Granite City Community Unit School District #9

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 | 6:00 PM

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

I. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION; (The Board of Education begins each meeting with an Invocation. Citizens or parents with children in attendance, who do not wish to participate, may wait outside the Board Room until after the Board moves to Item IV, Public Comment.)

- Pastor Eddie Bradley with LifePoint Church will offer the invocation.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT; (The Granite City Board of Education welcomes visitors – including employees, students, parents and other citizens – to its regular meetings. To accommodate the public, certain rules have been established. Any person wishing to give Public Comment(s) during a regular or special Board of Education meeting is encouraged to register with the Superintendent's Office prior to the meeting. Any person may comment to the School Board (public participation), subject to the reasonable constraints established and recorded in the guidelines below. During public participation, there will be a 20-minute minimum total length of time for any one subject. When public participation takes less time than these minimums, it shall end. To preserve sufficient time for the Board to conduct its business, any person appearing before the Board is expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
2. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, the time for any one person to address the Board during public participation shall be limited to five minutes.
3. Observe, when necessary and appropriate, the Shortening of the time for each person to address the Board during public participation to conserve time and give the maximum number of people an opportunity to speak;
4. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others. Petitions or written correspondence to the Board shall be presented to the Board in the next regular Board packet.
5. To maintain confidentiality, the BOE asks that any matters concerning personnel or students be communicated to the BOE privately.

The public should not expect a Board response during Public Comment. There may be discussion by the Board concerning Public Comment when the issue is addressed on the Agenda.

Please send any public comment requests/statements to any of the following individuals by 12PM on Thursday, January 9, 2025:

Donald J. Harris, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; superintendent.office@gcsd9.net
Tallin Curran, President, Board of Education; tallin.curran@gcsd9.net
Cory Ervay, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent; cory.ervay@gcsd9.net

A. GCSD9 BOE and Administration would like to recognize Granite City High School Debate Coach Amy Pennell-Davis who was named the Southern Illinois Debate League Championships 2024 Coach of the Year!

Thank you for your countless time and hard work that granted every student the opportunity to participate in debate these past few years, giving them the confidence to find their purpose. Your influence will continue to ripple through the lives of your students, helping them to become not just better debaters, but better people. Congratulations!

B. GCSD9 BOE and Administration would like to recognize the following students named 2025-2026 Illinois State Scholars for their outstanding academic achievement, as announced by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission {ISAC};

Trenton Clutts	Dave Patel
LilyRose Cockrum	Evan Peters
Molly Hang	Noelle Richey
Bailey Hanks	Emilee Saggio
Rhys Kaminski	Fred SanSoucie
Elijah Kolb	Faith Teets
Savannah Kujawa	Noah Vickery
Cleison Miranda-Gomez	Emma Wing

The Illinois State Scholar designation is a non-monetary award. Each State Scholar will receive a congratulatory letter and a Certificate of Achievement from ISAC.

V. Minutes;

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on **December 10, 2024**. {available upon request}

VI. CONSENT AGENDA; (The Consent Agenda contains those items that are repetitive and routine in nature. Any member may make a motion to approve the Consent Agenda or request that any of the items be moved to Section VII for individual discussion and consideration.) Consent Agenda items are listed below and on the GCSD9 website.

