

**Gibson County Special School District**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**GCSSD Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**  
**Kenton School Cafeteria**  
**January 9, 2025**

**Members Present:** Dr. Richard Addo, Mr. Benny Boals, Mr. John Campbell II, Mr. Tom Lannom, Ms. Treva Maitland, Mr. Eddie Watkins.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Treva Maitland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Tom Lannom called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Benny Boals to approve the consent agenda, with a second by Mr. John Campbell II. *Motion passed.*

**ALC Report**

**Bullying/Harassment Report**

**Finance Reports**

**Juvenile Court Referrals**

**Maintenance/Technology Reports**

**Minutes Approval**

**RECOGNITION**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**IDEA State Special Schools Transportation Reimbursement**

Mr. Rory Hinson presented the IDEA State Special Schools Transportation Reimbursement,

funds are used to transport students to and from the West TN School for the Deaf, and asked to amend the budget revenue and expenditures by \$33,468.85.

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Lannom to amend the budget by \$33,468.85, with a second by Mr. Eddie Watkins. *Motion passed.*

### **School Board Appreciation Week**

Mr. Eddie Pruett informed the Board of School Board Appreciation Week. The District will donate \$150.00 to the Gibson County Imagination Library in honor of the school board. School Board Appreciation Week is January 26-February 1.

### **GCSSD Triennial Assessment & Wellness Plan 2024-2025**

Mr. Eddie Pruett presented the 2024-2025 GCSSD Triennial Assessment and Wellness Plan. The Triennial Assessment displays the results of the District Wellness Plan Compliance. The district wellness committee sets goals, safety policies, and programs for the wellness plan at the district level.

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Lannom to approve the GCSSD 2024-2025 Triennial Assessment and Wellness Plan, with a second by Dr. Richard Addo. *Motion passed.*

### **CSH Update**

Mr. Eddie Pruett presented the CSH Update.

Coordinated School Health encourages healthy lifestyles; provides needed support to at-risk students; helps identify health-related problems that impair academic success and works with community partners to find solutions.

Research is clear ... healthy students are better learners, better learners are more likely to graduate, and graduates are more likely to become productive citizens. The Coordinated School Health model provides an evidence-based framework to address the needs of the whole child. Coordinated School Health consists of 8 Components which include Health Education; Health Services; Nutrition; Physical Education/Physical Activity; Healthy School Environment; School Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services; Student, Family, and Community Involvement; and School Staff Wellness. CSH Coordinators constantly work with these 8 areas to have the greatest impact. Highlights of the GCSSD Coordinated School Health program can be found each month in the newsletter at <https://www.gcssd.org/documents/departments/coordinated-school-health/newsletters/144956><https://www.gcssd.org/documents/departments/coordinated-school-health/newsletters/144956>

Updates can also be found on social media sites including:

<https://www.facebook.com/gcssdcsh/>

<https://twitter.com/RichardsonGCSSD>

I encourage you to check these resources out as this is the best way to stay up to date with the programs, we are currently involved in.

### **Staff Wellness**

GCSSD CSH Encourages Staff Wellness with Water Packets and Health Information

GCSSD Staff were encouraged to participate in the West TN River Walk through the UT Extension office. Over 60 staff members signed up and 4 emailed me that they had continued with the program and walked an average of 100 miles during this time period. Staff Wellness come and go healthy lunches are being planned for January - May due to our partnership with the Gibson County UT Extension office.

Immunizations have been provided to students and adults through our partnership with West Tennessee Health Care. So far this year, a total of 259 consents were received with a total of 291 immunizations given to adults and children. More will be given in the spring clinic as well.

2024-2025 Immunizations	# Immunizations Given
Adults - 82 total individuals	97
Students - 206 individuals (31 more than last year)	214

#### GCSSD Youth Advisory Council Activities

- Promoting Suicide Prevention at the Gibson County Fair
- "Pack the Bus" - annual food drive
- Trunk or Treats at GCHS & SGCHS - Gave Away Free Toothbrushes
  - Special thanks to the Gibson County Health Department for the 300 toothbrushes.

