

# GARDNER – SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #73

---

## BOARD BRIEFS

### *Highlights of the Regular Meeting*

**AUGUST 21, 2024**

---

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Mr. Brian Davis, Principal, reported the following:

- August 12<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Institute Day – This year's motto is “Raising the Bar.” Admin and teachers discussed implementing new ideas and procedures, PLC, Vertical Alignment to state standards and reviewed Crisis Manual and Safety Protocols. Freshmen Orientation was also held from 5:30 to 7 pm.
- August 13<sup>th</sup>—Teacher Institute Day—The admin met with teacher mentors, reviewed evaluation procedures, and discussed the RTI transition. Erica Schramm, Program Coordinator with Grundy County Special Education Coop, will be new to our building this year.
- August 14—The First Day of student attendance with a full school day. Our day started with a back-to-school assembly in the gym, followed by school photos, bus drills, and reviewing the handbook. For the remainder of the day, we ran a 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM bell schedule for classes.
- Plan Book = We have ten teachers using this pilot program this year. The plan book aligns classes, shows what they are teaching each day, and includes lesson plans.
- Pro Boards – Teachers love them in the classroom, and we have received positive feedback.
- New Weight Room = Athletic Boosters donated \$8,000 for new equipment for the Lifetime Fitness class. We currently have bids out to finish this room. It needs a new floor, paint, the heating system removed and replaced, and the sink/drain fixed.
- Senior Step-It-Up Committee: A group of five seniors met with the Admin to discuss changing our current program. They had new ideas to implement and are working on revising it for this school year.
- Teacher of the Month—Best Practices—Mrs. Nicole Leigh for the month of August. Starting this school year, she implemented two Dual-Credit JJC Math Classes for GSW HS.
- MAP Testing – 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grades week of August 19 and 11<sup>th</sup> grade week of August 26.
- GSW Athletic Handbook – has been completed
- PLW Grant - \$16,000 received for engineering classes. We plan to add two classes next year.
- Green & White Night at Dwight High School – Friday, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>
- GSW Athletic Boosters Annual Golf Outing – Saturday, Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>
- Labor Day – NO SCHOOL – Monday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Panther Palooza – Saturday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Gardner American Legion
- SIP DAY – Wed., Sept. 11, with an 11:30 AM early dismissal for students
- PLC Day – Wed., Sept 18, with a 2:00 PM early dismissal for students

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS:** None for tonight's meeting.

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

- Leak in Boiler Pipes = We have had a few leaks and need to purchase claw fittings to install on the pipes to fix the issues.
- Parking lot seal-coated = Our lot looks excellent with the re-seal and new paint. We are currently waiting on a permit to dig out and repair the area that holds standing water.
- Gym Update = GSW is looking at piecing projects together using working cash bond money and adding both heating and cooling to the gym area. We can do these projects in stages. We can start with the ceiling area next summer. We can open up the gym ceiling, creating a dome ceiling in our gym, and then our hallway/entryway area will be opened up and have a higher ceiling.

- Weight Room Update = We pushed to get the shop area cleaned out at the end of summer and turned it into our new weight room area / Lifetime Fitness class. This is a new PE class for students, and we need to make this area great so that kids will want to be in this class. Kids are excited and want to use this new area for sports programs, after-school weight lifting, etc. We are looking at getting supervision after school / after hours so students can utilize our new weight equipment. It has yet to be 100% ready for use. We are also looking at a new heating and cooling system for this area.
- ROE Maintenance Grant Items:
  - Com Ed Project –ComEd Grant funded project, new lighting in our classrooms and hallways over the summer
  - Weight Room – new heating and cooling system
  - Parking Lot Fixes – Repair area with standing water
  - HVAC – install new heating and cooling system in our gym – in stages

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

- FY2025 Tentative Budget Presentation – Mrs. Avery reviewed the budget with board members. We are no longer receiving ESSR III funds – this was COVID money, and it is gone. Our budget still looks good for not having these grant funds. Our Budget Hearing will be next month, before our Regular meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>, with final numbers.
- Threat Assessment Protocols Annually—We approve this every year with the Regional Office of Education. There is a process in place. It is reviewed and approved.
- Update E-Learning Plan—Our 3-year plan has expired. By law, we have to hold a Public Hearing to announce a new 3-Year Plan for GSW HS. This Public Hearing will be held next month before our Regular meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup> to review and approve our new 3-year plan.
- Transportation—Our bus company, Illinois Central School Bus, and its drivers are currently under contract negotiations. At this time, we are still receiving transportation for our students. They will let us know if drivers strike. Area superintendents ( GSW, GGS, BES, SWGS, and CC) have been working together to discuss student transportation options and plans if there is a strike.
- Panther Bus = The bus has been repaired, and the air conditioning is fixed and working. The bus has passed the safety lane inspection and is ready for the school year.
- Parchment = New online transcript program. GSW is using this program for all past and current students to have their transcripts sent to colleges and job sites and for graduation verification. The new program was set in place on April 16, 2024. We have had 48 transcripts sent and four graduation verifications.
- Accounting—On Sept. 5th, Mrs. Avery will meet with our accountant and auditors to review bank records and finances to present at the September Board Meeting.

**BOE MEMBERS REPORTS:**

None at tonight’s meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Approve the resignation of Kitchen Manager – Patricia Trofimchuck
- Affirm the hire of Kitchen Manager – Paige Przybylski
- Affirm the hire of P/T night custodian – April Titus
- Approve the transfer of Assistant Baseball Coach to Supplemental Baseball Coach – Chris Halpin – to move from Assistant Baseball to Supplemental Baseball.
- Approve the hire of an Assistant Baseball Coach – Justin Wharrie
- Approve the hire of Supplemental Boys’ Basketball Coach – Justin Wharrie
- Approve the Threat Assessment Plan and Protocols for FY25 – Reviewed annually
- Approve the Public Hearing for the FY2025 Budget – September 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Approve the First Reading of Press Plus Policy 116 – as presented by IASA
- Approve the new GSW Sports Handbook – as presented
- Approve the assignment of teacher mentors – Rebecca Ridgway, Allan Wills, and Patricia Boaz

- Approve the assignment of Class Sponsor – Class of 2026 – Patricia Boaz
- Approve to apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant – for projects

**OTHERS:**

None at this time.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

President: Katy Wepprecht

Vice-President: Kori Speed

Kristen Ashley, Tim Harvey, Terry Schultz,

David Simms & Allison Wright

Principal: Mr. Brian Davis

Superintendent: Mrs. Susan Avery