

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

NOVEMBER 7, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education of Gouverneur Central School District was called to order by President David Fenlong, at 5:30 P.M., EDT in the High School Auditorium, leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Present: Todd E. Bates, Brooke Bush, Dr. William Cartwright, David Fenlong, Mark Hendrick, Naaman Lowry, Nickolas Ormasen, Laurie M. Roberts.

Trustees Arriving Late: Laura Spicer.

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

II. COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were shared.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Presentation – Building Condition Survey

(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)

Shawn Travers, RA, LEED GREEN Assoc., Principal/Architect, of BCA Architects & Engineers, presented the Building Condition Survey for the three school buildings as well as the bus garage and access center. The walkthroughs were done in January and submitted to the state in March. The Building Condition Survey is part of the 1998 RESCUE Statute to “Rebuild Schools to Uphold Education,” and provide schools with detailed information about their campus to maintain safe and healthy environments; provide data to plan and prioritize existing building needs with a focus on health and safety issues; and provide the State with a means to plan for building aid reimbursement. The process involves visual investigations of all occupied buildings by a licensed professional; an assessment of the current conditions of building structure, building envelope, building interior, HVAC systems, plumbing systems, fire suppression systems, and electrical systems; and identify concerns and/or deficiencies that should be addressed in the short and long term. The average age of schools in NYS is about 75 years; the average life expectancy is 65-75 years. The useful life of mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems is between 25-45 years. At Gouverneur CSD, portions of the High School are 86 years old, while the remaining facilities within the District are 68 years old. While the District has had a positive impact on extending the life expectancy of many systems and components through maintenance and ongoing building projects, there will continue to be challenges ahead. He proceeded with a slideshow of pictures highlighting the major findings and associated costs.

[Clerk’s Note: Trustee Laura Spicer arrived at this point in the meeting, at 5:43 PM.]

The total reported for the High School is \$30,765,000, not including a press box and an HVAC system. The amount does include windows, which are being addressed in a current project. Mr. Travers noted that all reported costs include 5-Year escalation, contractor overhead and profit, general requirements, and incidentals. The Middle School costs total \$4,790,000, excluding an artificial turf field and concession building. The Elementary School site features total \$5,015,000; the Bus Garage total is \$5,283,000, which Mr. Travers noted was done before the electric mandate came out for school buses and does not include converting one of the bays to a bus wash; and the Access Center total is \$840,500. Business Manager LaSala responded to Trustee Dr. Cartwright that the aid ratio is currently at 97%; and Mr. Travers added there is a P12 green initiative and other funding initiatives out there. Board members further discussed individual bullet items, geothermal, pool options, solar, etc. Superintendent Kelly stated that an RFP has been issued for an architect and engineering firm for the next capital project that could go to the voters as soon as next fall. A timeline will be established next month and committees including staff, coaches, and families will be utilized. President Fenlong thanked Mr. Travers for his time and the detailed information provided.

B. Communications

President Fenlong reminded those present that the Middle School Drama Club’s performance would be held November 18 and 19 in the high school auditorium.

C. Student Board Representative Report – Mariah Manning

Ms. Manning reported that Senior Privileges were recently granted to those eligible at the 5-week mark. The High School fall drama has been selected and auditions will take place this week.

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IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. 2023 Exemption/Income Ceiling Changes

Business Manager LaSala explained that the county annually sends a form asking whether the district wants to change the senior citizen exemption. Ours is currently 0/No Exemption. Ms. LaSala recommended that the district keep the 0 exemption, because with the enhanced STAR, most seniors' taxes are already at 0. The other option is to change from No Exemption to an income-based and/or a sliding scale. President Fenlong asked if historically we have received any feedback; Ms. LaSala replied that calls received regarding tax collection are rarely from seniors. Responding to Trustee Roberts, Ms. LaSala confirmed that we still participate in the Veteran's exemption. All board members present were in agreement to remain at No Exemption; therefore, no action was necessary.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Open Swim / Pool survey results

High School Principal/Athletic Director Cory Wood shared the results of a survey he conducted to get feedback from residents about what they would like to have for pool programs. The pool is currently open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 6:00-7:15, with always at least one participant and up to six. Survey response was highly in favor of adding a Sunday swim, which will be an option now that a weekend custodian is on duty and will not incur overtime costs to the district. Mr. Wood said they are working with more students to get their lifeguard certifications, but it is difficult for them to balance that with other sports they participate in. Board members also discussed swimming lessons for students and the challenges of scheduling them from another building. President David Fenlong said the survey information will help drive the decisions for this capital project.

B. Second Reading [and Adoption] of Policies

(See Sheet #2, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, that the Board of Education adopt the following new and revised policies, effective immediately, as presented:

- 1310 - **Powers and Duties of the Board** (Revised)
- 1510 - **Regular Board Meetings and Rules (Quorum and Parliamentary Procedure)** (Revised)
- 1720 - **Minutes** (Revised)
- 3410 - **Code of Conduct** (Revised)
- 7552 - **Student Gender Identity** (New)
- 8110 - **Curriculum Development, Resources and Evaluation** (Revised)
- 8330 - **Objection to Instructional Materials and Controversial Issues** (Revised)
- 8340 - **Instructional Materials and Nonpublic School Students** (Revised)

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. LISTED POLICIES ADOPTED AS PRESENTED.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

President David Fenlong asked if any member on the Board wished to have any item on the Consent Agenda removed for special consideration and discussion. Trustee Roberts asked that Item C, CSE Business, be removed for special consideration and discussion. Therefore, Item C was removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B, and D:

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

A. Minutes

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 17, 2022, as presented.

B. Claims Auditor's Reports

(See Sheet #3, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the Claims Auditor's Reports for the period 10/17/22 - 11/04/22, as presented.