GCSSD YAC Students Help with Dyer Station Giving Tree GCSSD Youth Advisory Council (YAC) students assisted in helping students have a better Christmas. This was done by taking cards with wish lists and clothing sizes but without identifying information and placing the cards on the trees at City Lumber and Food Rite so that individuals/groups in the area could purchase items for these students. Dyer Station Celebration will ensure these gifts are given to the families who need them.

GCSSD Youth Advisory Council (YAC) students assisted in helping students learn about the dangers of vaping utilizing the Stanford Medicine **You and Me, Together Vape-Free curriculum**, which is part of the [Stanford Tobacco Prevention Toolkit](https://stanford.edu/med/center-for-tobacco-prevention/prevention-toolkit/). This was done while parents learned about the **Hidden in Plain Sight** room which provides parents with clues from a teen's bedroom to help them determine whether their child might be experimenting with or using drugs or alcohol. Room decor, hidden compartments, and items to conceal use are located throughout the room. Information from a similar program can be found at <https://powertotheparent.org/be-aware/hidden-in-plain-sight/>.

The Milan Prevention Coalition and GCSSD CSH trained all administrators utilizing the Hidden in Plain Sight program in the summer. This was also done with teacher assistants last spring during the Professional Development Day. Some of the schools have also used this program to train their teachers and other school staff during their Professional Development days.

Student Health Screenings were given to students in PreK, K, 2, 4, 6, and 8 who had a signed permission form. Coordinated School Health partners with the Nursing Education program at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology to facilitate this.

The School Backpack Program was initiated by funds from CSH for students with low food sources to have a pack of food discretely placed in their backpacks on Fridays with enough food for that student through the weekend or over long breaks. Once the community saw the need it became involved in the programs at the local schools as businesses, churches, and individuals work together to ensure this program's success.

Currently, a total of 157 students are being served compared to 120 last year. Dyer School serves 57 students, Kenton School serves 20 students, Rutherford School serves 22 students, South Gibson County Elementary serves 25 students, South Gibson County Middle serves 7 students, Spring Hill School serves 20 students, and Yorkville School serves 6 students. GCHS also has a food pantry where students can obtain food as needed and is currently serving approximately 10 students.

For the past several years the Trenton Foundation, which is a chapter of the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation, has made an annual donation to help support this program. We received \$1500 from them in October for this program.

We also receive a grant from Second Harvest to support this program at Dyer, Kenton, Rutherford, South Gibson County Elementary School, South Gibson County Middle School, Spring Hill, and Yorkville Schools. This program supplies the needed food for the eligible children at these schools. This grant is worth \$21,000.

CSH and Lifetime Wellness class teachers at both high schools have partnered again this year to provide health-related education to students. Topics such as Suicide Prevention and substance prevention were taught by the TN Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN). CSH has also ensured that Hands-Only CPR was taught in Wellness classes at both high schools. Topics such as Vaping and Safe Driving will be covered in the spring semester.

September was National Suicide Prevention Month and GCSSD observed this by high school students receiving age-appropriate education provided by the TN Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN).

Blake McMeans Shared His Personal Message to Not Drink and Drive with Students at GCHS & SGCHS in October

GCSSD High School Students Educated on the Dangers of Drugs-Amy Parker from the Milan Prevention Coalition serves all of Gibson County spoke to students in Wellness Classes at both GCHS and SGCHS in November on the dangers of alcohol and drugs. She explained this includes prescription drugs that are taken by someone they are not prescribed for. She further explained what Drug Take Back Day is and encouraged students to have their families be involved when we do this again on April 9.

GCSSD was awarded a grant this school year for a School-Based Behavioral Health Liaison program through Pathways with an LMSW that serves Dyer School. Through grants, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS) funds local community mental health centers to provide the school-based behavioral health liaison program. School-based Behavioral Health Liaisons are employees of local community mental health centers and are strategically placed and co-located, in coordination with local school district leadership, in identified schools. Her current caseload is 10 students who she sees weekly for 30 minutes. There are an additional 15 students who she sees at least once a month. So far this school year she has seen a total of 68 students at least once for a total of 132 individual sessions.