A. **Bill List**; (1)

Bill List from December 5, 2024 - January 7, 2025
{available upon request}

B. **Donations**;
{see page 1 for detailed information}

Granite City High School; Relleke Farm

Prather Elementary; The Irwin Family and Mr. Pat Harris

VII. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS - HUMAN RESOURCES

A. Retirements and Resignations; (2)

B. Leaves of Absence; (2)

C. Extensions to Leaves of Absence; (2)

D. Extracurricular Recommendations for the 2024-2025 School Year; (3)

E. Employee Termination {1}; (4)

F. Employee Termination {2}; (5)

G. Employments;

1. Employment of Five {5} Four-Hour Union Café Workers for the 2024-2025 School Year; (6)

IX. OLD BUSINESS; N/A

X. NEW BUSINESS;

A. Cartwheel Services Agreement; (7)

B. GCHS 6th Hour Assignments Spring Semester 2025; (8)

C. Event Worker Pay Proposal; (9)

D. Vision 2030 Resolution; (10-12)

E. GCHS Baseball Field; (13)

F. Curriculum Committee Report; (14)

XI. REPORTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS;

1. Administrative Reports and Updates

A. Freedom of Information Act Requests; {FOIA}; (15)
{for review only, no vote}

B. GCSD9 Student Board Member Report; (15)
{LilyRose Cockrum, GCHS Senior}

C. Illinois Association of School Board {IASB} Liaison Report; (15)
{Linda Knogl, Treasurer, Board of Education}

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 price thereof; 2(c)(5)(6)
- Collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives; and 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)

XIII. Executive Session Minutes;

A. Approval of the Executive Session Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on **December 10, 2024**.

IX. Setting of the Agenda; February 11, 2025 Board of Education Meeting.

X. Adjournment

VI - A - 1 BILL LIST FROM DECEMBER 5, 2024 - JANUARY 7, 2025

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: ZACK SUHRE, CHIEF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIAL

RE: BILL LIST FROM DECEMBER 5, 2024 - JANUARY 7, 2025

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

{available upon request}

VI - B Gifts

It is recommended that the Board accept the following gifts with thanks and appreciation.

GRANITE CITY CUSD9 DONATIONS

1. Granite City High School; Relleke Farm donated 30 pumpkins to Granite City High School for Mrs. Richey to have a painting contest. We cannot thank them enough for their continued generosity to GCSD9.
2. Prather Camp Out Monetary Donations; The Irwin Family and Mr. Pat Harris were unable to attend the Prather Perfect Attendance "Camp Out", and graciously donated to help cover the costs of the items for the campsites.

VIII - A RETIREMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

It is recommended that the following retirements and resignations listed below and on the GCSD9 website, be accepted:

Name	Position	Reason	Effective
Brittney Lindsay	Title I Paraprofessional/Grigsby	Resignation	12/19/2024
Alyssa Shellenberg	Paraprofessional/Wilson	Resignation	12/16/2024

VIII - B REQUESTS FOR LEAVES OF ABSENCE

It is recommended that the following requests for leaves of absence listed below and on the GCSD9 website, be approved:

Name	Position	Reason	Effective
Lisa Captain	Special Ed. Teacher/Coolidge	FMLA	01/17/2025 - 03/03/2025
Michael Schubel	Custodian/Frohardt	FMLA	12/12/2024 - 12/20/2024
Starrette Smith	Paraprofessional/Coolidge	FMLA	02/07/2025 - 04/07/2025
Joyce Trittschuh	Paraprofessional/Coolidge	FMLA	01/03/2025 - 02/02/2025

VIII - C REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS TO LEAVES OF ABSENCE

It is recommended that the following requests for extensions to leaves of absence listed below and on the GCSD9 website, be approved:

Name	Position	Reason	Effective
Steven Akeman	Social Studies Teacher/Coolidge	Medical	01/07/2025 - 05/30/2024
Michelle Mueller	2nd Grade Teacher/Maryville	Medical	02/01/2025 - 05/31/2025
Megan Cunningham	KG Teacher/Prather	Medical	01/08/2025 - 02/01/2025

VIII - D EXTRACURRICULAR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

RE: EXTRACURRICULAR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Administration is recommending that the following Extracurricular Assignments for the **2024-2025** school year listed below and on the GCSD9 website, be approved:

Name	**Position**
Liz Cicio	GCHS 3rd Quarter Metal Detector Supervisor
Peggy Wilson	GCHS 3rd Quarter Metal Detector Supervisor
Greg Vaughn	GCHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Erin Mueller	GCHS Gay Straight Alliance

Approval is recommended.

