ratification vote of the GIEA membership was conducted, which resulted in approval. The board approved the three-year contract with the Genesee Intermediate Education Association, and thanked both teams for their diligence and for seeking creative solutions to issues.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lawrence P. Ford	President
Jerry G. Ragsdale	Vice President
Paul D. Newman	Secretary
Cindy A. Gansen	Treasurer
Dale A. Green	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.

Audit Report Received

During the past several months, Lewis & Knopf, Certified Public Accountants, has been involved in its annual audit of GISD financial records. The audit was very comprehensive and included in-depth tests of various federal programs managed by the district, as well as the normal tests conducted as standard audit practice. Mr. Kim Lindsay of Lewis & Knopf was present at the December 8 meeting and provided an overview of their review of the accounting practices and procedures utilized in Business Services. GISD board members were pleased to learn that the overall GISD 2008-09 audit is rated as excellent. Fund balances meet or exceed the expected fund equities identified in the 2008-09 budget. GISD remains financially healthy and stable for the current fiscal year. The GISD board accepted the report and commended Business Services staff for their attention to quality financial management, and budget administrators were also recognized for doing an excellent job managing their budgets.

Special Resolution for Summer Tax Collection Adopted

Summer tax collections for the Genesee Intermediate School District are levied based on individual local district levies. Clio Area Schools started collecting summer taxes last year for the city of Clio and requested that GISD delay its summer tax collections. It is now time for GISD to implement summer tax collection. Grand Blanc Community Schools has also made a request that GISD levy summer taxes for the township of Atlas. Any change in tax rates or new implementation for summer tax collections requires a public hearing. On November 29, 2009, a notice of a public hearing was printed in The Flint Journal. In order to authorize collection of 2010 summer taxes in the city of Clio and Atlas Township, the board of education took action at its meeting on December 8 by conducting the public hearing and adopting a special resolution, and will now file a copy of that resolution with the affected municipalities prior to January 1.

Annual Resolution for Summer Tax Collection Adopted

The board of education has previously authorized a summer tax levy. In order to continue with that authorization for 2010, the board of education must take action by adopting a resolution and filing a copy of that resolution with each city and/or township within the Genesee Intermediate School District prior to January 1, 2010. The Genesee Intermediate School District will only levy summer taxes when the local school district is also levying a summer property tax. At its meeting on December 8, the board adopted the annual resolution to levy summer taxes in 2010 and provide proper notice to the taxing units.

December Bills Payable

The Genesee Intermediate School District Board of Education scheduled its regular December meeting early due to the holiday break. As a result, only one meeting, the December 8 meeting, was scheduled. At the time the board approved the meeting schedule, it was indicated that special action would be necessary to authorize the payment of December bills. At the December 9 meeting, it was recommended and approved that the administration, upon the review of the board treasurer, is authorized to process the December bills payable and issue checks. The board, as an official body, will approve the December financial reports in January.

**Annual Website
Reporting Update
Received**

Legislation was passed several years ago requiring Michigan regional educational service agencies to post a great deal of information to their websites by December 31 of each year. GISD is in the final stages of preparing the information for this year's report. Mr. Jerry Johnson, executive director of Communications and Development, was present at the December 8 meeting with a preview of the GISD information to be posted. He noted that the report begins with an introduction centering on the GISD Teaching, Learning, and Service Plan and is followed by district information and data. That data includes general information and must also include information about contracts; contract modifications; compensation; fiber optic and cable equipment; public relations, polling, lobbying, and legal services; IRS 1099; travel; certain ISD expenditures; and motor vehicles. The board accepted the report and noted that the information will be available by December 31 in the Publications area of its website at www.geneseeisid.org.

**Amended Resolution
for Membership in
Michigan Schools
Energy Cooperative
(MISEC) Adopted**

In November 1997, the GISD Board of Education adopted a resolution authorizing membership in the Michigan Schools Energy Cooperative (MISEC) and participation in its cooperative energy purchase program. The Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, the Michigan Association of School Administrators, the Michigan Association of School Boards, the Michigan School Business Officials, and the Middle Cities Education Association formed this cooperative known as MISEC. Their combined purpose was to develop a statewide association to take advantage of energy deregulation opportunities. Kimball Energy is the current energy manager.

Initially, MISEC was focused on consolidating the purchase of natural gas so schools could take advantage of large volume discounts and later moved to purchasing electricity with the electric deregulation. Once again, MISEC has sought to provide another opportunity for schools to pool together and take advantage of large volume discounts in the area of diesel fuel. Current members must adopt an amended resolution encompassing this component. However, membership does not preclude districts from purchasing on the open market and/or seeking the best price. GISD currently purchases approximately 80,000 gallons of diesel fuel per year, and anticipates purchasing a portion of its diesel fuel through the consortium to see if savings are realized for both the Special Education Transportation and the Genesee Area Skill Center Transportation consortia. At its meeting on December 8, the board adopted the amended resolution.

**Bid for Head End
Equipment Approved**

On November 4, 2009, bids were mailed to four vendors for an Eaton Powerware BladeUPS-36 Modular Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) System for the head end room. The bid opening was on November 23, 2009, and seven bids were submitted by vendors. The Building and Grounds Committee met prior to the December 8 board meeting to review the bid documents, and as a result recommended the bid be awarded to the lowest bidder that met all specifications, Eaton Corporation c/o RC Merchant Company, Inc., in the amount of \$38,798.00. At its meeting on December 8, the board approved that recommendation.

English as a Second Language Tutor Services Contracts Approved

Since the 2007-08 school year, the board has approved education and learning services contracts to form partnerships to provide English as a second language (ESL) tutor services for local districts, including the employment of ESL tutors as GISD employees. Without this service, each district would be responsible for implementing compliance frameworks, including the creation of a districtwide 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. 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. GISD currently has contract agreements with 19 Genesee County districts and public school academies.

Recently, Beecher Community Schools, Fenton Area Schools, LakeVille Community School District, Genesee Academy, International Academy of Flint, and Richfield Public School Academy have requested contracts for English as a second language (ESL) tutor services from GISD. Each contract has been executed by its superintendent or public school administrator. At its meeting on December 8, the board approved each contract and authorized the superintendent to employ necessary staff and fully define the working relationship with each district and public school academy.

Donations Accepted

Generous donations on behalf of the Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center, Marion D. Crouse Instructional Center, Special Education Services Center – North, and the Transition Center were received by the board. Donations included appliances, instructional aids, and other supplies for classroom use; adaptive equipment; clothing; and cash donations for student activities and a memorial fund.

Leaves of Absence Approved

Leaves of absence were considered and approved for: Susan Cyrul, EKLC CHOICE; Kelley Doyle, ECPS; Donald Dunlop, EKLC; Michael Garrett, Transportation Services; Kay Hartl, MCIC; Camille Johnson, MCIC; Patrick Maul, Transportation Services; Kristin Plunkett, Transportation Services; Michele Schwarz, Business Services; Kristen Tanner, EKLC; and Howard Wilson, Business Services.

Resignation Accepted

A resignation for the purpose of retirement was accepted from Violet Jeffery, Special Education Services Center - North.

Note: This document based on unofficial minutes of the GISD Board Meeting — December 8, 2009.



GENESEE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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