D. CPSE 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 CPSE Meeting Minutes report:

5104473

5104568

VI. CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Vote on Consent Agenda Items A, B, D:

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A, B, and D, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.C. CSE Business*(See Sheet #4, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, and seconded by Vice-President Todd E. Bates, that the Board of Education 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#:

5104405	5102527	5103269	5100807	5101212	5102080	5103871
5104137	5103509	5100595	5100284	5101625	5102545	14250
5100421	5101585	5104585	5104638	5104147	5103761	5104591
5103245	5104272	5103620	5101491	5102913	5101047	5103035
5102832	5100796	5104004	5104614	5103253	5104346	5103246
5103563	5103590	5104272	5103777	5100940	5102482	5102519
5103030	5103953	5101810				

CSE Personnel Action:

Creation of 1:1 Individual Aide position for Student # 5103777, effective immediately.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Roberts asked if the district gets aid back on services provided to students during home instruction and was told that the amount of aid is contingent upon the circumstances such as whether it is medically necessary.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CSE BUSINESS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

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

Motion to approve Consent Agenda – Personnel

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

A. Positions

Approve the creation of the following School Lunch program positions, effective immediately:

- Two (2) 5-hour Food Service Helpers
- Three (3) 2.75-hour Food Service Helpers

B. Resignations

- a) Accept the request for resignation from Megan S. Thackston from her position of School Counselor, effective November 19, 2022.
- b) Accept the request for resignation from Micky Barbarito from her position of 2.75-hour Food Service Helper, effective November 7, 2022.

C. Appointments1. Instructional

- a) Health Teacher. Approve the probationary appointment of Robert Webster, holding Emergency COVID-19 certification in Health Education and Permanent certification in Physical Education, to a four-year probationary period in the Health tenure area, commencing on November 4, 2022 and anticipated to end on November 3, 2026, at an annual salary set at Step 5, B30M, in accordance with the Gouverneur Teachers' Association Agreement current salary schedule for year 2022-2023. This appointment is contingent upon his 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.
- b) Gouverneur Middle School Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors for the 2022-2023 school year, to be paid at the rate of \$30/hour, funded through the ARP SLR Comprehensive After School grant: Nola Farns, Danielle Peake.

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VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

C. Appointments (Cont.)2. Substitutes

Approve the appointment of the following personnel as listed to work as per diem substitutes in instructional and/or support positions, pending completion of all requirements:

Hoffman	Brittany	(Cafeteria)
Tupper	Melody	(Clerical/Aide)

3. Coaches

- a) Resignation of Winter Coach, effective October 28, 2022:
BASKETBALL BOYS - JV CHARLES W. NEWVINE
- b) Fall Coach: Correction to Salary Step, originally appointed at Step 3 at the June 13, 2022 regular Board of Education meeting, clerical error:
MODIFIED FOOTBALL – ASST. COACH MICHAEL SHATTUCK Class 4, Step 4
- c) Winter Coaching Appointments: E. Barton was previously appointed to both 7th and 8th grade Girls’ Basketball at the June 27, 2022 regular Board of Education meeting. The 7th grade appointment is rescinded.
- | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------|
| BASKETBALL GIRLS – MODIFIED (7 TH) | CORTNEY EVANS-EPPOLITO | Class 4, Step 1 |
| BASKETBALL GIRLS – MODIFIED (8 TH) | EVELYN BARTON | Class 4, Step 15 |
| SWIM BOYS – VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT | TERRI WHITAKER | Uncompensated |

D. Leave of Absence

Acknowledge the medical leave for Employee #01677, to begin on 10/13/22 and continue for 4 or more weeks. This leave is not covered under FMLA, and the employee will incur approximately 8 unpaid days.

Vote on Consent Agenda – Personnel Items

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA- PERSONNEL, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

President Fenlong thanked all the appointees as well as Mr. Newvine for his involvement in youth sports.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2022 Tax Collector’s Report and Return of Unpaid Taxes to St. Lawrence & Jefferson Counties
(See Sheet #6, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laurie M. Roberts, and seconded by Vice-President Todd E. Bates, that the Board of Education approve the 2022 Tax Collector's Report, dated November 7, 2022, showing a tax levy of \$6,868,420.63 for the 2022-2023 school year, with \$832,053.60 of the levy remaining unpaid, and approve the 2022 Return of Unpaid Taxes in the amounts of \$824,654.35 and \$7,399.25 plus any penalty for collection to St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties, respectively, as presented.

DISCUSSION: Business Manager LaSala confirmed that since the deadline has passed, the school no longer collects the taxes. It has been turned over to the county to collect any outstanding taxes.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. 2022 TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT AND RETURN OF UNPAID TAXES TO ST. LAWRENCE & JEFFERSON COUNTIES, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

B. GTA Mini-Grant Program

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Laura Spicer, that the Board of Education appropriate \$873.80, as per the GTA Contract, to A-9070.871, GTA Mini-Grant Program.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. GTA MINI-GRANT PROGRAM APPROPRIATION, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

C. Authorization to Declare as Surplus and Sell/Dispose of Equipment

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Todd E. Bates, and seconded by Trustee Brooke Bush, that the Board of Education declare the following equipment as surplus and authorize the Business Manager to sell/dispose of the following item: Ice Machine.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. AUTHORIZATION TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS AND SELL/DISPOSE OF EQUIPMENT, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

IX. COMMENT PERIOD

President Fenlong acknowledged the GAA for cards that board members received, "Thank you, we are pleased to be on your team."

X. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Bush, that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session to discuss collective negotiations.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:31 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Open session resumed at 6:45 PM.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, motion made by Trustee Lowry, and seconded by Vice-President Bates, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present. NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45 PM, EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

[signature on file]
Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk

[signature on file]
David Fenlong, President

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