



MEMBERS PRESENT: Becky Bradley, Tallin Curran, Don Lienemann, Lori Silva, and Erica Venne.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Knogl, and Eric Stacy.

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Dr. Don Harris, Superintendent of Schools, Jody Batson, Stephanie Boyer, Genie Bratten, Sarah Corzine, Brad Ervay, Cory Ervay, Wendy Gunter, Dr. David Keel, Steve Mathes, Tim McChristian, Chris McCullough, Chris Mitchell, Kristen Novacich-Koberna, Nikki Petrillo, Jill Relleke, Tom Schooley, Brad Smith, Eric Smith, Marcie Sweet, Zack Suhre, and Micki Watkins, Ann Wilson and Megan Wedekind.

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER: n/a

OTHERS PRESENT: Pastor Stacey Wilson and Lieutenant Jeremy Hunter #215.

This was an open and virtual meeting that took place using the Zoom application. There was a total of twenty-four (24) Employees, two (2) Guests, and five (5) Board Members, physically present.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION;

1. **ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM;** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President, Tallin Curran. Roll was called. Five {5} members were physically present, and a quorum was declared. President Tallin Curran asked those present to stand for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation. He 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. Pastor Stacey Wilson with GCFirst Assembly of God offered the invocation.
2. **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOE MEETING;** Motion by Member Venne, seconded by Member Silva, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the board of education held on Tuesday, October 22, 2024.

Members voting - Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, and Venne “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy
3. **DISTRICT RECONFIGURATION PRESENTATION;** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Don Harris thanked all of the Administration and Staff members for their hard work and long hours on the Reconfiguration Models and the following Reconfiguration Presentation:

District Reconfiguration 2025-2026

Board Presentation
November 12, 2024

Why are we considering a restructure of elementary buildings?

GCSD9 Board members conducted a survey of the community, staff, and students within the Granite City School District regarding the restructuring of our elementary grade levels. The survey results revealed an interest in returning to a multi-grade level model resembling a neighborhood school configuration.

Current District Configuration

SCHOOLS	Current Grades	K-4 Grades	K-6 Grades
GCHS	9-12	9-12	9-12
Coolidge	7-8	7-8	7-8
Grigsby	5-6	5-6	PreK-6
Mitchell	3-4	K-4	K-6
Frohardt	3-4	K-4	K-6
Maryville	1-2	K-4	K-6
Wilson	1-2	K-4	K-6
Prather	PreK-K	PreK-4	PreK-6
Lake	5-12	5-12	5-12

ATTENDANCE CENTERS

(CURRENT MODEL)

PROS

- Consistent implementation of curriculum across grade levels
- Most economical; no additional staff required
- Consistent class sizes across grade levels
- Consistent building for transient students
- Teacher collaboration
- Greater flexibility in providing specialized services

CONS

- Longer bus routes
- More school transitions
- Different school start times
- 3-Tier transportation model
- Limited afterschool activities

3 TIER VS 2 TIER TRANSPORTATION MODELS

(Currently we have a 3-Tier Transportation Model)

- 3 TIER: Buses will run 3 total routes in both the AM and PM timeframes. (Example: Bus X will pickup GCHS students, then Coolidge students, and then Mitchell students in AM and then repeat for departures)

The opening and closing times will be staggered to enable one bus to handle several routes. More tiers equates to more divisions in start times. There would have to be 3 divisible starts which means more staggered start times.

