

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

JUNE 1, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Trustees Present: Todd E. Bates, Dr. William Cartwright, David Fenlong, Tina French, Lisa McGregor, Nickolas Ormasen, Laurie M. Roberts, Laura Spicer.

Trustees Absent: Brooke Bush.

Also Present: Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools; Dale R. Munn Jr., Business Manager; Jessica Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent; Cory Wood, Executive Director of Operations and Personnel; Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk.

President Fenlong took a moment to reflect on the life of Angela LaJoy, a beloved member of the high school faculty who taught Business. Mrs. LaJoy was a dedicated educator who touched the lives of many students and colleagues and will be greatly missed. A moment of silence was held.

II. PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS REVISIONS TO THE DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT

*(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)*

President Fenlong explained the purpose of this public hearing is to afford the Board of Education the opportunity to hear opinions from the public regarding the Code of Conduct on school property. He stated that the Code of Conduct is posted on the District website and the public was invited to submit comments. With no comments received prior to or at the meeting, Mr. Fenlong stated that comments would still be accepted until the next meeting when the document is anticipated to be adopted.

**The public hearing concluded at 5:34 p.m.**

III. COMMENT PERIOD – None.

IV. DISCUSSION

A. Presentations – Staff Recognition Award

The District Shared Decision-Making Committee selected Bonnie Bates and Cherie Zira to receive June's Staff Recognition Award. President Fenlong read, in part, from the nomination: Bonnie and Cherie of the Gouverneur Middle School exemplify the spirit of dedication, service, and commitment to students that this recognition seeks to honor. For 15 and 13 years respectively, they have volunteered their time as coaches for the Clarkson University IMPETUS program, an initiative designed to inspire and support students interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). They organize regular after-school meetings, guide students through projects and challenges, and ensure that students remain engaged and supported throughout the program. In addition, they attend meetings at Clarkson University and accompany students on monthly field trips and campus visits where participants collaborate with peers from across the North Country and engage in hands-on STEM experiences.

B. Communications

Board members received an invitation to the Southwest Tech Student recognition ceremony. Due to the current construction at our high school, it will be held at Hermon-Dekalb this year.

C. Wildcat News

Superintendent Kelly restated the Summer School opportunities in the district for all grade levels, and she also announced the summer feeding program will return, providing free breakfast and lunch to all students 18 and under.

D. Upcoming Events

Mrs. Kelly reviewed some of the year-end activities taking place, including the Moving Up Day ceremony on June 12, the Southwest Tech student recognition ceremony on June 16, and graduation on June 26, which will again take place at the Grandstand, weather permitting.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Adopt Gouverneur School District Reserve Plan Updated June 2026  
(See Sheet #2, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Laurie Roberts, that the Board of Education, as per General Municipal Law, Section 6-r, approve the reserve plan as presented.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. RESERVE PLAN, UPDATED JUNE 2026, ADOPTED AS PRESENTED.**

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. School Safety Plan Public Hearing – June 15, 2026

President Fenlong reminded those present that a public hearing will take place at the next board meeting to discuss the School Safety Plan, stating it is available to view on the District website.

VII. 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. No member asked for any item to be removed.

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda:**

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

A. Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting and Vote, held May 11 and 19, 2026, and the May 11, 2026, Regular Meeting, as presented.

B. Claims Auditor’s Reports

(See Sheet #3, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the Claims Auditor’s Reports for the period 05/14/2026 – 05/29/2026 as presented.

C. CSE Business

(See Sheet #4, 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:

|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 5105295 | 5104001 | 5103246 | 5104286 | 5104275 | 5102459 | 5102482 |
| 5103947 | 5104792 | 5105324 | 5103551 | 5102846 | 5103752 | 5105181 |
| 5104704 | 5103030 | 5102897 | 5105337 | 5103953 | 5102080 | 5103749 |
| 5103423 | 5105358 | 5103934 | 5102750 | 5102898 | 5102783 | 5105360 |
| 5103875 | 5105093 | 5103498 | 5104412 | 5104081 | 5104882 | 5104892 |
| 5104567 | 5104147 | 5105330 | 5104513 | 5103762 |         |         |

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:

|         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 5104776 | 5104894 | 5105141 | 5105343 | 5105359 | 5104680 | 5104862 |
| 5105081 | 5105118 | 5105153 | 5105210 | 5105155 | 5105126 |         |

**Vote on Consent Agenda:**

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

VIII. 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 for any item to be removed.

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda – Personnel:**

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

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

A. Memorandum of Agreement #9 between the Gouverneur Central School District and the Gouverneur Education Association

(See Sheet #6, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the MOA #9 to the contract between the District and GEA to amend Appendix A: Club classifications – remove Performing Arts Director (Class E) and add A-V (Audio-Visual) Director (Class C), effective 8/31/26.

