

MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 9 held in the Board Conference Room at the Board of Education Administrative Offices, 1947 Adams Street, Granite City, Illinois, on February 11, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: MEGHAN DAILY, RON DILLARD, KATHY HAGNAUER, MATT JONES, JERRY MCKECHAN, BEVERLEY SCROGGINS AND CAROLYN YATES.

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: JIM GREENWALD, ED.S., JODY BATSON, SKIP BIRDSONG, DENNIS BURNETT, LYNETTE BURNETT, PAT CURRY, LISA DELANEY, DAREN DEPEW, BRAD EAVENSON, CORY ERVAY, DOTTIE FALTER, CINDY GAGICH, KAREN GREENWALD, DON HARRIS, MARGARET HARRIS, GLORIA HARRISON, PAULA HUBBARD, DAVID KEEL, DAVID KESSLER, LINDA KESSLER, DEBRA KIBORT, STEVE KNOGL, NANCY LEVAULT, TERRY MITCHELL, CHRISTIE MOAD, LIZ NIEPERT, KRISTEN NOVACICH, JIM PARKER, BOB QUICK, KAREN QUICK, JILL RELLEKE, SAMANTHA RYDGIG, JACK SCHOOLEY, TOM SCHOOLEY, DON STRATTON, ZACK SUHRE, AND MARY VOSS.

OTHERS PRESENT: OFFICER CARTER BURFORD, RALPH BURNETT, REV. KARLA FROST, JOHN JANEK, VIRGIL KAMBARIAN, AND DARLETHA LESAR.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board President, Beverley Scroggins.
2. Appointed Jerry McKechan as Secretary Pro Tem for the Board of Education Meeting on February 11, 2014.
3. Accepted the Resignation of Current Board Secretary, Ron Dillard.
4. President Beverley Scroggins nominated Jerry McKechan as the new Board of Education Secretary.

Motion by Member Hagnauer, seconded by Member Jones, to appoint Jerry McKechan as the new Board of Education Secretary.

Members voting—Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Yates, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

Member Dillard thanked everyone for their cards and prayers and said he is feeling better. He also thanked Director of Technology, Zack Suhre for going with him to the hospital.

5. Roll was called. All members were present and a quorum was declared. President Scroggins asked those present to stand for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation. She stated that citizens or parents with children in attendance, who did not wish to participate in the Invocation, could wait outside the Board Conference Room until after the Board moved to Item IV, Public Comment. Reverend Karla Frost of St. John United Church of Christ offered the Invocation.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. **Request to Address the Board;** Steve Knogl, Teachers Union President

Mr. Knogl addressed the Board of Education regarding the finances.

7. **MINUTES**; Motion by Member Meghan Daily, seconded by Member Jones, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held on January 28, 2014 as presented on 270 & a-e.

Members voting—Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “abstain”, and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**; Motion by Member Hagnauer, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda as follows:

- TREASURER’S REPORT/DECEMBER 2013 (271 & a)
- BILL LIST (272 -314)
- OTHER BUSINESS (315)

✦ **GCHS Football Coaching Staff Trip**; Going to the Nike Coach’s Clinic in Kentucky on February 14-16, 2014. Only cost to the district will be the use of a district vehicle. All other costs will be covered by the football activity fund.

✦ **Requests From Various Organizations:**

- a. **Southern Illinois Eagles Basketball Club**; Use of facilities at GCHS for basketball tournaments to be held on April 12, 2014 and May 17, 2014. All costs will be paid by Southern Illinois Eagles Basketball Club.
- b. **Granite City Police Department**; Use of facilities at Coolidge Junior High School for their annual Active Shooter Training to be held April 14-18, 2014 during Spring Break. The District will cover the overtime costs of the custodian.