She has held 9 group counseling sessions with an average of 8 students in these sessions. She has presented 19 classroom lessons and helped with the training of 24 teachers and support staff. She also consults with the SRO at Dyer School. All of this has totaled 270 interventions within Dyer School. At the end of the year, we will be able to analyze the data and see if this has helped with academics and attendance. We hope to add more of these throughout our district.

<https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/children-youth-young-adults-families/sbbhl.html>

<https://www.wth.org/services/pathways-behavioral-health-services/about-us/>

The School Health Services Student Update for the school year of 2023-2024 indicated that the enrollment of 3834 students in Pre-K through 12th grade made a total of 16659 visits to the school nurse with 12044 returning to class. School nurses had to make 120 calls to EMS and were able to refer 300 students to a healthcare provider. The nurse-to-student ratio in 2023-2024 was one nurse to 383 students. It is very important to keep our students healthy and in school to receive a solid education and our School Nurses are invaluable in this goal.

CSH partners with LeBonheur to provide healthcare services to students who have not had physical or medical treatment in the last year. Students can also be referred for acute or chronic physical or mental health problems. Students with parental permission and completed paperwork are seen on the Mobile Health Unit while at school regardless of their ability to pay for services. Last year there were 33 EPSDT screenings on students in our district. As a result of this program, there were 13 referrals made to outside resources last year. Their Health Educator saw 4 students within GCSSD last year for lessons on nutrition and physical activity. Also, one student was seen for behavioral health services last year. The In-Kind Value of these services for last school year was \$11,904.75.

As of 12/17/24, there have been 25 total students who received physicals from the Le Bonheur Mobile Health at Dyer and South Gibson Elementary School. A total of 5 children received a referral to their behavioral health department. Thirteen students have also been referred to providers outside of LeBonheur. Of these 13 students, there were 9 Total Referrals to PCP, 1 Total Referral to Dentistry, 1 Total Referral to Optometry, 1 Total Referral to Developmental Peds, and 1 Total Referral to GI. More schools should be scheduled for this semester.

CSH partners with individuals and groups from the community to secure Grants and In-Kind funding to assist schools within the district meet the needs of students and families. As a result, barriers to learning are removed leading to improved academic learning. In the 2023-2024 school year CSH was awarded \$36,410 in Grants and \$147,569 in In-kind funding for a total of \$183,979, The grants included the Resilient School Communities Grant which funded our continued partnership with Carey Counseling Telehealth Therapy Services as well as Backpack program supplies and funding and TN Teen Institute participant fees. The In-kind valued at \$147,569 includes services, material, equipment, or labor committed or received at a conservative value that fits within one of the eight components of Coordinated School Health. Our partnership with the Gibson County Health Department for their dental services provided at Dyer, Spring Hill, and Yorkville was valued at \$51,419.72 This also included LeBonheur, immunization clinics, health education videos, and supplies from Team Mica and Kyle Kiihnl Foundation for prevention of Drowsy Driving, volunteers that assist with backpack program, Mock Crash volunteers, and nursing supplies for school nurses.

GCSSD has a total of 21 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) located throughout the school district with at least 1 in each school. There are teams in each school who are trained in CPR and using the AED. These teams go through drills to identify strengths and weaknesses so that if a real situation were to arise, they would be prepared. Other school staff are trained either in person or by utilizing the Five Points section of My Benefits Channel to watch a training developed by GCSSD Lead Nurse Tammie Floersh.

#### Gibson County High School

- #1/Defibtech is located at the south end of the main gym, in the wall cabinet, near the concessions
- #2/Defibtech is located in the Vocational Building in the wall cabinet at the south front entrance of the building, just inside the double doors.
- #3/Defibtech is located in the field house, just inside the main door, in the wall cabinet, and may be checked out by the coach.
- #4/Defibtech is located in the cabinet on the wall just outside the main office
- #5/Defibtech is located in the home baseball dugout, if weather allows, or is used for travel.