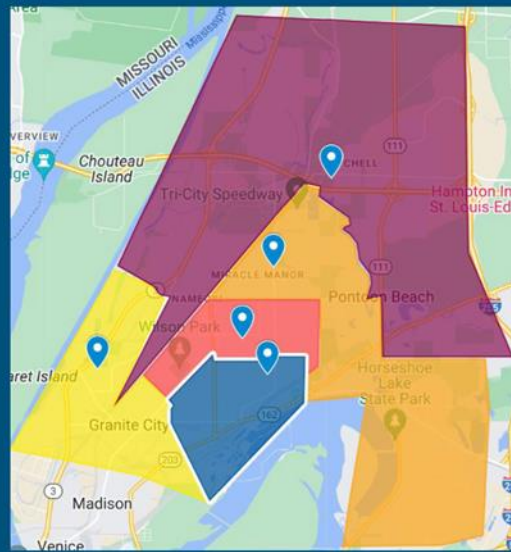
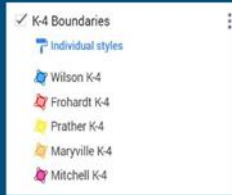
- 2 TIER: Buses will run 2 total routes in both the AM and PM timeframes. (Example: Bus X will pickup GCHS students and then Mitchell students in AM and then repeat for departures)

The opening and closing times will be less staggered with only two routes. Less tiers equates to more consistent start times. Boundaries can have a huge impact on whether this can be viable.

K-4 District Configuration

SCHOOLS	Current Grades	K-4 Grades	K-6 Grades
GCHS	9-12	9-12	9-12
Coolidge	7-8	7-8	7-8
Grigsby	5-6	5-6	PreK-6
Mitchell	3-4	K-4	K-6
Frohardt	3-4	K-4	K-6
Maryville	1-2	K-4	K-6
Wilson	1-2	K-4	K-6
Prather	PreK-K	PreK-4	PreK-6
Lake	5-12	5-12	5-12

K-4 Boundaries



K-4 POTENTIAL START/END TIMES

3 Tier Transportation Model

<u>SCHOOLS</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
GCHS	8:15 AM	3:00 PM
Coolidge	7:30 AM	2:15 PM
Grigsby	9:25 AM	3:45 PM
Mitchell	9:00 AM	3:15 PM
Frohardt	8:15 AM	2:30 PM
Maryville	8:15 AM	2:30 PM
Wilson	8:15 AM	2:30 PM
Prather / PreK	9:00 AM / 9:15 AM	3:15 PM / 3:30 PM
Lake	8:00 AM	1:30 PM

K-4 BUILDING MODEL

PROS

- Vertical alignment of curriculum within the building
- Similar Structure to Previous K-4 configuration
- Least amount of student / staff displacement
- Less additional staff than K-6

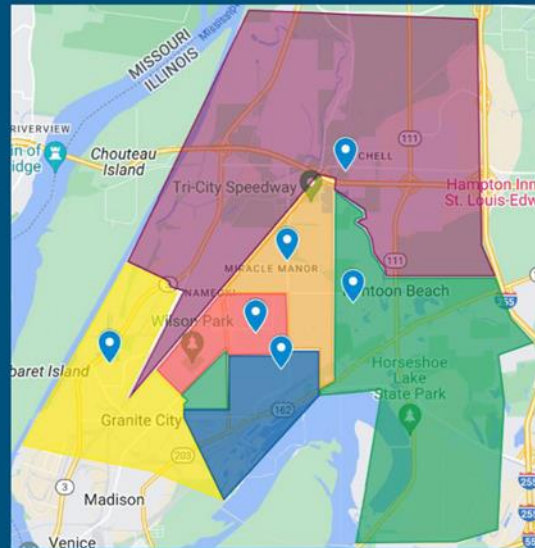
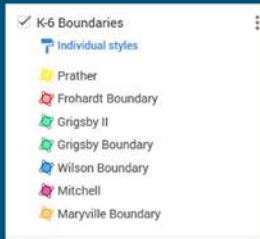
CONS

- Requires Additional Staff compared to current model
- Limited After School Activities
- Discrepancy in Class Sizes between buildings
- Limits flexibility in providing specialized services
- 3-Tier Transportation
- Six Day Enrollment Staff Movement