Members Voting- Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Yates, “aye”; Jones “aye”, and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

9. **RETIREMENTS** (316); Motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Yates, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following retirements:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Margaret Feltmeyer	Cafeteria/Maryville	Retirement	1/31/2014
Fran Barnhart	Cafeteria/Mitchell	Retirement	6/30/2018
Gail Kindle	Exec. Secy./Personnel	Retirement	6/30/2018

Members voting—Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

10. **LEAVES OF ABSENCE** (316); Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Jones, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following leaves of absence:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Jennifer Meznarich	Title I/Frohardt	Maternity	February 21–May 16, 2014
Sharon Jones	Cafeteria/Grigsby	Deduct	March 12-17, 2014
Sarah Corzine	3 rd Grade/Prather	Maternity	March 3–May 30, 2014
Danny Bone	Custodian/Mitchell	Medical	February 4-May 5, 2014

Members Voting- McKeChan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

11. **ELEMENTARY 4TH QUARTER DUTY RECOMMENDATIONS** (316a); Motion by Member Hagnauer, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following for duty for the 4th Quarter of the 2013-2014 school year:

<u>Frohardt</u> Kathy Neal Debbie Vorce Janine Sherman Kim Winter	<u>Maryville</u> Kristin Laws Jackie Dowdy Tiffany Boyd Kelly Gutierrez	<u>Mitchell</u> Amanda Wilson William Cochran Nancy Connolly Diane Frazier
<u>Prather</u> Barb Lambert Kiki Cochran Cathy Neidhardt Tom Miller	<u>Wilson</u> Angelique Dorris John Niebur Leah McFarland Lisa Smith	<u>Worthen</u> Christy Marana Billy Niepert Patrick McBride Jeff Johnson

Member McKeChan asked what we do this every quarter and not every semester or for the year. Mr. Jim Parker stated that it how it is in their contract.

Members Voting- Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; McKeChan, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

12. **EMPLOYMENT OF PRATHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL** (316b-g); This item was held for executive session.
13. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR APPOINTMENT** (316g); Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following extra-curricular appointment for the 2014-2015 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Kenneth Jackson	Head Boys Soccer Coach - GCHS

Members voting—Hagnauer, “aye”; McKeChan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Jones, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

14. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR VOLUNTEER** (316h); Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following extra-curricular volunteer for the 2014-2015 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Volunteer Position</u>
Mark Jones	Girls Soccer Program - GCHS

Members voting—Hagnauer, “aye”; McKeChan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Jones, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

15. **CERTIFIED AND CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES** (316h) Motion by Member Hagnauer, seconded by Member Jones, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following individuals as certified and classified substitutes for the 2013-2014 school year:

Certified

Jordan Dowdy
Hannah Bernaix

Classified

Tammy Saggio

Members Voting- McKechan, "aye"; Daily, "aye"; Yates, "aye"; Dillard, "aye", Jones, "aye"; Hagnauer, "aye"; and Scroggins, "aye"; motion carried.

16. **RENEWAL OF IPA STUDENT HANDBOOK** (317); Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Jones, upon the recommendation of the administration, to renew the subscription to the IPA student handbook.

Members Voting- Daily, "aye"; Yates, "aye"; Dillard, "aye", Jones, "aye"; Hagnauer, "aye"; McKechan, "aye"; and Scroggins, "aye"; motion carried

17. **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2014-2015** (317a-b); Motion by Member Hagnauer, seconded by Member Yates, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve Kindergarten Registration for 2014-2015.

Member Hagnauer asked if Head Start always provided transportation for Kindergarten Registration. Mrs. Nancy LeVault stated that they have, only to their facility and only for their families.

Members Voting- Yates, "aye"; Dillard, "aye", Jones, "aye"; Hagnauer, "aye"; McKechan, "aye"; Daily, "aye"; and Scroggins, "aye"; motion carried

18. **IN-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS DATE CHANGE** (317c); Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Yates, upon the recommendation of the administration, to change the due date on in-district transfer requests from July 1st to June 1st.

