

**GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS**  
**Regular Board Meeting – September 27, 2010**  
**District Business Office**

**TO: Dr. Mike Riggle**  
**Hillarie Siena**

**FROM: Kimberly Ptak**

**DATE: September 27, 2010**

**RE: DISCUSSION/ACTION: GBN SOLAR PANEL GRANT**

**Critical Question**

Should the Board of Education accept a grant from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to install solar thermal panels to assist in the heating of the GBN swimming pools?

Total project cost: \$560,000

Grant estimate: \$336,000 - \$420,000 (exact figure should be available by board meeting)

District funding: \$140,000-\$224,000

**Background**

In the spring of 2010, the district applied for two solar panel grants. One grant was through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and would provide 50% funding, the second grant was through the Illinois Clean Energy Act and would provide 25% funding. Both grant requests were denied. Last week the DCEO informed us that funding was now available and a grant could be provided at the 60%-75% funding level. An exact figure should be available by the evening of the board meeting.

Approximately 70 solar thermal panels would be installed on the roof at GBN. The panels have a glycol solution which collects the heat of the sun, which in turn, assists in the heating of the two pools. This is similar to the solar panel system recently installed to heat the pools at GBS.

Approximate energy savings is \$20,000/year. Payback at a 60% funding level would be 11.2 years and at a 75% funding level 7 years.

**Funding**

It is recommended that this expense be added to the \$10M life safety and infrastructure list and be completed the summer of 2011.