K-6 District Configuration

SCHOOLS	Current Grades	K-4 Grades	K-6 Grades
GCHS	9-12	9-12	9-12
Coolidge	7-8	7-8	7-8
Grigsby	5-6	5-6	PreK-6
Mitchell	3-4	K-4	K-6
Frohardt	3-4	K-4	K-6
Maryville	1-2	K-4	K-6
Wilson	1-2	K-4	K-6
Prather	PreK-K	PreK-4	PreK-6
Lake	5-12	5-12	5-12

K-6 Boundaries



Class Size Discrepancies Between Buildings

Current Model - Attendance Center	Student Enrollment	Grade Level	Teachers FTE	Class Size
Prather	94	KDG	4.0	24

K-4 or K-6 Model Building	Student Enrollment	Grade Level	Teachers FTE	Class Size
A	38	KDG	2.0	19
B	56	KDG	2.0	28

Class Size Discrepancies Between Grade Levels at a Building

Building A	Student Enrollment	Teachers FTE	Class Size
5th Grade	38	2	19
Kindergarten	56	2	28

While the district could add one teacher to the kindergarten grade level at this building to lower the class size, if we add one teacher at that grade level in each K-4/K-6 building that would be estimated annual cost of \$480,000 in additional teacher salaries.

Tentative School Boundaries by Street

Next Board Meeting - December 10, 2024

Outline

- Restructuring Directive
- Current Model Review
 - District Configuration
 - Pros / Cons
- K-4 Model
 - Times
 - Boundaries
 - Pros / Cons
- K-6 Model
 - Times
 - Boundaries
 - Pros / Cons

4. **CONSENT AGENDA;** (1-2) Motion by Member Silva, seconded by Member Lienemann, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the items listed on the consent agenda as follows:

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report from September 2024
{available upon request}

Bill List

Bill List from October 17, 2024 - November 5, 2024;
{available upon request}

Gifts

GRANITE CITY CUSD9 DONATIONS; the GCSD9 Board of Education accepted the following gifts with thanks and appreciation.

US Steel; They have donated roll stock to the Granite City High School Vocational Program.

James J. Rooney; NYPD Detective; Detective Rooney presented this donation to Dr. Harris at the Wall of Fame ceremony on Friday, November 8, 2024.

Members voting - Silva, "aye", Curran, "aye", "aye", Lienemann, "aye", Venne "aye", and Bradley, "aye", motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

5. **RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS;** (3) Motion by Member Silva, seconded by Member Bradley, upon the recommendation of administration, to accept the following retirements and resignations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Vicki Branding	Café/Grigsby	Retirement	11/02/2029
Kevin Hayes	Custodian/Grigsby	Retirement	09/05/2025

Members voting - Curran, "aye", "aye", Lienemann, "aye", Venne "aye", Bradley, "aye", and Silva, "aye", motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

6. **REQUESTS FOR LEAVES OF ABSENCE;** (3) Motion by Member Bradley, seconded by Member Silva, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following requests for leaves of absence:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Amy Finazzo	Paraprofessional/Mitchell	FMLA	01/24/2025 - 03/15/2025
Sean Williams	Custodian/Maryville	FMLA	01/24/2025 - 02/14/2025
Tracie Grote	4 th Grade Teacher/Mitchell	FMLA	12/16/2024 - 02/07/2025
Tisa Denzmore	Paraprofessional/Lake	FMLA	10/11/2024 - 11/11/2024
Jill Schillinger	Cafe/Coolidge	FMLA	10/30/2024 - 01/22/2025

Members voting - Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, and Curran, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

7. **REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS OF LEAVES OF ABSENCE;** (3) Motion by Member Lienemann, seconded by Member Bradley, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following requests for extensions to leaves of absence:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Steve Akeman	Social Studies Teacher/CJHS	FMLA	11/04/2024 - 01/06/2025

Members voting - Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, and Lienemann, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