B. Appointments

1. Instructional

a) Art Teacher. Approve the appointment of Jessica Huto, holding NYS initial certification in Visual Arts, to the position of Art Teacher in the Art tenure area, for a four-year probationary period commencing on August 31, 2026, and anticipated to end on August 30, 2030, at an annual salary set at Step 3, B30M, in accordance with the Gouverneur Education Association Agreement current salary schedule for 2026-2027. This appointment is contingent upon her successful completion of the probationary term. For anticipated professional development purposes only, her appointment date is effective 7/1/26.

2. Substitutes & Tutors

a) Approve the appointment of the following returning substitute for the 2025-26 school year: Cole Siebels.  
 b) Approve the rate change for certified substitute Patricia A. Williams, who holds permanent NYS certification in *Nursery, Kindergarten & Grades 1-6*, and has substituted continuously for employee 01063 during her leave of absence, to the established rate of 25+ days effective 4/22/26.

3. Summer

(See Sheet #7, Board Minutes File Folder)

a) High School Summer School. Approve the appointment of GHS Summer School staff as presented in the attached document.

(See Sheet #8, Board Minutes File Folder)

b) Middle School Summer School. Approve the appointment of GMS Summer School staff as presented in the attached document.

(See Sheet #9, Board Minutes File Folder)

c) Elementary Summer School. Approve the appointment of GES Summer School staff as presented in the attached document.

d) Summer Related Service Appointments. Approve the appointment of the following service providers for Summer 2026, to be paid at the rate(s) of \$54/session Preschool, and \$47/session School age.

- ESY Speech/Language Therapy: Pam Ault, Emily Elliott, Erin Bartlett
- ESY Occupational Therapy: Megan Morrow, Taylor Marcellus

e) Summer CSE Support. Approve the appointment of Shea-Marie Mussaw for up to 20 hours/week at her prorated per diem rate to work on CSE reevaluations.

f) Summer Guidance Support. Approve the appointment of the following personnel for summer support as presented. Staff will be compensated in accordance with their hourly rate from the 2026-27 salary schedule of their collective bargaining units.

|            |                     |               |
|------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Elementary | Grace Mashaw        | Up to 5 days  |
| Elementary | Ashley Morehouse    | Up to 5 days  |
| Middle     | Hunter Hitchman     | Up to 10 days |
| Middle     | Monica Scott        | Up to 20 days |
| High       | Marcy Tyler         | Up to 20 days |
| High       | New Counselor (TBD) | Up to 20 days |

g) Summer Nursing Support. Approve the appointments for Nursing Support for the 2026-2027 Summer programs, as presented. Staff will be compensated in accordance with their hourly rate from the 2026-27 salary schedule of their collective bargaining units.

|       |  |                   |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| RN    | Christine Sitts                                    | Up to 7 days      |
| LPN's | Brittaney Fairbanks, Natalie Wood, Kylynne Stamper | Up to 3 days each |

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

B.3 Appointments – Summer (Cont.)

- h) Summer Instructional Technology Coach Support – Stephanie Plaisted. Approve up to 10 days at her 2026-27 daily rate for support to include but not be limited to setting up all instructional technology services and offering support for purchased technology for teachers.
  - i) Summer Instructional Math Coach Support – Jessica Cappellino. Approve up to 10 days at her 2026-27 daily rate for instructional support services for teachers.
4. Students  
Buildings & Grounds. Approve the appointment of the following students as substitutes in the Buildings & Grounds department for the summer of 2026, pending completion of all requirements: James Minckler, Niklas Tharaldsen, to be paid at the Student Sub Custodial rate.