Members voting—Dillard, "aye", Jones, "aye"; Hagnauer, "aye"; McKechan, "aye"; Daily, "aye"; Yates, "aye"; and Scroggins, "aye"; motion carried.

19. **LETTER TO ILLINOIS LEGISLATORS** (318 & a-b); Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Jones, upon the recommendation of the administration, to send a letter regarding our finances to Illinois Legislators.

*Granite City Community Unit
School District #9*

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
1947 ADAMS STREET
GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS 62040-3397
www.gcsd9.net

Jim Greenwald, Ed. S.
Superintendent

(618) 451-5800
Fax (618) 451-7180

February 12, 2014

We, the members of the Granite City CUSD #9 Board of Education, would like to impress upon you how the state's financial crisis continues to have a detrimental effect on our district, our staff, and most importantly, our students.

The intent of General State Aid (G.S.A.) is to equalize funding for ALL school districts. The goal is to afford all districts with the opportunity to provide a comparable, quality education.

In the past few years, we have witnessed G.S.A. being pro-rated. First, because the appropriation for G.S.A. has declined. Second, because Property Tax Extension Law (PTELL) has required a high of eight-hundred million dollars from funds appropriated for G.S.A. This coming year, it is projected that less than two-hundred million dollars will be needed for PTELL. Now is the time to eliminate this G.S.A. deduct.

A pro-rated G.S.A. widens the gap between the wealthiest districts and the poorest districts. Since the wealthiest districts receive little to no G.S.A., they do not feel the impact as significantly as the poorest districts who literally cannot survive without G.S.A.

Pro-rating G.S.A. continues to cost our District millions of dollars each and every year. We received more G.S.A. in 2004-2005 than we will receive this year.

We are also losing local revenue due to a decline in E.A.V. Next year we will receive less in local revenue than we did in 2005-2006.

Over this same time period, costs have continued to increase.

We continue to make significant cuts in programs and personnel and we have not only spent our fund balances, we have borrowed 9.75 million dollars.

We would ask that you:

1. Fully fund G.S.A. – then find ways to make cuts to all Districts – not just those reliant on G.S.A.
2. Fully fund Transportation. Pro-rating Transportation affects Districts disproportionately.
3. Cut mandates in proration to cuts in revenue.

Many Districts are in our same financial situation. Are there plans in place for when a District does run out of money?

Thanks for all you do on our behalf.

Sincerely,

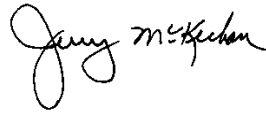
Granite City School District #9
Board of Education



Beverley Scroggins
President



Meghan Daily
Vice-President



Jerry McKechan
Secretary



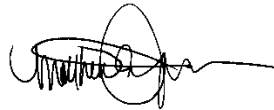
Carolyn Yates
Treasurer



Ron Dillard
Member



Kathy Hagnauer
Member



Matt Jones
Member



Jim Greenwald
Superintendent

Members voting—Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Jones, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

20. **ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL** (319-333) ; President Beverley Scroggins, and Superintendent Greenwald both read statements regarding the finances in our District. Superintendent Greenwald then went over each page of the proposal.

-338g-

Granite City Community Unit School District #9

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
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Beverley Scroggins
Board of Education President

(618) 451-5800
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February 11, 2014

When all school board members are sworn in, we take an oath to faithfully discharge the duties of the office of being a member of the Board of Education. Part of our oath also mandates that we shall respect taxpayers' interests by serving as a faithful protector of the school district's assets.

We have come to a crossroad with regard to the school district's finances. One only need to pick up a daily newspaper or listen to a nightly news broadcast to read or hear that Illinois school districts across the state are encountering financial difficulties because of declining revenue streams from the state, local and federal sources.

Having been a school board member for several years, the board and administration have worked very hard to maintain high quality student education and programs for our children in the face of these declining revenues. We have made the tough decisions to close an elementary school and to not replace some retiring staff while at the same time providing competitive wages and benefits for our staff.

