

**Gibson County Special School District
Board of Trustees**

GCSSD Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Gibson County High School Library

June 25, 2026

Members Present: Mr. Scott Ball, Mr. Benny Boals, Mr. John Campbell II, Mr. Tom Lannom, Ms. Treva Maitland, Mr. Eddie Watkins. Also in attendance were Jack Ball and Isaac Scherer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Tom Lannom 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

Threat Assessment

Finance Reports

Funding Applications

CTE Perkins Basic

Preschool Development Grant

Maintenance/Technology Reports

Minutes Approval

Overnight Field Trips

RECOGNITION

Student Board Representative — Jack Ball

Mr. Eddie Pruett expressed his gratitude to student board member Mr. Jack Ball by presenting him with a certificate of achievement and a gift in recognition of his service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

**AMENDED AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Eddie Watkins to approve the amended agenda, with a second by Mr. John Campbell II. *Motion passed.*

Feasibility Study

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Lannom to keep the existing five north end schools open, referred to in the study as the existing structure status quo, and invest in the individual schools by repairing and upgrading, continue our community meetings as planned, and have a group meeting outside of the board meeting to talk about the laundry list, with a second by Mr. John Campbell II. *Motion passed.*

Retired Employee Health Insurance

Mr. Rory Hinson presented the Retired Employee Health Insurance.

Policy 3.6001 Continuation of Health Insurance Coverage for Retired Certified Employees.

Certified employees must be age 55 or be retired with full TCRS benefits and have a minimum of ten (10) years of employment with GSCCD; must be retired or retire from GCSSD and draw a monthly check from TCRS and be covered under the Tennessee Education Insurance Plan for at least one (1) year immediately before retirement. All contributions by the Board will discontinue when the individual becomes eligible for Medicare Part A.

25 years or more consecutive years of experience with GCSSD are eligible for 100% of the amount the Board of Trustees sets for health insurance for retirees.

10–24 years of consecutive service.

Consecutive years with GCSSD	Percent of \$225 paid by GCSSD/Monthly	Amount of Insurance paid by GCSSD/Monthly
25	100%	\$225
24	96%	\$216
23	92%	\$207
22	88%	\$198
21	84%	\$189
20	80%	\$180
19	76%	\$171
18	72%	\$162
17	68%	\$153
16	64%	\$144

15	60%	\$135
14	56%	\$126
13	52%	\$117
12	48%	\$108
11	44%	\$99
10	40%	\$90

A motion was made by Mr. Eddie Watkins to approve the Retired Employee Health Insurance, with a second by Mr. Benny Boals. *Motion passed.*

Teacher Salary Schedule

Mr. Rory Hinson presented the Teacher Salary Schedule, which included a \$3,000 raise for 10-month certified staff and a 5% increase for non-certified employees.

A motion was made by Ms. Treva Maitland to approve the teacher salary schedule, with a second by Mr. Benny Boals. *Motion passed.*

Budget Approval

Mr. Rory Hinson presented the Budget Approval. The total expenditures amount to \$44,434,442.45, which includes a \$3,000 raise for 10-month certified staff and a 5% raise for non-certified staff.

For general purposes, LeBonheur accepted \$150,000 for occupational and physical therapy services for the 2026-2027 school year, which decreased expenditures by \$50,000. However, expenditures increased by \$74,970.39 to cover the majority of the health insurance increase. Mr. Hinson explained the insurance cost and introduced the new Co-Pay Insurance Plan.

The addition of a maintenance worker is estimated to increase expenditures by \$83,897, accounting for salary, Social Security, Medicare, retirement, and insurance.

Overall, the net effect is a reduction of \$108,867.18, leading to a deficit of \$47,440.95.

Additionally, food service expenditures increased employee insurance, resulting in a \$3,294 increase. To maintain a balanced budget, food supply expenditures were decreased by the same amount, \$3,294.

Lastly, there will be no increase in property taxes. Mr. Eddie Pruett explained the tax situation, noting that the district has not raised taxes for day-to-day operations or staff raises since he became superintendent. Tax increases from the school district typically occur to fund new schools or major capital projects.

Mr. Tom Lannom stated that Ms. Marcie Williams from ATA, CPA, will attend the board meeting on July 9th to address audit questions.

A motion was made by Mr. Benny Boals to approve the 2026/2027 Budget, with a second by Mr. Tom Lannom. *Motion passed.*

****Maintenance Vehicle Purchase**

Mr. Rory Hinson presented the proposal for a maintenance vehicle purchase for the newly hired maintenance employee and to amend the budget by \$48,628.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Scott Ball to approve the 2026 transit cargo van on state bid at Ford of Murfreesboro for \$48,628.00 and amend the budget, with a second by Mr. John Campbell II. *Motion passed.*

Federal Consolidated Application

Mr. Eddie Pruett presented the Federal Consolidated Application.

