

GOUVERNEUR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
GOUVERNEUR NEW YORK 13642
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MARCH 14, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education of Gouverneur Central School District was called to order by Vice-President Lisa McGregor, at 5:30 P.M., in the High School Cafeteria, leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Present: Todd E. Bates, Brooke Bush, Dr. William Cartwright, Naaman Lowry, Lisa McGregor, Nickolas Ormasen, Laurie M. Roberts, Laura Spicer.

Trustees Absent: David Fenlong.

Also Present: Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools; Carol LaSala, Business Manager; Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk.

II. COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were shared.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Communications

Memo from Southwest Tech. Vice-President McGregor read that the annual spring Open House will be held Wednesday, March 23, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Southwest Tech.

B. Student Recognition

Superintendent Kelly recognized the district's four Odyssey of the Mind teams and coaches Melinda Schiszler, Alicia Reed, and Tecia Tarkowski. Marie Moore's team—Victor Correa, Preston McConnell, Rowan Hunter, Aubree Spicer, Paislynn Moore, DeAndre Little, Dontae Mitchell—is competing March 26, 2022, at the New York State Odyssey of the Mind competition at the NYS Fairgrounds. The school musical, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, will be performed March 18 and 19 in the High School Auditorium.

C. COVID Update

Superintendent Kelly reported that for the period of March 5 to March 11, the district had no positive COVID-19 cases reported. During the week of February 25 to March 4, there were five new cases. The district will begin slowly rescinding some of the mitigation strategies that have been in place based on COVID guidelines.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. 2022-2023 Budget Discussion Items

1. Review of BOCES Preliminary Request for Services

(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)

Business Manager LaSala stressed this document is a preliminary look at the data. Highlighting sections of note, she explained the special education related expenses are based on next year's needs and will likely change as students transition. The district is changing from NERIC to SLL BOCES for IT support, so there are corresponding changes to costs and new charges. The district is also implementing ParentSquare to replace the communication programs OneCallNOW and Remind. Under healthcare, since BOCES no longer administers our program, we are billed directly from Blue Cross/Blue Shield rather than a BOCES COSER. A new expense under Coop Business Office was added since Payroll will now be done through BOCES. Ms. LaSala explained that she has done 12 canvas letters through St. Lawrence County Civil Service to fill vacancies in her department to no avail. Responding to Trustee Roberts, she explained the zero amount for Frontline Special Ed software was for Medicaid billing that is no longer used.

2. Review of 2021-2022 projected results

(See Sheet #2, Board Minutes File Folder)

Business Manager LaSala shared two reports; the first compared prior year-to-date and current year-to-date against the actual budget, and the second included the financial forecast through the end of the year that anticipates a small surplus after all expenses. Vice-President McGregor asked if the increase in gasoline will affect the forecasted transportation costs; Ms. LaSala agreed and said the transportation budget is being adjusted to factor in those increases.

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IV. FINANCIAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

A. 2022-2023 Budget Discussion Items (Cont.)3. Review 2022-2023 anticipated trends for revenues and expenditures

(See Sheet #3, Board Minutes File Folder)

Business Manager LaSala reviewed factors that could affect future budgets, including declining enrollment and an increase in population needs such as percentage qualifying for free/reduced price lunch. On the revenue side, the approved 1.5% property tax increase will generate \$100,283. Using last year's current year full value, she stated that a resident with Basic STAR would see an estimated tax increase of \$5.98 for a home valued at \$60,000 and \$13.96 for a home valued at \$100,000. With Enhanced STAR, the tax increase is \$0.00 for a \$60,000 home, and \$7.54 for a home valued at \$100,000. There is an anticipated increase of state aid of more than \$1.5 million that includes increases to Foundation Aid and expense driven aids such as Transportation and BOCES. Regarding expenditure projections, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 4.7% in February, and that was used for the 2022-23 tax cap calculations; for comparison, the February 2021 CPI used for the 2021-22 tax cap was 1.23%. The May 2021 CPI amount of 3.2% was used for extensions on transportation contracts, but we negotiated a 0% increase at that time. With the CPI now over 7%, the upcoming transportation bid will be significantly higher. We also anticipate significant increases to utilities, gasoline, and diesel. Other items she discussed included retirement projections; the ERS rate decreased from 15.5% to 13.5%, and the TRS rate increased from 9.8% to 10.29%. Medicare premiums had a 14.5% increase, and health insurance premiums had a slight increase. Ms. LaSala reviewed the remaining budget calendar, reminding board members that they will review the final BOCES commitment form and 3-part budget at the next meeting on March 28, and the proposed budget adoption and approval of the property tax report card is scheduled for the April 11 meeting. The Budget Hearing will be held May 9, and May 17 is the vote.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-President McGregor asked if any member on the Board wished to have any item on the Consent Agenda removed for special consideration and discussion. Trustee Laurie M. Roberts asked that Item B, Claims Auditors Reports, be removed for special consideration and discussion.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A, C, D, E