We have adopted and implemented an Early Retirement Program which allows the highest paid staff to be replaced resulting in a savings to the district allowing us to again maintain quality education. This has also allowed us not to have any reduction in force, thus maintaining ideal classroom sizes.

The Board and administration have made these reductions in the face of salary and benefit increases for all of our valued staff.

We did this with the hope and expectation that the state would fully fund general state aid and our other revenue streams would stabilize allowing the district to remain fiscally sound. Unfortunately that did not occur and the district decided to issue 9 million dollars in bonds 2 years ago to operate our district, again, with the expectation that declining revenues would stabilize, allowing us to balance our budget. We have since implemented the cost saving measures as mentioned before to help balance our budget. Expenditures have remained level but because of declining revenues we are now at this fiscal crossroad.

Turning to today, the state is still prorating general state aid meaning our school district is not receiving money we desperately need to efficiently operate our district on a sustained basis.

Our district has lost 2 million dollars in general state aid per year as well as reductions in other areas such as transportation. If general state aid is downward prorated from 89% to 85%, as being currently discussed in Springfield, which would result in our district losing an additional 1 million dollars in revenue.

This would be on top of an educational fund deficit budget of 3.3 million dollars for this fiscal year in our district.

I can tell you adamantly on behalf of myself as board president, and on behalf of every member of this board, we do not want to have to make any proposed reductions in programs as Mr. Greenwald will outline to you shortly. We know and appreciate what the district has to offer by way of educational instruction and activities and every board member wants to maintain that quality of education for the children of this district.

However, since we have no control over the general state aid, local and federal funding streams we are now faced as board members and as the law requires to put into effect measures that will lower expenditures to bring our budget in line with expected revenues. In doing so we know this will be a difficult task. Mr. Greenwald and his administrative team have been working very hard to come up with proposals to reduce costs without impacting quality education. These proposals are not an end to our fiscal problem. We look forward in the next few months to meeting with the representatives of our staff to engage in meaningful negotiations to help not only stabilize the district's finances, but to insure the long term mission of our district in providing quality education to our students.

-338h-

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Superintendent

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February 11, 2014

Thank you Mrs. Scroggins

As you mentioned, myself and my central office staff have been meeting for several months to develop a plan which we are proposing tonight. This will help bring our finances in line with our declining revenues over the past several years, while maintaining a quality education.

When I first took the position as Superintendent of this district, I did so with the full understanding of the district's finances and the fiscal problems that we faced.

Our district's financial issues are not one of our own making. This board as well as previous boards have done an excellent job in keeping the district's expenditures level. The district's problem is not one of spending too much; it is one of declining revenues from the state, local property taxes and federal funding. The presentation you will see tonight will make this very clear.

Even though state revenue has declined, the state still has not lowered our mandates. We are still required by law to educate, however the state has lowered the funding for many programs mandated.

The loss of revenue is not a problem that has presented itself this year. All Illinois districts have seen a decline in revenue for several years. State and local revenues are lower now than they were several years ago. The school district is losing local property tax revenue to the extent the district is now receiving less in local revenue than we did in 2005-2006.

This loss in revenues, coupled with rising costs such as salaries and benefits for staff has caused this district not only to spend its reserve fund balance, but to borrow, as Mrs. Scroggins pointed out, 9 million dollars 2 years ago for operational uses. We are now spending these borrowed funds down to a point where, unfortunately, changes must be made.

Myself, as well as my administrative team, agree with this board that, one, no one wants to be at the point where we are today. We all understand the value of an education, and the quality education this district offers which is provided by our valued staff. Secondly, no one wants to have to implement any of the proposals you are about to see and hear. The administration, first and foremost wants to maintain quality education and programs for our students. This is our mission; this is what we are all about.

However, because of the financial crossroad we are at, tonight we will present our recommendations. These recommendations are presented with the primary goals of having the least impact on education, on the impact to staff and restoring the financial stability to our district.