8. **EXTRACURRICULAR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR;** (4-5) Motion by Member Bradley, seconded by Member Lienemann, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following extracurricular assignments for the 2024-2025 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Greg Vaughn	GCHS Asst Boys Tennis Coach
Claudia Cass	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Amanda Corey-Cox	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Karen Kocarnik	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Ann Mayhall	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Brandy McFarland	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Staci Melvin	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Tanya Miller	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Jeremy Weaver	Frohardt 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty

Ashley Boyce
 Robert Bragg
 Megan Brooks
 Lee Elliff
 Erin Ernst
 Kelly Fitzgerald
 Nikki Jordan
 Teresa Meador
 Julie Mueller
 Shelby Myatt
 Janet Niles
 Samantha Rydgig
 Missy Sholl
 Deann Siville
 Sarah Stepanek
 Kelly Taylor

 Sharon Albers
 Darla Bremer
 Michaela Genovese-Moss
 Amy Griffith
 Cindy Heintz
 Stephanie Medlin
 Tom Miller
 Denise Stout

 Allison Bozarth-Downing
 Penny Feldt
 Meagan Harper
 Lori Hawthorne
 Laura Marzluf
 Patrick McBride
 Nancy Smallie
 Angie West

 Pam Brezger
 Holly Farnsworth
 Jessica Farris
 Chrystal Hanlon
 Diana Karnafel
 Christy Marana
 Leann Oller
 Sara Rials
 Kathy Roustio
 Leah Schreiber
 Donna Thomas
 Mary Kay Wilson

Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Grigsby 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Maryville 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Mitchell 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
 Prather 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty

Aimee Bailey	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Holly Bladdick	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Lindsay Carney	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Catherine Delmore	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Angelique Dorris	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Sarah Shaw	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Richie Skirball	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty
Ginger Wittmann	Wilson 2nd Quarter Lunch Duty

Members voting - Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, and Venne “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

9. **CERTIFIED AND CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES;** (6) Motion by Member Venne, seconded by Member Silva, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following certified and classified substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year, pending the submission of the required paperwork:

Certified; **Classified;** n/a

Corey Nordike
 Alan Schmidt
 DeRon Terry
 Brookelyn Trask
 Ian Wonders

Members voting - Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, and Bradley, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

10. **RESCIND EMPLOYMENT OF FOUR-HOUR UNION CAFÉ WORKER FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR;** (7) Motion by Member Silva, seconded by Member Bradley, upon the recommendation of administration, to rescind the recommendation of **Jessica Bladdick** as a four-hour union café worker for the 2024-2025 school year, due to lack of communication.

Members voting - Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, and Silva, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

11. **EMPLOYMENT OF FOUR-HOUR UNION CAFÉ WORKER FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR;** (8) Motion by Member Venne, seconded by Member Silva, upon the recommendation of administration, to employ **Ann Hildreth** as a Four-Hour Union Café Worker for the 2024-2025 school year, pending the submission of the required paperwork.

Members voting - Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, and Curran, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

12. **EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR;** (9) Motion by Member Venne, seconded by Member Silva, upon the recommendation of administration, to employ **Jahkeis Tippet** as a Special Education Paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 school year, pending the submission of the required paperwork.

Members voting - Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, and Lienemann, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

13. **EMPLOYMENT OF GCHS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR;** (11) This item was held for Executive Session pursuant to section 2 (c) (1).

14. **FY25 SCHOOL MAINTENANCE PROJECT GRANT;** (12) Motion by Member Venne seconded by Member Lienemann, upon the recommendation of administration, to apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant Program (SMPG) and to reserve \$50,000 from Operations and Maintenance Fund (20) for matching funds required for application. The School Maintenance Project Grant is a matching funds grant with awards up to \$50,000. The Grant will be used for parking lot renovations at Grigsby.