#### Yorkville School

- #1/Defibtech is located in the case on the wall just outside the gym

#### Spring Hill School

- #1/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet, just outside the gym

#### Kenton School

- #1/ Defibtech is located in the cafeteria, in a wall cabinet just inside the entrance

#### Rutherford School

- #1/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet, in the hallway between the cafeteria and the library.
- #2/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet, in the gym, north wall, near the entrance from the band room.

#### Dyer School

- #1/Defibtech is located at the north end of the gym in the wall cabinet at the base of the stairs, just above the water fountain
- #2/Defibtech is located in the Elementary building by the Nurse's office

#### South Gibson County High

- #1/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet in the main lobby.
- #2/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet between gyms.
- #3/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet in the football field house, just outside the coach's office
- #4/Defibtech is located in the travel case and stays with football
- #5/Zoll is located in the SGC Sports Complex Concession stand
- #6/Zoll SGC is located in the Sports Complex Multipurpose building
- #7/Cardiac Science is located in the SGC Sports Complex by the tennis courts, in the electrical/water access room

#### South Gibson County Middle School

- #1/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet just outside the north end of the gym.
- #2/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet in the Nurse's office and may be checked out for sports.
- #3/Defibtech is located in the travel case with football

#### South Gibson County Elementary School

- #1/Defibtech is located in the wall cabinet, outside the gym, northeast corner, on the outside wall of the teachers' lounge.

We also have the following emergency medication available at schools:

- Narcan, a narcotic antagonist used to treat overdose with opioids, is available in each school. This medication is provided free of charge by the State of Tennessee through the regional overdose prevention specialist. Medical orders for the use of Narcan in the school district are provided by Dr. Jim Williams. School nurses and volunteers are trained in the signs and symptoms of a narcotic overdose and the administration of Narcan. Currently, there are at least 2 doses of Narcan located in each school. One dose is in the AED case by the gym and a second dose is in the nurse's office.
- Epinephrine (Epi Pen) is the emergency medication used to treat severe allergic reactions/anaphylaxis. Schools have 2 sets of Epi-pens. Elementary and middle schools have both the Jr. (dose for those under 66 lbs.) and the standard Epi-pens on hand. Doses are kept in the AED case or cafeteria and with the nurse. The Epi-Pen 4 Schools program provides 2 double packs to each school for free. Medical direction for recognizing and responding to anaphylaxis is provided by Dr. Jim Williams. Training on recognition and response to anaphylaxis is provided by district Registered Nurses.

#### **Policy Revisions**

Mr. Eddie Pruett presented the revisions to the policies.

- Policy 4.603 Promotion and Retention now specifies that parents who wish to retain their K-2 student must submit a written request within 30 days of the end of the school year.

- Policy 5.118 Background Investigations requires the district to enroll employees in the Rap Back program, which provides federal continuous monitoring. Other individuals will continue to go through the standard five-year background check process.

A motion was made by Dr. Richard Addo to approve the policy revisions, with a second by Ms. Treva Maitland. *Motion passed.*

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Policy 1.108 Nepotism**

Mr. Eddie Pruett added that Sara Beth Mullins (Temple) was hired at the Kenton Elementary School as the RTI Interventionist. She is the sister of the principal, Samantha Litton. Mrs. Alisha Bauman, the RTI Coordinator, will be her direct supervisor.

### **Feasibility Discussion Schedule**

Mr. Eddie Pruett reminded the Board of the upcoming Feasibility Discussion Schedule.

Board/Faculty Meeting

1/22/25 at Spring Hill

Community Meetings

1/26/25 at Spring Hill

2/2/25 at Rutherford

2/23/25 at Kenton

3/2/25 at Dyer

3/9/25 at Yorkville

### **Upcoming Conferences**

Mr. Eddie Pruett reminded the Board of the upcoming Legislative & Legal Institute on February 10-11.

### **ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Mr. John Campbell II to adjourn, with a second by Mr. Tom Lannom. *Motion passed.*