Also, as Mrs. Scroggins mentioned, we are looking forward to meeting with the representatives of our employees, as they are a vital element in restoring financial stability to our district. We know this won't be easy, but both the administration and our employees must work together, work hard and work toward a district that is on sound financial footing in light of several years of declining revenue. We must do this not only for ourselves but for the Granite City community.

Once the proposals are presented, board discussions at a future meeting will be undertaken to make decisions.

We will now get in to the presentation.

Administrative Budget Management Proposal

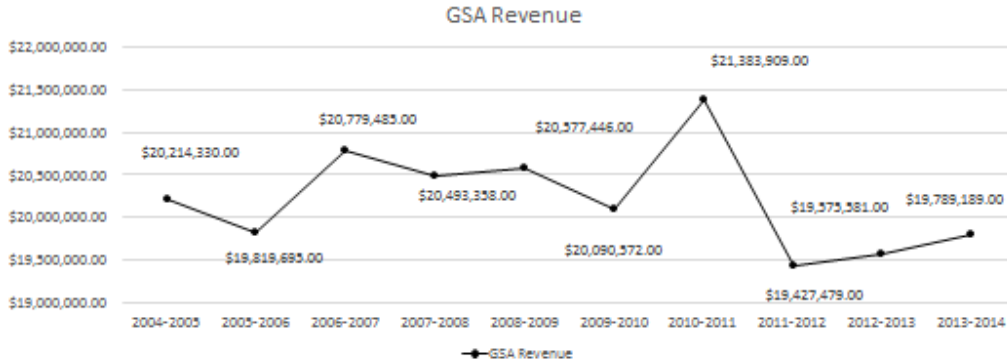
GRANITE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9

FEBRUARY 11, 2014

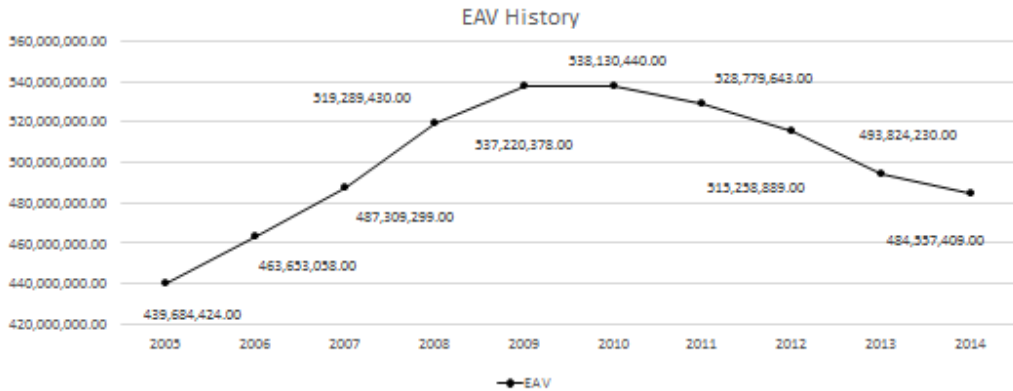
Cost Reduction Goal

- Based on current budget projections we will be deficit spending 3.3 million dollars for the 2014-2015 school year due to loss of local, state, and federal revenue.
- While reductions will have a significant impact on the educational process of the Granite City School District, they are necessary to maintain the financial stability of the district.

