

**GARDNER-SO. WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
GARDNER, IL 60424**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Gardner-So. Wilmington High School Board of Education, Counties of Grundy and Kankakee, IL was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by President, Mrs. Katy Wepprecht.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright. Also in attendance was Superintendent Mrs. Sue Avery. Mr. Harvey attended via cell-phone conference. All other members were present “in person.”

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Walter Debelak, Head of Maintenance at GSWHS, was present to attend Executive Closed Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Upon the recommendation of the President, Mrs. Katy Wepprecht, Mrs. Ashley motioned and seconded by Ms. Wright to go into closed session at 7:16 p.m. for the purpose of considering information regarding employment contracts or any matter permissible under the open meetings act.

2:220-E2

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

ADJOURN CLOSED AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Mrs. Schultz motioned and seconded by Mrs. Ashley to adjourn executive session and return to regular session at 7:49 p.m.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Ms. Wright motioned and seconded by Mrs. Ashley to approve the meeting minutes for the month of *August*: (August 21, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes & Closed Session minutes), bills for the month of *September* and payroll for the month of *August* and Financial Reports for the month of *August*.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Principal’s Report: Mr. Brian Davis, Principal, was absent at tonight’s meeting, so Mrs. Sue Avery, Supt., reported the following:

- Drills have been conducted – Fire, Severe Weather and Intruder drills.
- Informal Evaluations have been started
- Chess Club – New this year is the Chess Club, and Mr. Alan Wills is our sponsor.
- Supplemental Volleyball Coach – JV Coach and Varsity Assistant – Mrs. Heather Muzzarelli

- Band Day at U of I – Sat., Sept. 7th – Gardner Area Band and Spirit Line performed during halftime
- MAP Testing – 9th, 10th and 11th graders - FALL testing has been completed
- SIP DAY – Wed., Sept. 11 with an 11:30 AM early dismissal for students. Teachers spent the afternoon in McKinney Vento training and then in PLC groups for vertical alignment work.
- PLC Day – Wed., Sept 18 with a 2:00 PM early dismissal for students.
- GSW HS Autumn Ball – Saturday – October 5 from 7 to 9 PM
- Natural Helpers Trip – Oct. 10 & 11 – Mrs. Will – GSW Social Worker, along with three other GSW teachers, will be taking a group of students on an overnight trip.
- Fall Break – October 11 – 14, 2024

Director's Report:

Chris Ruddy, Director of Student Services, submitted her report electronically to the board members to review. MAP testing for FALL has been completed for our Fresh, Soph, and Junior students. English teacher, Mrs. Miller will be using the Read 180 program for interventions in reading. Math teacher, Mrs. Leigh will be using the ALEKS program for interventions in math. Mrs. Ruddy is conducting senior meetings with seniors at GSW to discuss graduation requirements, making sure they are on track, answering any college questions and helping students prepare for life after graduation. Congratulations to our College Board National Recognition Program awardees: Abigail Leveille, Samantha Martin, and Tyler Wilkey! Abigail, Samantha and Tyler have been awarded the National Rural and Small-Town Program Award. Samantha has also been awarded the National First Generation and Hispanic Recognition Program Awards! These awards can help our students get recruited by colleges and universities and recognize them for their academic achievements.

Building and Grounds Report: Mrs. Sue Avery, Supt., reviewed the following:

- Weight Room Update = We are currently working on getting this room ready. Flooring, painting, lighting, and a new heating and cooling system for this area are being completed at this time.
- ROE Maintenance Grant: This is a matching maintenance grant. The money will be used to develop our new Lifetime Fitness Weight Room / Classroom, locks throughout the building, and LED lighting fixtures inside and outside the building.
- Shed Area – We will be working on cleaning up around the outside shed area and back alleyway area.
- Batting Cages – They need to be taken down when not in use, especially during the winter months and determine if the netting needs to be replaced.
- HVAC – Install a new heating and cooling system in our gym – in stages.
- Weekly Building and Grounds Projects Meeting with Supt and Director of Maintenance have been on-going.
- Triple I Conference – November in Chicago. Board members and Supt. discussed finalizing plans.
- GAVC – Minooka High School is renovating its CTE (Career and Tech Ed) programs in-house. When the renovations are completed, the school district will remain in partnership with GAVC for the following programs: Cosmetology, Health Occ / CNA, and Early Childhood / Teaching.
- GAVC had its FY Audit presentation.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Sue Avery discussed the following:

- Transportation – Our bus company, Illinois Central School Bus, settled their contract.
- Accounting – On Sept. 5th Mrs. Avery met with our accountant and our auditors to discuss and prepare for the upcoming audit. The Englert Group and our auditors both suggested using a new software program at GSW HS. Audit work will begin soon.
- Imprest Account – This account has been in-active for several years. It will be closed, and funds will be transferred to our Main Account.

BOE Members Reports:

Board member, Terry Schultz, asked if the board could receive a list of who is in charge of what clubs, groups, school activities, etc. Mrs. Avery said she would send board members a list of paid stipends.

Board member, Allison Wright, informed the board that a few GSW students had asked the Village of Braceville if they could help out in any way to receive community service hours. The Village can't offer and doesn't have any jobs for high school students due to liability issues.

Board member, Mr. David Simms, asked about NHS students, community service hours and the Lions Club Breakfast that was held on Sunday, September 15. He was informed that students signed up to help at the event and some did not show up. Due to the low student numbers helping, the Lions Club did not give NHS any monetary donations.

ACTION ITEMS:

APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 DISTRICT BUDGET: Mr. Simms motioned and seconded by Mrs. Speed to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 District Budget.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 TEACHER / ADMINISTRATION COMPENSATION REPORT: Mrs. Ashley motioned and seconded by Mrs. Wepprecht to approve the fiscal year 2024 Teacher / Administration Compensation Report.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

APPROVE HIRE FOR VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT FOR JV/VARSITY: Mrs. Speed motioned and seconded by Mrs. Ashley to approve hire for Supplemental Volleyball Assistant for JV/Varsity, Mrs. Heather Muzzarelli.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY 116: Mrs. Schultz motioned and seconded by Ms. Wright to approve the Second Reading of Board Policy 116.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE IMPREST ACCOUNT: Ms. Wright motioned and seconded by Mrs. Schultz to approve the Resolution to close the Imprest Account.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GSW E-LEARNING PLAN: Mrs. Speed motioned and seconded by Mrs. Schultz to approve the Resolution for the GSW E-Learning Plan.

AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

AFFIRM THE HIRE OF ELL PARAPROFESSIONAL: Mrs. Schultz motioned and seconded by Mr. Harvey to affirm the hire of ELL Paraprofessional, Mrs. Cassie Boudreau.
AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

OTHER(s): None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Speed motioned and seconded by Mr. Simms to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.
AYES: Ashley, Harvey, Schultz, Simms, Speed, Wepprecht and Wright.
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0.

PRESIDENT, KATY WEPPRECHT

SECRETARY, CARLA HUSTON