

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

DECEMBER 18, 2023

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., in the High School Cafeteria, leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Present: Todd E. Bates, Dr. William Cartwright, David Fenlong, Mark Hendrick, Naaman Lowry, Laurie M. Roberts, Laura Spicer.

Trustees Absent: Brooke Bush, Nickolas Ormasen.

Also Present: Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools; Dale R. Munn Jr., Business Manager; Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk; Abigail Bowman, Student Board Representative

II. COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were offered.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Presentation - NCTM Conference

(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)

Michael Hammond (Middle School Assistant Principal) and Jessica Cappellino (Math Coach), along with teachers Shelley Burnham, Brittany Lewis, Kayla Side, and Jillian McDougall shared their take-aways from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Conference they attended this fall, as well as the initiatives, classroom strategies, intervention and professional development, and the future vision for math instruction at the elementary and middle schools. A discussion period followed where board members received more details on the implementation, and all members present were in favor of continuing to support what they are doing for the math curriculum in the district.

B. Communications

None.

C. Wildcat News

Superintendent Kelly shared updates on the boys Varsity swim team, who have started the season with 2 wins and 1 loss, beating Canton from Section X and Indian River from Section III. The win against Indian River was the team's first Frontier League win since 2017. At the Indian River Invitational on December 9, they placed 6th out of 9 and earned 21 new personal best times. She also recognized the Kindergarten students and described their new Show and Tell unit that combines drawing, writing, and speaking about a toy that will then be donated to the local Toy Drive at the Gouverneur Rec Center. Mrs. Kelly also took the opportunity to thank the entire community of Gouverneur for their strong support for our capital project vote, saying that a great deal of time and effort was spent developing a plan for a project to improve our facilities and benefit our students and the entire community of Gouverneur. She stated, "The Board of Education and the business department, including our recently retired business manager Carol LaSala, developed a funding plan that would ultimately result in no additional tax increase for this \$57.38 million project. Our vision is to *Deliver the Promise of a Brighter Future for Our Students and Our Community*, and while we still have a lot of work to do to get there, this project will be a big step forward for all of us. For our students, our families, our faculty and staff, and our fantastic community supporters and partners, this is a great time to be a Wildcat! Thank you for coming out to vote and thank you for your support!"

D. Upcoming Events

1. Tuesday, December 19 – High School Winter Concert, 7:00 PM, HS Auditorium
2. Wednesday, December 20 – "snow date" for High School Winter Concert
3. December 22 – January 1 – Winter Break – no school for students
4. Monday, January 8 – Board Meeting, 5:30 PM, HS Auditorium

E. Student Board Representative Report – Abigail Bowman

Ms. Bowman reported that the students are participating in 4 themed days before break – Ugly Sweater day, Candy Cane day, Hat and Sock day, and Pajama day. There is also a decorate-the-door competition with the winning classroom getting donuts and cider, and a food drive/raffle, where every item donated is worth one raffle ticket for a \$100 prize.

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IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Monthly Financial Report – November

(See Sheet #2, Board Minutes File Folder)

Business Manager Munn pointed out that on the revenue side, much of the increase over projected is from the current high interest rates. A short discussion on Medicaid reimbursement took place.

B. 2024-2025 Budget Calendar

(See Sheet #3, Board Minutes File Folder)

Mr. Munn provided the projected timeline for the 2024-2025 budget process.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

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 Laurie M. Roberts asked that item B, CSE Business, be removed for special consideration and discussion.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda

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

A. Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2023, and the Special Meeting of December 12, 2023, as presented.

C. 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 5104803 5104706 5104691 5104748

D. Treasurer’s Report – November 2023

(See Sheet #6, Board Minutes File Folder)

Accept the Treasurer’s Report for November 2023, as presented.

Vote on Consent Agenda Items A, C, and D

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A, C, AND D, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

B. CSE Business

(See Sheet #4, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laura Spicer, seconded by Trustee Naaman Lowry, 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:

5100796 5104647 5101491 5103222 5103321 5104618
5102739 5102976 5103897 5103658 5103924 5104287
5102802 5102998 5102163 5103005 5101946 5102844
5103426 5102987 5102511 5101821 5104337 5102890
5102203 5104589 5104053 5104052 5104249 5104570
5104061 5104888

CSE Personnel Action:

Creation of 1:1 Individual Aide position for Student # 5104748, effective immediately.

Creation of 1:1 Individual Aide position for Student # 5104399, effective immediately.

DISCUSSION: Superintendent Kelly, in response to Trustee Roberts, confirmed that the board copies’ descriptions may be more generic than the CSE sheets and added that notes are included for amendments without meetings.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CSE BUSINESS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

President David 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 Vice-President Todd E. Bates, that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel items, A-C, as a Consent Agenda:

A. **Memorandum of Agreement #9 between the Gouverneur Central School District and the Gouverneur Teachers' Association (a/k/a the Gouverneur Education Association)**

(See Sheet #7, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the MOA#9 to the contract between the District and GTA to amend Article 17.6 to include a reference to NYSDCP (New York State Deferred Compensation Plan), as presented.

