

**BOARD BRIEFS**  
*Highlights of the Budget Hearing  
& the Regular Meeting*  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2022**

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**PRESENTATION OF FY23 DISTRICT BUDGET:**

Superintendent, Mrs. Susan Avery, presented the Final Budget, which will be filed with both Grundy County and Kankakee County. There are still deficits in both the Education Fund and Transportation fund, but not enough that we have to complete a Deficit Reduction Plan. The numbers look decent overall.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None at tonight's meeting.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Mr. Engelman reported:

- August discipline: 3 detentions
- August attendance: 95.6%
- Update on Trainer – Mr. Engelman informed the board that he reached out to Morris Hospital several times over the summer, with phone calls and emails, but did not get a response. As of now, Morris does not have the staff to supply GSW with a trainer for home sports events.
- Revised NHS Rules – NHS Sponsor, Mrs. Terese Kukman and Mr. Engelman reviewed the current NHS rules and made a few revisions. They would like to add that if a student is involved with discipline for drugs or alcohol, that the student would be removed from NHS from the remainder of their high school career. Another change would be that suspensions would be dealt with more severely than detentions. Suspensions would have more discipline than detentions. The board discussed these changes and would like to review all the NHS Rules and then finalize / approve at next month's meeting.

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

- Security System / Cameras – Mr. John Williamsen, Technology Director, presented 2 separate quotes / bids he received. Currently we have 17 total cameras and would be adding 3 additional cameras. To update our system, we will use the existing 17 cameras and purchase 3 new ones. Mr. Williamsen is recommending a company out of Crown Point, Indiana. They have over 30-years of experience, work with school districts and deal strictly in security systems. We would lease for 3-years and then own the system. The total cost would be \$20,617.88. GSW would use Lease Levy money to pay for this project. This new update will ensure that Grundy County Police Dept. can have access to our security cameras and system in the event of an emergency. He then recommended purchasing a yearly contract for \$1,000 a year to due maintenance as needed on our new security system. This vendor is out of Lisle, IL. This would be approved at next month's meeting.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT:** Mrs. Sue Avery discussed the following:

- Fire Alarm Inspection – GSW needs to replace our panel.
- Lift -
  - On-going issues – company was out to repair the lift, but it needs a new part. We are waiting for the new part to come in. Once repaired, we are hoping it will be good to use for the remainder of the school year.

- Panther Bus
  - Brakes good through next inspection
  - Bolt is broken on the manifold – keep an eye on it for leaks
  - Air Conditioning still has issues

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:** Mrs. Avery presented on the following:

- Triple I Conference Update –
  - Itinerary coming soon – the board discussed plans for the upcoming Board Convention in Chicago. All members will be attending this year.
- Bookkeeper update/consultant – The new GSW and new BES bookkeepers have been working together. We are hiring a consultant, just temporarily, for 30 to 60 hours, to work with both new bookkeepers and get us back on track so we can move forward. The consultant will be working on reconciling the bank accounts for the past 6-months.
- Bushue – Human Resources Consultant. 3-year contract. They help us with all Human Resources needs, job descriptions, FMLA, staffing, and legal resources for all things HR. They host monthly meetings. The new contract will be a 5% increase, every year, over the next 3 years.
- Staff Appreciation
  - Staff Step It Up – Staff members are submitting names of co-workers who go above and beyond. A weekly spreadsheet is sent out for ALL to see who is shining at GSW.
  - Random Acts of Snacks – Each week, a few lucky winners are chosen and receive their favorite drink and snack. Mrs. Avery puts together a list of everyone’s favorite items and kindly purchases and hand delivers the items to the winners.
  - Early out Thurs/Fri – each week 1 lucky staff member gets to leave 1-hour early. Mrs. Avery will take over their class/office for the remainder of the day. This will happen on either a Thursday or Friday each week. However, Mrs. Avery offers flexibility on the early out as requested.

**BOE MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Katy Wepprecht stated that the Lions Club Pork Chop Dinner held on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the Gardner American Legion Hall was not advertised enough. The proceeds of the dinner were going towards Scholarships for GSW High School students. She thought we should have promoted and advertised it more, so the Lions would have had a better turn-out. For community events, she suggested doing Alert Now Phone messages and blasting Social Media – Panther Nation, GSW FaceBook and GSW Website.

**ACTION ITEMS :**

- Approve the fiscal year 2023 District Budget
- Approve the fiscal year 2022 Teacher/Administration Compensation Report - Tabled
- Approve Bushue as our human Resources Consultant through September 2025
- Affirm the hire of Amber Ryle as the GSW District Bookkeeper and Treasurer
- Approve BMO Letter removing Joshua DeLong and Sherri Garrett as account administrators for credit cards and adding Susan Avery and Amber Ryle
- Approve to dissolve the IGA for GSW and BES for a shared bookkeeper
- Approve the IGA for GSW and BES Backup Bookkeeper - Tabled
- Approve the hiring of a Bookkeeper Consultant – Bailey Conroy
- Approve the Bookkeeper Consultant Contract as presented
- Approve the update of the security system
- Approve the resignation of Amy Mellendorf for Lunchroom Supervision Attendant
- Approve the resignation of Trevor Sampson as Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
- Approve the resignation of Trevor Sampson as Assistant Baseball Coach
- Approve the hiring of Chris Halpin, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
- Approve the hiring of Amber Eisha for Head Softball Coach

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

President: Pam Brooks

Vice-President: Katy Wepprecht

Kristen Ashley, Tim Harvey, Terry Schultz,

Kori Speed & Allison Wright

Principal: John Engelman

Superintendent: Susan Avery