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Dr. William Cartwright, and seconded by Trustee Naaman Lowry, that the Board of Education approve the following items, A, C, D, and E, as a consent agenda:

A. Minutes

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2022, as presented.

C. CSE Business

(See Sheet #5, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the services, including additions, modifications, and deletions, for the following classified students, as reflected in the attached CSE Meeting Minutes report:

CSE Student ID#:

5103097	5102783	5103416	5103125	5103157	5103591	5103792
5103327	5104053	5102780	5100865	5102298	5102527	5102406
5101866	5101256	5102291	5103480	5101496	5103619	5103315
5102299	5102021	5101581	5100779	11922	11955	14052
5100432	5103716	5103775	5103036	14076	5101808	5104084

D. CPSE Business

(See Sheet #6, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the services, including additions, modifications, and deletions, for the following classified students, as reflected in the attached CPSE Meeting Minutes report:

CPSE Student ID#:

5104450	5103389
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E. Treasurer's Report February 2022

(See Sheet #7, Board Minutes File Folder)

Accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2022, as presented.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Vote on Consent Agenda Items A, C, D, E

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A, C, D, E, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.B. Claims Auditor's Reports*(See Sheet #4, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laura Spicer, and seconded by Trustee Todd E. Bates, that the Board of Education approve the Claims Auditor's Reports for the period 02/25/2022 – 03/11/2022, as presented.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Roberts questioned particular expenses; Business Manager LaSala confirmed one was for a down payment on the Jumbotron for graduation, and Superintendent Kelly responded regarding a literacy kit purchase for an undersupplied grade level.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CLAIMS AUDITOR'S REPORTS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA – SUPERINTENDENT / PERSONNEL

Vice-President McGregor asked if any member on the Board wished to have any item on the Consent Agenda – Superintendent / Personnel removed for special consideration and discussion. No member asked that any items be removed.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda – Superintendent / Personnel

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Laura Spicer, that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel items as a Consent Agenda:

A. Retirements

Accept the request for resignation for retirement purposes from Roland Houghton, from his position as Custodian, effective July 29, 2022.

B. Resignations

Accept the request for resignation from Kristi Leuze, from her position as Elementary Teacher, effective April 3, 2022.

C. Appointments1. Instructional

Krista Jimenez. Approve the appointment of Krista Jimenez, who holds Permanent certification in PreK-6 to the position of Elementary Teacher in the PreK-6 Elementary Tenure Area for a 4-year probationary period commencing on March 14, 2022, and anticipated to end on March 13, 2026, at an annual salary set at Step 5, B30M, in accordance with the Gouverneur Teachers' Association Agreement current salary schedule for year 2021-2022, prorated to March 14, 2022. This appointment is contingent upon her successful completion of the probationary term and having received annual composite or overall APPR ratings of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years and a rating higher than "Ineffective" in the final year of the probationary period. Ms. Jimenez' Initial assignment is Grade 4.

2. Coaches – Spring 2021

Approve the appointment of the following coaches for Spring 2021:

Sean Devlin	Modified Boys Track	(.5) Class 4, Step 24
	<i>This is in addition to his duties as Varsity Boys Track Coach.</i>	
Kurt Wells	Modified Girls Track	(.5) Class 4, Step 18
	<i>This is in addition to his duties as Varsity Girls Track Coach.</i>	
Charles Newvine	Volunteer Baseball	Uncompensated
Derek Gordon	Volunteer Baseball	Uncompensated
Nick Sterling	Volunteer Golf	Uncompensated

VII. CONSENT AGENDA – SUPERINTENDENT / PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

C. Appointments (Cont.)3. Extra-Curricular

Approve the following appointments for Marching Band advisors for summer 2022, to be paid from the 2022-2023 extracurricular salary schedule:

Victor Correa III	Marching Band Director	Class A, Step 5
Jenelle Yeoman	Assistant 1	Class E, Step 5
Hillarie McIntosh	Color Guard	Class E, Step 3
Lynn Kurdziel	Assistant 2	Class E, Step 3
Ryan Burt	Volunteer	uncompensated
Alexis Simmons	Volunteer	uncompensated

4. Extra Duty

- a) Mentors and Mentees. Approve the following teachers as Mentors or Mentees for the 2021-2022 school year: Kyle Baker, Mentor; Victoria Baker, Mentee
- b) Elementary School Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Approve the appointment of the following teachers as Tutoring Instructors for the 2021-2022 school year, to be paid at the rate of \$30/hour through CRRSA funding: Beverly Phelps, Bridget Lewis.

5. Substitutes

Approve the appointment of Antoinette Cogan as Sub Teacher Retired for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

D. Extension of Probationary Period

Approve to extend the probationary period of Employee 00100, eighty (80) days from 08/29/2022 to 01/05/2023 due to a leave of absence incurred during the probationary period.

Vote on Consent Agenda – Superintendent/Personnel Items:

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

Vice-President McGregor wished Mr. Houghton well on his retirement, saying he will be missed, especially by the students. She wished Ms. Leuze well at her new position and commended the coaches who took on the additional teams.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Leave Replacement

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Pat Williams, who is Permanently certified in N-6, as the long-term substitute for the Leave of Absence of Employee 00539, effective March 1, 2022, to *tbd*, at the rate of Retired Teacher/Teacher 25 day.

YEAS: Bates, Bush, Cartwright, McGregor, Ormasen, Roberts, Spicer NAYS: None.

ABSTENTION - Lowry

MOTION CARRIED. LEAVE REPLACEMENT APPOINTMENT OF PAT WILLIAMS FOR EMPLOYEE 00539, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

B. Acceptance of Gift

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Dr. William Cartwright, that the Board of Education accept the gift of \$5,000, from the Senior Class of 2022 parent group to be used in support of the jumbotron rental for graduation, and increase the 2021-2022 budget A2850.400.23.0000 by the same.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. GIFT FROM THE SENIOR CLASS OF 2022 PARENT GROUP, ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

C. Compensation Rate for Election Inspectors

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Todd E. Bates, that the Board of Education approve to compensate Election Inspectors at the rate of \$150/day on School District voting days during the 2021-2022 school year.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. COMPENSATION RATE FOR ELECTION INSPECTORS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

D. Appointment of Inspectors and Officers for the Annual Meeting and Vote

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Gouverneur Central School District, St. Lawrence County, New York, has called an Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote of the qualified voters of said School District to be held on the 17th day of May, 2022, and WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the appointment of inspectors and officers for said Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Naaman Lowry, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the Chairperson, certified inspectors, acting clerk, and assistant clerk as follows:

1. **Lisa McGregor**, a duly qualified voter of said School District, is hereby appointed as the Chairperson of the Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote on May 17, 2022, and the Budget Hearing on May 9, 2022.
2. The following named qualified voters of said School District are hereby appointed to act as Inspectors of Election of the Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote, so that there shall be at least two Inspectors for each voting machine to be used thereat: **Diane Kelley**, Chief Election Inspector; **Judith Poticher**, Election Inspector; and **Susan McHeffey and Jamie Weber**, as Alternates.
3. **Lisa Sheen**, a duly qualified voter of said School District, is designated as Acting Clerk in the absence or inability to act of the District Clerk, for purposes of said Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote.
4. **Kim Shampine** is designated as Assistant Clerk of said Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote.
5. Be it further resolved, the Board authorizes the Clerk to make any changes to the appointments as deemed necessary, per the county list of approved inspectors, or appoint at least two inspectors for each voting machine from the list of certified inspectors.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS AND OFFICERS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

IX. COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were shared from the audience.

X. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Dr. William Cartwright, to adjourn to executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:03 PM.

Vice-President McGregor announced that the Board would have no further business to take place in open session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Open session resumed at 7:21 PM.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, motion made by Trustee Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, that the Board of Education return to open session and adjourn the meeting at 7:21 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present. NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk

Lisa McGregor, Vice-President