B. **Retirements**

Accept the request for resignation for retirement purposes from Tina Damon from her position as 2.75-hour Food Service Helper, effective December 29, 2023.

C. **Appointments**1. **Extra-Curricular****2023-24 Advisors - Revision:**

- a) Rescind the appointment of Jenelle Patchin as Stage Band advisor (from the 11/6/23 BOE mtg).
- b) Appoint Richard Patton as Stage Band advisor, Class C, Step 1.

2. **Extra Duty**

Gouverneur High School Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors for the 2023-2024 school year, to be paid at the rate of \$30/hour, funded through the ARP: Robert Dunkelberg.

3. **Substitutes and Tutors**

- a) Approve the appointment of the following personnel as listed to work as per diem substitutes for Instructional and Support positions, pending completion of all requirements including mandatory training, NYSED fingerprint clearance, and necessary employee paperwork, for the 2023-2024 school year: Jane C. Trowbridge, Cole Siebels.
- b) Approve the appointment of Jamie Mitchell as a Tutor (uncertified). She was previously approved as a substitute.

Vote on Consent Agenda – Personnel Items

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

President Fenlong thanked Tina Damon for her 17 years working with students and staff and wished her the best in her retirement.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Policy Review – First Reading**

(See Sheet #8, Board Minutes File Folder)

The BOE Policy Committee met on December 5 and selected the following policies to bring forward: 1511 - **Agenda Format** (Delete); *this is a matter of procedure and not necessary to be in a district's policy manual.* 2110 - Board Member Attendance at Conferences and Workshops – Change to **Board Member Training and Attendance at Conferences and Workshops** (Revised); *contains additional language recommended by Erie1 related to Board Member training.* 3110 - School Sponsored Media - Renamed **GCSD School Media** (Revised); *changes recommended by policy committee for clarity.* 3220 – **Public Expression at Meetings** (Revised); *now consistent with Policy 1510, Regular Board Meetings and Rules (Quorum and Parliamentary Procedure).* 3250 – **Parent-Teacher Association** (Delete); *this is a matter of procedure and not necessary to be in a district's policy manual.* 3430 - **Statewide Uniform Violent Incident Reporting System (UVIRS)** (Delete); *outdated because this process is now referred to as School Safety and Educational Climate (SSEC) Reporting.* 4410 - **Professional Development Opportunities** (Delete); *unnecessary in light of policy 6212.2, Registration and Professional Learning.* 6440 - **Negotiations** (Delete); 6510 - **Health Insurance** (Delete); 6520 – **Workers' Compensation** (Delete); 6560 - **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** (Delete); *these are all matters of procedure and not necessary to be in a district's Policy Manual.* 7460 - **Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration** (Revised); *amendments to Election Law Section 5-507 added language requiring districts to provide access and information to students for voter registration and preregistration.* President Fenlong stated that a second reading and anticipated adoption would take place at the next meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

B. Early Dismissal January 10, 2024 (Staff Professional Development)

Superintendent Kelly proposed a staff development session in the afternoon for Elementary and Middle School teachers for "Foundations of Effective Reading Instruction: Understanding the Science of Reading." The training will be provided by the North Country Regional Partnership Center (NCRPC). The high school previously had a training in the fall with the NCRPC on explicit instruction and are currently working on that initiative. Board members agreed to proceed with this training.

Clerk's Note: Trustee Mark Hendrick left at this point in the meeting.

C. 2023-2024 Calendar Revision

(See Sheet #9, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Spicer, that the Board of Education revise the 2023-2024 school calendar to change January 10 to a half day (AM) for students in Gouverneur Elementary and Middle Schools only; the PM will be used for staff development purposes, as presented.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. REVISED 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

D. Early Dismissal Drill 1/10/24

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Bates, and seconded by Trustee Lowry, that the Board of Education approve an early dismissal on January 10, 2024, as one of the eight evacuation drills required by Ed. Law Section 807: *The Gouverneur Central School District will dismiss early on January 10, 2024 as follows: Gouverneur High School (2:05 PM); Gouverneur Middle School (10:30 AM); Gouverneur Elementary School (11:00 AM).*

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. EARLY DISMISSAL DRILL 1/10/24, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

E. Request for Overnight Trip for Girls' Basketball Team

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Spicer, that the Board of Education approve the request for the Gouverneur Girls' Basketball Team (JV/Varsity) to attend the "Ballin' for a Cure" tournament at Beekmantown CSD, West Chazy, NY on December 29-30, 2023. The District will cover transportation costs.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. GIRLS' BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT REQUEST, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

Clerk's Note: Trustee Mark Hendrick returned at this point in the meeting.

IX. COMMENT PERIOD

Rachel Hunter from the *Gouverneur Tribune Press* asked if the early dismissal will affect the PreK-Kindergarten concert; Superintendent Kelly confirmed the concert will remain as scheduled on January 9. Parent Tina French applauded the NCTM presentation, saying it is exciting to see that enthusiasm and energy from the teachers, and added that it would be nice to build in a community component.

X. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Vice-President Bates, and seconded by Trustee Lowry, to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person and collective bargaining language.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:01 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Open session resumed at 7:50 PM.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Spicer, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present. NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file

Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk

Signature on file

David Fenlong, President

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