VIII - E EMPLOYEE TERMINATION {1}

You have received detailed information about this item. The administration is prepared to make recommendations or hold for discussion in executive session.

VIII - F EMPLOYEE TERMINATION {2}

You have received detailed information about this item. The administration is prepared to make recommendations or hold for discussion in executive session.

VIII - G - 1 EMPLOYMENT OF FIVE {5} FOUR-HOUR UNION CAFÉ WORKERS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

You have received detailed information about this item. The administration is prepared to make recommendations or hold for discussion in executive session.

X - A CARTWHEEL SERVICES AGREEMENT

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: MICKI WATKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION/REGION I

RE: CARTWHEEL SERVICES AGREEMENT

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Administration is recommending entering into contractual services with Cartwheel to provide additional counseling services to district students in conjunction with GCSD9 Social Workers.

Social Workers in GCSD9 are seeing a rise in their caseloads as well as an increase of students who are in need of immediate attention or who are in crisis. This, along with their current schedule and requirement to provide IEP service minutes, is impacting their ability to provide these services during the course of the school day. The addition of Cartwheel would allow our district the opportunity to provide these needed services to students and families with little or no wait time like traditional public counseling services.

Students are referred by GCSD9 Social Workers with a 7-10 day turnaround time for services and have access to Cartwheel data to help monitor progress in- district. Cartwheel services include licensed counselors to provide 1-1 evidence based therapy, psychiatric evaluations, medication management, wrap around services for families as well as a variety of bilingual counselors that cover 15 languages. Cartwheel services are provided remotely from 8am-8pm as well as weekends and through the summer months.

A trial contractual period is recommended to run from February 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, that includes up to 75 student referrals, grades PreK-12, for $37,500 to be paid with local funds.

Approval is recommended.

X - B GCHS 6TH HOUR ASSIGNMENTS SPRING SEMESTER 2025

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: DAVID KEEL, ED.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

RE: GCHS 6TH HOUR ASSIGNMENTS SPRING SEMESTER 2025

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Administration request approval of the following 6th Hour Assignment for the Spring Semester at Granite City High School .

X - C EVENT WORKER PAY PROPOSAL

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: DAVID KEEL, ED.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

RE: EVENT WORKER PAY PROPOSAL

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Administration is requesting the following Event Worker Proposal. Current pay for workers at Granite City High School events is $37.50 per event. These events range from football games, basketball games, tournaments, dances, etc. We would like to suggest raising the pay to $40.00 per event. As it stands now, event workers are paid $37.50 to work a JV and Varsity basketball game that take place on the same night. Technically, these are two separate events and we are asking for event workers to receive $80.00 for working both events. It is difficult finding event workers and we are hoping that by increasing the pay, that this will allow us to have more staff for bigger events. If approved, we would like for this to take place on January 1, 2025.

Approval is recommended.

X - D VISION 2030 RESOLUTION

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

RE: VISION 2030 RESOLUTION

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Board of Education and Administration requests approval of the following Vision 2030 Resolution.

Approval is recommended.

Illinois Vision 2030

WHEREAS, public education plays a defining role in ensuring equal opportunity for children in Illinois and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is our collective duty to ensure that every student, regardless of demographic or geographic identity, has equal access to a quality, public education; and

WHEREAS, we believe that strides need to be proactively made to face challenges and continually improve our public education system; and

WHEREAS, there have been three areas of prioritization identified as integral in improving our public education system: Future-Focused Learning, Shared Accountability, and Predictable Funding; and

WHEREAS, Future-Focused Learning should address: promoting future-driven skills that allow for more college and career exploration; enhancing student safety and well-being; attracting and retaining a high quality and diverse educator pipeline; and promoting curriculum and instructional flexibility to meet the unique needs of local communities; and