The GCSSD Board of Trustees is required to approve the proposed expenditures for Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title I Part A funds each year. These federal funds are established to improve the academic achievement of students attending area schools with higher poverty percentages. School allocations are spiraled down using an average per pupil amount to each eligible school. Percentages represent direct certification students pulled per school from the April 2026 data.

The 5 schools eligible to receive Title I funds are listed in rank/spiraling order.

Kenton Elementary (82.76%) - \$72,000.00

Dyer School (80.32%) - \$201,728.00

Rutherford School (57.09%) — \$89,566.00

Spring Hill School (56.38%) - \$30,514.00

Yorkville School (54.41%) - \$42,307.00

Total School Amounts: \$436,115.00

District-wide positions and set-asides partially and/or fully funded by Title I funds include:

Title I Director

Federal Programs Bookkeeper

Literacy Coaches

Parent Involvement Activities/Meetings

Professional Development

Travel

Total District-wide Amounts: \$114,774.16

The projected Title I Part A budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year is \$525,889.16. I seek your acceptance in approving the Title I Part A portion of the Federal Consolidated Application.

Erica Durall, Federal Director

Special Education

The District Board of Trustees is required to approve the proposed expenditures for Part B IDEA funds each year. These are federal funds, and the application process requires detailed expenditure projections. These are included with the general program budget, which will be approved later.

Gibson County Special School District is eligible for IDEA Part B federal funds for the projected amount of \$767,772.00 for students with disabilities ages 6-21 and an additional \$18,292.00 in federal preschool funds for students, ages 3-5. General-purpose state and local funds are budgeted for \$3,601,702.00 for next year. Total funds budgeted for special education services in Gibson County Special School District for the school year 2026-2027 are \$4,193,675.00.

Summary of Projected Programs

515 students (ages 6-21) with disabilities identified for services (projected)

40 students (ages 3-5) with disabilities will also receive services (projected)

3 integrated preschool programs for children who have developmental delays (ages 3-5)

3 buses for special transportation
 3 bus attendants
 3 vans—transportation to special programs outside our district (Vocational Rehab and work sites)
 3 alternating drivers (and van) to provide daily transportation to the West TN School for the Deaf and additional sped transportation within district as needed during the day.
 4 Speech-Language Pathologists, 1 Speech-Pathologist Contracted
 28 classroom and inclusion teachers
 49 teacher assistants and attendants
 1 Transition School to Work Case Manager — approx. 71% funded with Voc Rehab grant for next 2 years
 2 Workplace Readiness Specialists (job coaches) — approx. 69% funded with Voc Rehab grant for next 2 years
 1 full-time Special Education Supervisor
 1 Preschool/Special Education Consulting Teacher (special state grant partially funded)
 1 clerical position
 1 Behavior Interventionist (GP-funded)
 A full range of therapies are provided through private contracts with LeBonheur HealthCare (physical and occupational therapies), Psychological Services (evaluation and assessment services), and an annual contract for speech/language services through Words For Life agency.
 I am seeking approval of the IDEA portion of the Federal Consolidated Application.
 Chasity Reasons
 Supervisor of Special Education

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Lannom to approve the Federal Consolidated Application, with a second by Ms. Treva Maitland. *Motion passed.*

Student School Board Applicants

Mr. Eddie Pruett presented the student school board applicants. Mr. Pruett recommended Junior Mr. Conner Simpson to serve as the GCHS Student Board Member.

A motion was made by Mr. Eddie Watkins to approve Conner Simpson as the GCHS student board member, with a second by Mr. Scott Ball. *Motion passed.*

Surplus

Mr. Eddie Pruett presented the surplus items.

A motion was made by Mr. Eddie Watkins to approve the surplus items, with a second by Mr. Tom Lannom. *Motion passed.*

New Hire List

Mr. Eddie Pruett informed the board of the new hire listing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

High School Updates

Mr. Jack Ball noted that not much has happened since graduating from GCHS. However, he expressed confidence that Conner Simpson will excel in his new role as a GCHS student board member.

Mr. Isaac Scherer received congratulations on his contributions to the soccer team, which recently participated in the state tournament for the first time and won their opening match.

Upcoming Conference:

Summer Law Institute — July 16–18 in Gatlinburg & August 6 in Jackson

Mr. Eddie Pruett reminded the board of the upcoming conference.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Lannom to adjourn, with a second by Ms. Treva Maitland.

Motion passed.