GARDNER – SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #73

BOARD BRIEFS

Highlights of the Regular Meeting
March 18, 2009

END OF THE SEASON REPORT

Shane Tucker, GSW Athletic Director, was in attendance to give a brief summary of the winter sports season. The Winter Sports Awards Banquet is being held on Thursday, March 20th at 7:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria. The coach evaluations are done for the Fall & Winter sports. He also talked about the upcoming Baseball and Softball and Track Season. There are 25 total baseball players, 10 on Varsity and 15 on JV. There are 21 softball players, 11 on varsity and 10 on JV. The first games of the season start next week on Tuesday, March 24th over Spring Break. There are 8 GSW students heading down to Dwight to join the Track team this year.

BOARD POLICIES

Dr. Decman discussed the changes to the BOE policies. After a careful review of the policies, the committee will be recommending the approval of all these changes. This is the 1st reading of these policies.

BOILER UPDATE

Korellis Systems took the boiler apart on March 3rd to determine the problems. Korellis found that the boiler was cracked in numerous places and thus recommended the replacement of the boiler. We have found out that our insurance should cover the replacement boiler minus the deductible of $5,000.

MAINTENANCE/ CUSTODIAL POSITION

The committee, consisting of Dr. Decman, Kris Spiezio, Don Pfeifer and Craig Male, met and interviewed several candidates. We had a total of 104 resumes and ended up interviewing 9 candidates. The committee is recommending that the BOE employ Walter Debelak.

SCHOOL LIBRARY GRANT

The BOE reviewed a copy of our application for the grand and the letter we have received to say that we have been awarded the grant of $158. The BOE has to approve the application for the grant on a yearly basis.

REORGANIZATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

The topic of "consolidation" has long been on the backburner. In the effort to get all of our feeder districts thinking about this issue, the four Superintendents agreed to ask our respective BOE's to pass a motion to approve a "reorganization feasibility study." Fortunately, this study can be paid for by a grant from the ISBE. Since this issue was discussed last month, Dr. Decman just wanted to see if anyone has heard or had any additional discussion about this topic.

COPY USAGE ANALYSIS

In an effort to cut costs, Dr. Decman has been analyzing various contracts with vendors. While looking more in-depth into our current copy machine lease agreements, Dr. Decman noticed that we are going over our copy limits and thus getting charged extra for these copies (approx. $1,375 for this year). So, he plans on re-negotiating our lease slightly, but also wants to put in some restrictions on copy usage, such as requiring "copy codes" for teachers.

NEW FMLA REGULATIONS

The BOE received a copy of the new FMLA regulations that all organizations must follow. Dr. Decman plans to include this information in our Employee Handbook.

NEW PHONE CONTRACT

Our current contract with "Big Run Communications" ends in a couple of weeks. Ben Seeman has worked very hard looking into different providers of phone service. He is recommending that we move to AT&T. The BOE reviewed a copy of this agreement and a comparison between the current provider and AT&T.

ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of Tech Director's Employment/Contract/Raise as presented (Benjamin Seeman)
- Approval of Principal's Employment/Contract/Raise as presented (Kristine L. Spiezio)
- Approval of Superintendent's Employment/Contract/Raise as presented (Dr. Richard Decman)
- Approval of Non-Certified Raises for 2009-2010 School Year as presented
- Motion to Employ Non-Tenured Teachers and Social Worker for 2009-2010 School Year as presented
- Motion to Employ Tenured Teachers for 2009-2010 School Year as presented
- Approval of Library Grant
- Approval of Korellis Bid for Replacement of Boiler - $45-50,000 estimate
- Motion to Employ Head Custodian/Maintenance Director beginning July 1, 2009 (Walter Debelak)
- Motion to Approve Employee FMLA Request (immediately) for Benjamin Seeman
- Motion to Approve New Phone Contract with AT&T
- Motion to Approve the Employment of the Assistant Softball Coach – Chris Simmons
- Cancel 2nd Board of Education meeting of the month of March
- Motion to Approve Tim Perkins as Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach

Superintendent Information Items:

- Legislative Up-Date – Dr. Decman reviewed the latest news from Springfield.
- Certificate of Recognition
- Official Ballot for April 7, 2009 Election
- Board & Administrator Notes – The BOE received the Monthly Newsletter from Dr. Decman.
- Heartland Blood Center Letter
- Careen Gordon Letter

B O A R D O F E D U C A T I O N
President: David Doglio
Vice-President: Don Pfeifer
Pamela Brooks, Ed Fellows, Chris Irvin,
Craig Male, Rita Wright
Principal: Kristine L. Spiezio
Superintendent: Dr. Richard Decman