Members voting - Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, and Venne “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

15. **ESTIMATED TAX LEVY RESOLUTION FOR THE 2024 TAXES COLLECTED IN 2025;** (13-17) Motion by Member Curran, seconded by Member Venne, upon the recommendation of administration, to Adopt the Estimated Tax Levy Resolution for the 2024 Taxes Collected in 2025, authorize Publication of a Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for the Granite City CUSD #9 and Truth in Taxation Certificate, and to Set December 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room as the time and place for the Public Hearing on the 2024 Levy.

Members voting - Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, and Bradley, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

16. **GCHS STUDENT DISCIPLINE; 2-YEAR EXPULSION RECOMMENDATION;** (18) Motion by Member Venne, seconded by Member Silva, upon the recommendation of administration, to uphold the hearing officer’s recommendation for the 2-year expulsion for a GCHS student, with services, if available.

Members voting - Curran, “aye”, Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, and Silva, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

17. REPORTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS; the following reports were given.

A. Freedom of Information Act {FOIA} Requests; {for review only}

We received two {2} requests under the Freedom of Information Act during the period of October 15, 2024 through November 5, 2024.

The first request was received on October 21, 2024 from Dan Tutolo. He requested the following information:

- ❑ The last five religious exemptions submitted at Maryville elementary school that were approved with any personal information redacted.

The second request was received on October 21, 2024 from Dan Tutolo. He requested the following information:

- ❑ Any written guidance, guidelines, policies or procedures of any kind that instruct "the local school authority" for how to "determine whether... information supplied on" any such form "constitutes a valid religious objection."

The requests were handled by Administration.

B. Illinois Association of School Boards {IASB} Liaison Report { Lori Silva, Member, Board of Education }

IASB Liaison November Talking Points

IASB continues to provide valuable information for the upcoming school board elections. Information includes key dates and documents necessary to run for office as well as information for candidates who might be interested in running for a school board seat. It also provides livestreams for interested candidates. You can access this information here.

You can view the schedule for upcoming webinars, as well as archived webinars, here. Upcoming topics include the Joint Annual Conference, the Delegate Assembly, and school finance. All webinars can be viewed in the archives and searched by topic.

As you prepare for the potential of new board members, IASB provides numerous resources to help everyone work together as a new board. In addition to required training, IASB provides a roadmap to help guide new board members through their first year. The new board member page is found here.

18. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**; Motion by Member Lienemann, seconded by Member Bradley, to go into executive session for the exceptions noted under 5 ILCS 120/2 Open Meetings:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; 2(c)(1)
- Student disciplinary matters; 2(c)(9)
- The purchase or lease of real property for use by the public body; or setting a price thereof; 2(c)(5)(6)
- Collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives; 2(c)(2)
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed...is probable or imminent. 2(c)(11)
- To discuss school building safety and security and security procedures. 2(c)(8); and
- Student Safety 2(c)(8)

Members voting - Lienemann, “aye”, Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, and Curran, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

The Board was called into executive session at 6:41 pm.

Motion by Member Venne, seconded by Member Lienemann, to exit Executive Session and resume the meeting at 6:46 pm.

Members voting - all aye; voice vote; motion carried.

19. **EMPLOYMENT OF GCHS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**; (11) Motion by Member Lienemann, seconded by Member Venne, upon the recommendation of administration, to employ **Lattrice Bush** as an Administrative Assistant at Granite City High School in the Guidance Office for the 2024-2025 school year, pending the submission of the required paperwork.

Members voting - Venne “aye”, Bradley, “aye”, Silva, “aye”, Curran, “aye”, and Lienemann, “aye”, motion carried. **Members absent** - Knogl and Stacy

20. The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Board of Education Offices located at 3200 Maryville Road, Granite City, Illinois 62040-5144. The meeting will be held in the New Board Room.

21. **ADJOURNMENT**; Motion by Member Lienemann, seconded by Member Silva, to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 pm.

Members voting - all aye; voice vote; motion carried.

Tallin P. Curran, President
Board of Education
Community Unit School District #9

Erica L. Venne, Secretary
Board of Education
Community Unit School District #9