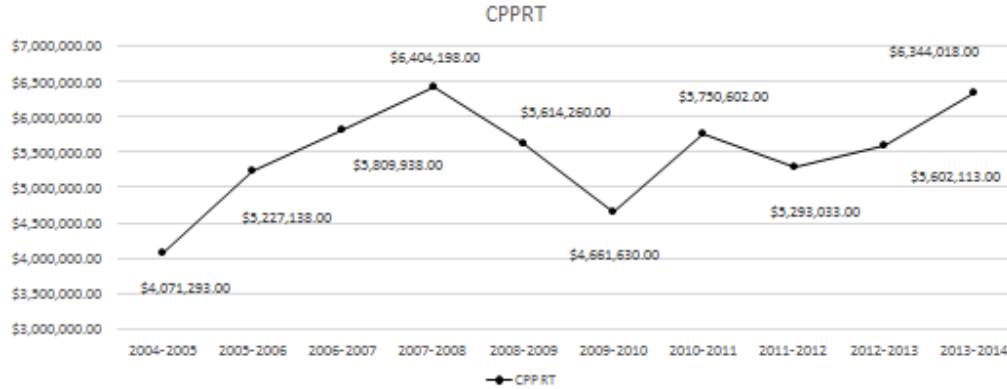
General State Aid (GSA)



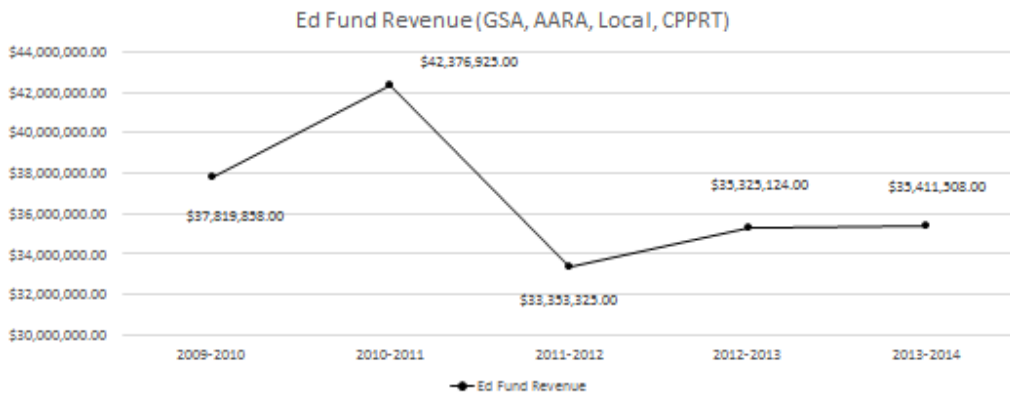
Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV)



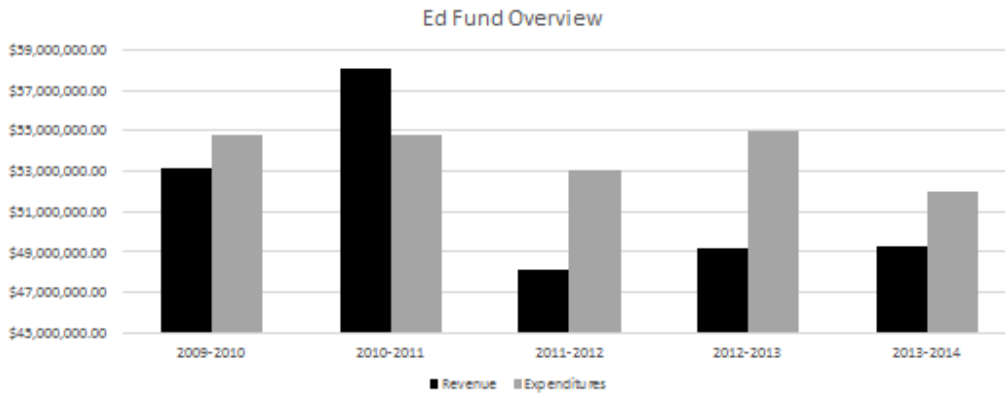
Ed Fund Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT)



Ed Fund Revenue



Ed Fund Overview



Impacted Programs

- Truancy Program
- Athletic Trainer
- Early Childhood Center Program
- Elementary Music
- Elementary PE
- Elementary Gifted
- Support Staff Services
- Coolidge Jr. High Class Periods
- High School Late Arrival / Early Dismissal
- High School Extra-Curricular
- Jr. High Extra-Curricular
- Driver's Education
- Intermediate / Jr. High Band
- Extended Campus Programs