WHEREAS, Shared Accountability should address: reforming the Illinois assessment system to be a timely and useful measure of student proficiency and growth over time; reforming the current accountability system to provide local flexibility for identifying indicators that create a more holistic view of student success; and reforming the mandate process to ensure implementation procedures that promote flexibility and local decision making; and

WHEREAS, Predictable Funding should address: protecting the integrity and funding of the evidence-based funding formula; strengthening public education through pension reforms; and establishing equitable funding sources for Capital and safety needs; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that any education improvement proposal for comprehensive change must be developed and supported by not only the education community, but in collaboration with families, communities, businesses, and others whose priorities reflect the best interests of the students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **GCSD9** Board of Education joins with the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) , Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), Illinois Principals' Association (IPA), Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO), Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools (IARSS), Superintendents' Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity (SCSDD), Illinois Alliance of Special Education Administrators (IAASE), and the Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools (AIRSS) in supporting the Vision 2030 education improvement policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **GCSD9** Board of Education urges the Illinois General Assembly to approve the necessary legislative changes to implement the recommendations under the three pillars of education improvement as contained in the Vision 2030 policy.

Adopted this 14th day of January, 2025.

By: _____
Tallin Curran, President
Board of Education
Community Unit School District #9

ATTEST:

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

X - E GCHS BASEBALL FIELD

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: ERIC SMITH, SUPERVISOR OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

RE: GCHS BASEBALL FIELD

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Administration is requesting approval for a new turf baseball field at a cost of $2,467,000.00 through ATG. The project includes reorienting the field by 180 degrees and constructing a bullpen with four pitching rubbers, new dugouts, a press room, and storage facilities. Additionally, the project will feature a 100-seat elevated bleacher system with flip-down seats, designed at an angled frame for optimal viewing. This new baseball field represents the final steps in completing the sports complex, with a budget established by the Director of Finance and the Superintendent.

Approval is recommended.

X - F CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: KRISTEN NOVACICH-KOBERNA, ED.S., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF K-12 CURRICULUM

RE: CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

The GCSD9 Curriculum Committee held a meeting on December 13, 2024. The committee understands that they cannot hire additional staff, nor can they implement new programs without board approval. You have received the report, the agenda below, and all notes from the curriculum meeting in a previous update. The committee agreed on all items and request board approval.

Approval is recommended.

GCSD9 District Curriculum Committee
Friday December 13, 2024
1:00-2:00pm

1. Call to order
2. Roll call of committee members
3. Approval of the minutes May 2, 2024 - Curriculum Meeting.docx
4. Old Business
5. New Business
   a. Introduction to Spanish Course Proposal
   b. Music History/ Appreciation Proposal 2024
   c. GCHS Change in GPA GCHS Change in Course Weights

6.RethinkEd's Mental Health and SEL lessons that address Title IX/ Erin's Law topics by grade level: ReThinkEd Erin's Law

XI - 1 - A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT {FOIA} REQUESTS

TO: DONALD J. HARRIS, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: CHRIS MITCHELL, MANAGER OF DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT {FOIA} REQUESTS

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2025

Freedom of Information Act Requests are listed below and on the GCSD9 website.

We received one {1} requests under the Freedom of Information Act during the period of December 4, 2024 through January 7, 2025.

The first request was received on December 28, 2024 from Angel Tormis of SteepSteel, LLC. She requested the following information:

- Copies of all active leases/licenses or management contracts for cell towers, rooftop antennas, or other wireless installations on property owned or managed by Granite City Community Unit School District #9 , Illinois along with 24 months of associated payment histories.

The request was handled by Administration.

XI - 1 - B. GCSD9 STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT; {GCHS SENIOR LILYROSE COCKRUM}

- LILYROSE WILL GIVE A BRIEF REPORT.

XI - 1 - C. ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS {IASB} LIAISON REPORT {LINDA KNOGL, TREASURER, BOARD OF EDUCATION}

- MS. KNOGL WILL GIVE A BRIEF IASB REPORT.