**Vote on Consent Agenda – Personnel:**

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

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

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Merger Requests - Athletics*(See Sheets #10, Board Minutes File Folder)*

1. Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laura Spicer, and seconded by Trustee Laurie Roberts, that the Board of Education approve a merger with the Ogdensburg City School District to allow their students to participate on the Gouverneur Girls' Wrestling team at the Varsity level during the 2026-27 school year, per the terms of the Section 10 Athletics Combined Teams Application, as presented.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MERGER REQUEST FOR OGDENSBURG STUDENTS TO JOIN GOUVERNEUR GIRLS' WRESTLING TEAM, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.***(See Sheets #11, Board Minutes File Folder)*

2. Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laurie Roberts, and seconded by Trustee Lisa McGregor, that the Board of Education approve a merger with the Canton Central School District to allow our students to participate on the Canton Boys and Girls Hockey teams at the Varsity level during the 2026-27 school year, per the terms of the Section 10 Athletics Combined Teams Application, as presented.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MERGER REQUEST FOR OUR GOUVERNEUR STUDENTS TO JOIN CANTON CSD'S BOYS' AND GIRLS' HOCKEY TEAMS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.***(See Sheets #12, Board Minutes File Folder)*

3. Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laura Spicer, and seconded by Trustee Tina French, that the Board of Education approve a merger with the Canton Central School District to allow our students to participate on the Canton Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams at the Varsity level during the 2026-27 school year, per the terms of the Section 10 Athletics Combined Teams Application, as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** Trustee Dr. Cartwright raised the topic of coaching input when mergers are discussed; specifically, whether they feel it reduces the number of participants on home teams when we agree to let students play for other districts. Superintendent Kelly explained that all mergers go through the athletic directors of participating districts and are carefully considered for potential impacts to existing programs.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MERGER REQUEST FOR OUR GOUVERNEUR STUDENTS TO JOIN CANTON CSD'S BOYS' AND GIRLS' LACROSSE TEAMS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## IX. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

B. Authorization to Declare as Surplus and Dispose of Used Items

Whereas, the School District owns certain items which are obsolete, no longer useful or necessary for school district purposes and of no value to the School District, as indicated below.

Therefore, be it resolved, that upon motion made by Trustee Laura Spicer, and seconded by Trustee Laurie Roberts, that the Board of Education hereby declares such items to be surplus property and of no value to the School District and authorizes the Business Administrator to dispose of such items in accordance with Board Policy and in the best interests of the School District.

| Item      | Number | Condition | Reason for Disposal | Recommended means of disposal |
|-----------|--------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Spotlight | 2      | Fair      | no longer used      | Auction/Sale                  |

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. ITEM(S) LISTED DECLARED AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZED FOR DISPOSAL.**

C. Policy Review – first reading

(See Sheet #13, Board Minutes File Folder)

President Fenlong introduces the slate of policies for consideration. Policy 1620, *Annual Organizational Meeting*, was revised in response to Senate Bill S6737 to allow boards of education to meet on any date in July on or before the Monday after July 20 for their annual organizational meeting. The entirety of Policy 7370, *Student Use of Computerized Information Resources (Acceptable Use Policy)* was rewritten based on the NYSED acceptable use policy and aligns with the recommendations of recent Comptroller's audit, and the title was changed to *Acceptable Use Policy (Student)*. Policy 7540, *Student Directory Information*, was revised by the June 2025 guidance document released by NYSED, which recommends that districts do not release place of birth as directory information because this may be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. There were also three policies recommended for deletion: Policy 3111, *School District Standards and Guidelines for Web Page Publishing*; information is contained in other policies or is included in law/regulations that we follow. Policy 5322, *Use of the District Cell Phone*; the district no longer has any employee(s) with district cell phones and no plan to provide any future employee with a district cell phone. Policy 7570, *Notification of Release of Sex Offenders*; this is not a required policy and is outdated. Current procedures are covered by state law and handled by law enforcement. There will be a second reading of these policies with anticipated adoption at the next meeting on June 15.

D. Set date and time for Annual Organizational Meeting

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Tina French, that the Board of Education set the date, time, and location for the Annual Organizational Meeting as Monday, July 13, 2026, at 5:30 PM in the High School Auditorium.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING SET FOR JULY 13, 2026, AT 5:30 PM IN THE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM.**

E. Draft - 2026-2027 Board of Education Meeting Dates

(See Sheet #14, Board Minutes File Folder)

Superintendent Kelly clarified that although many months have been reduced to one meeting, the Board can add additional meetings at any time if they feel it is warranted.

## X. COMMENT PERIOD

Trustee Roberts commended the special education department for the excellent job they do getting all of the CSE and CPSE meeting information to the Board in a timely manner.

## XI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Laura Spicer, to adjourn to executive session to discuss the employment history of particular persons.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:11 PM.**

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

**Open session resumed at 7:00 PM.**

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Tina French, to return to open session and adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present. NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file  
Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk

Signature on file  
David Fenlong, President