GARDNER – SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #73

BOARD BRIEFS

Highlights of the Regular Meeting

October 21, 2009

AUDITOR'S REPORT Janet Brown was present to discuss the results of her audit.

TAX LEVY TIMETABLE Dr. Decman reviewed the timetable for this year's levy. GSW HS will have a Truth in Taxation Hearing again, because the levy is projected to be slightly over 105% of last year's extension.

ABESTOS 3-YR. INSPECTION GSW HS recently had their 3-year inspection for asbestos. Ideal Environmental Engineering has recommended GSW HS remove some tiles in the kitchen area, as well as test a few uncovered areas. Dr. Decman believes we can send Walter Debelak, our head custodian, to an asbestos removal clinic and then he will be certified to do this work. This will save the school a considerable amount of time and money.

SENIOR RELEASE POLICY As a result of the move from "Block" to "Traditional" schedule, students now have study halls. Many of our seniors have expressed a desire to leave early or start school late if they have a study hall at the beginning or end of the day. Provided they have enough credits and meet the other criterion developed by Principal Spiezio, Dr. Decman recommended that the BOE adopt this policy.

TRANSPORTATION BID Dr. Decman received a transportation bid from Illinois Central on October 16. The bid shows an increase in prices of 1.9% over the next two years. The feeder schools will also be presenting the bid from Illinois Central at their October or November BOE meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of the Annual Auditor's Report
- Approval of the Timetable for the 2010 Tax Levy
- Approval of the Senior Release Policy
- Approval of the employment of Erin Ferrari as a homebound tutor for one of our students.
- Cancel 2nd Board of Education meeting of the month of October

Superintendent Information Items:

- Board and Administrator notes – Dr. Decman gave the Board of Education a copy of the monthly newsletter called Board and Administrator notes.
- Legislative Up-dates – Dr. Decman gave the Board of Education a copy of the latest news and prospective laws from the school's law firm (HLERK).
- Board Convention – Dr. Decman reviewed the dates and times of the November Board Convention as well as notified the Board of the availability of the description of the conference on-line at www.iasb.com .
- GAVC Enrollment – Dr. Decman reviewed the GSW HS enrollment at GAVC. Currently, GSW has 39 students who attend the vocational campus in Morris.
- Attorney letter – Dr. Decman reviewed a letter the school received from their attorney about obtaining the mineral rights from the recently purchased property.

- Influenza Discussion – Dr. Decman notified the BOE of how many students were absent the last couple of days. After a lengthy discussion, the BOE determined that we should stay in school, unless the absences get worse.
- Math Consultant – Dr. Decman reviewed the progress of the Math consultant from Synergy Educational Consulting (Dr. John Decman from the University of Houston) and his work with the Math department. The Math consultant meets with the Math Department once a month for a period of 10 months.

  Specifically, the Math department is working on taking every single performance indicator developed by the Illinois State Board of Education and placing the descriptor into one of the existing courses that is taught at GSW HS. In addition to this, the Math Department (under the direction of the Math consultant) are categorizing the descriptors by topic or units of teaching and learning. In essence, the Math Department is attempting to build a standards-based curriculum. The current curriculum does not contain these standards and probably is the main reason why approximately 53% of last year's students who took the PSAE/ACT **did not** meet the minimum competency standards for Math. The intent of the work is to provide a Math curriculum that will give GSW students the best opportunity to perform well on the state mandated PSAE/ACT test that every junior in the State of Illinois takes every April.

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