Staff Reductions

STAFF REDUCTION TYPE		STAFF CLASSIFICATION	
Type	Total	Type	Total
Reduction In Force (RIF)	18	Certified	25
Attrition	15	Classified	8
Total	33	Total	33

Staff Reduction Savings

Type	Total
Reduction In Force (RIF)	\$1,127,866.00
Attrition	\$1,151,587.00
Total	\$2,279,453.00

Expense Reductions

Budget Item	Savings
Running Start Program	\$33,000.00
Replacement Staff Savings	\$113,653.00
Fiber Optic Costs	\$25,000.00
Reduce Extra-Curricular Travel	\$9,000.00
Voucher Reduction \$50 to \$25	\$5,000.00
Recovery Program (CYHS)	\$49,000.00
Total	\$234,653.00

Fee Increases

Fee	Current Amount	Proposed Amount
Book	\$25 Year	\$50 Year
High School Athletics	\$0	\$75 Per Sport (Maximum \$150)
Gifted Education	\$0	\$50 Per Semester
Student Parking	\$25 Year	\$75 Year
Driver's Training	\$150	\$250
Band	\$0	\$75 Per Semester
Jr. High Athletics, if retained	\$0	\$50 Per Sport (Maximum \$100)
Club / Organization Fee	\$0	\$15 Per Club
Student Activity Ticket	\$15 Year	\$25 Year

Total Savings

Item	Savings
Staff Reductions	\$2,279,453.00
Expense Reductions	\$234,653.00
Fee Revenue	\$232,025.00
Total Savings	\$2,746,131.00

Possible 2015-2016 Items

- Reduce one Period at Granite City High School
- Close an Elementary Building
- Increase Class Sizes
- Eliminate Elementary PE & Music

21. REPORTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

Committee Reports – There were no committee reports.

Freedom of Information Act Report (334) It was reported that there have been no requests under the Freedom of Information Act during the period of January 23, 2014 through February 5, 2014.

Expulsions (335) Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Hagnauer, to expel one Coordinated Youth and Human Services/Granite City High School student and one Coolidge Junior High School student for infractions of the student “Code of Conduct” for one calendar year from the date of the Board of Education meeting (February 11, 2014) and one Granite City High School student for infractions of the student “Code of Conduct” for two calendar years from the date of the Board of Education meeting (February 11, 2014).

Members voting—Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

22. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Yates, to go into executive session for the exceptions noted under 5 ILCS 120/2 Open Meetings:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, placement, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body;
- Student disciplinary matters;
- The purchase or lease of real property for use by the public body;
- Collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives; and
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been files...is probable or imminent.

Members voting—all aye; voice vote motion carried

The Board was called into executive session at 5:40 p.m.

Executive session closed and the meeting resumed at 7:17 p.m.

Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Jones, to close executive session and resume the public meeting. Members voting—all aye; voice vote; motion carried.

23. **EMPLOYMENT OF PRATHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL (316b-g)**; Motion by Member Jones, seconded by Member Yates, employ Erica Venne as the Prather Elementary School Principal for the 2014-2015 school year.

Members voting—Daily, “aye”; Yates, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”, Jones, “aye”; Hagnauer, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; and Scroggins, “aye”; motion carried.

24. **EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES/JANUARY 28, 2014** (337) Motion by Member Hagnauer, seconded by Member Yates, to approve the executive minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held on January 28, 2014.

Members Voting- Daily, "aye"; Yates, "aye"; Dillard, "abstain", Jones, "aye"; Hagnauer, "aye"; McKechan, "aye"; and Scroggins, "aye"; motion carried.

25. **SETTING THE AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 25, 2014 MEETING** – There were no items.

26. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Jones, to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Members voting—all aye; voice vote; motion carried.

Beverley Scroggins, President

Jerry McKechan, Secretary