

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

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

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

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

Trustees Absent: Brooke Bush, Tina French, Laura Spicer.

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

II. COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were offered.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Wildcat News – Summer School Update

Elementary: Principal Richard Trowbridge announced that the successful program ranged from 72-103 students each week. Among the highlights were a partnership with the swim camp and rec program, and time spent at TimberNook, the library, the pizzeria, and the county fair animal exhibits. Middle: Assistant Principal Rachel Curry provided a summary of grades 5-8 at each level as well as LifeSkills, STEM, and physical education activities. The students enjoyed units on New York, planet projects, animals and insects, knights and castles, and a game of *Life* simulation. The average attendance was 65 students. Regional High School: High School Principal Nicole Donaldson reported that the in-person format was very successful, with a total of 195 students, including 87 from six outside districts. Students could take 2 classes over two sessions, for a total of 4 classes. They offered 11 different credit recovery and 3 full credit courses. Approximately 200 Regents exams were given in August over two days, with the majority of test-takers gaining course credits. President David Fenlong thanked the principals for the updates, saying that it sounded like they made learning fun for a lot of people, students and staff alike.

B. Upcoming Events

Superintendent Kelly announced our new student board member, Ashlyn Besaw, would be joining us at the next meeting, after attending a training at the SLL BOCES sponsored by the New York State School Boards Association and the New York State Education Department. She also reminded everyone about the upcoming *Walk With a Doc* on September 13.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT – None.

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. 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 Dr. William Cartwright, seconded by Trustee Laurie Roberts, that the Board of Education approve items A-D as a consent agenda:

A. Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2025, as presented.

B. Claims Auditor's Reports

(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the Claims Auditor's Reports for the period 7/15/25 – 8/8/25 (from the 8/18/25 regular BOE meeting) and the period 8/14/25 – 9/5/25, as presented.

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VI. CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

C. CSE Business

(See Sheet #2, 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:

5103056 5103509 5103081

D. CPSE Business

(See Sheet #3, 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:

5105191

Vote on Consent Agenda:

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA, 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. Trustee Laurie Roberts asked that item (b) under B.-Resignations be removed for separate discussion.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda – Personnel Items A, B(a), and C:

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Lisa McGregor, that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel items, A, B(a), and C, as a Consent Agenda:

A. Memorandum of Agreement #6 between the Gouverneur Central School District and the Gouverneur Education Association

(See Sheet #4, Board Minutes File Folder)

Approve the MOA#6 to the contract between the District and GEA for a non-precedent setting agreement to provide unpaid leave for a particular Teacher's Service as Town Justice.

B. Resignations

- a) Accept the request for resignation from Brittany White, from her appointment as School Nurse (LPN), effective August 22, 2025 (no days worked).

C. Appointments1. Instructional

- a) Elementary (Prekindergarten) Teacher. Appoint Marlo (Cook) Fairchild, holding NYS Initial certifications in Early Childhood (Birth-Grade 2) and Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), to the position of Elementary Teacher in the Elementary PreK-6 tenure Area, effective August 20, 2025, for professional development purposes. Mrs. Fairchild will have a four-year probationary period commencing on September 2, 2025, and anticipated to end on September 1, 2029, at an annual salary set at Step 1, Bachelor's, in accordance with the Gouverneur Education Association Agreement current salary schedule for 2025-2026. This appointment is contingent upon her successful completion of the probationary term.

2. Non-Instructional

- a) School Nurse (LPN). Appoint Jacey Phelps as a School Nurse (LPN), in the non-competitive class of the civil service, under the terms and conditions of the GSRPU contract, effective September 9, 2025 at a salary of LPN, Level 1, prorated to September 9, 2025; and approve her as a returning substitute nurse 9/2/25-9/8/25.
- b) Cleaner. Appoint Austin Garrison to the position of Cleaner in the labor class of the civil service, under the terms and conditions of the GSRPU contract, commencing on September 9, 2025 at an annual salary in accordance with the Gouverneur School Related Personnel Union agreement, Cleaner 8HR Level 1, from the current GSRPU salary schedule, prorated to September 9, 2025.
- c) Cleaner. Appoint Alexis Hays to the position of Cleaner in the labor class of the civil service, under the terms and conditions of the GSRPU contract, commencing on September 9, 2025 at an annual salary in accordance with the Gouverneur School Related Personnel Union agreement, Cleaner 8HR Level 1, from the current GSRPU salary schedule, prorated to September 9, 2025.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

C.2. Appointments - Non-Instructional (Cont.)

- d) Cleaner. Appoint Rosane White to the position of Cleaner in the labor class of the civil service, under the terms and conditions of the GSRPU contract, commencing on September 9, 2025 at an annual salary in accordance with the Gouverneur School Related Personnel Union agreement, Cleaner 8HR Level 1, from the current GSRPU salary schedule, prorated to September 9, 2025.
- e) Cleaner. Appoint Caleb Cronk to the position of Cleaner in the labor class of the civil service, under the terms and conditions of the GSRPU contract, commencing on September 22, 2025 at an annual salary in accordance with the Gouverneur School Related Personnel Union agreement, Cleaner 8HR Level 1, from the current GSRPU salary schedule, prorated to September 22, 2025, pending fingerprint clearance.
- 3. Substitutes and Tutors for 2025-26:
 - a) Substitutes. Anita Sleeman, certified teacher; Alisa Jenne, certified teaching assistant; Cory Farrell, B&G; Brittany Hoffman, cafeteria
 - b) Tutors for homebound instruction. Lisa Carbone, Christine Cognetti, Mark Dailey, Lisa Dunkelberg, Robert Dunkelberg, Diane Easton, Jessica Miller, Julie Neiss, Ken Nicholas, Kim Reed, Beth Siebels, Desiree Simmons, Pam Stevens, Terri Whitaker, Ling Wu, Cherie Zira.
- 4. Extra-Curricular
 - a) 2025-26 Coaches – Fall. Approve the following coaching recommendations, pending completion of any outstanding certification requirements, and compensated in accordance with the 2025-26 Coaching Salary Schedule of the GEA contract:

SWIM – MODIFIED GIRLS	BRETT WORDEN	CLASS 4	Step 2
FOOTBALL – JV ASSISTANT	ALAN COUNTRYMAN	CLASS 3	Step 1
FOOTBALL – MODIFIED ASSISTANT	ALAN COUNTRYMAN	RESCIND	
FOOTBALL – MODIFIED ASSISTANT	RICK VROOMAN	CLASS 4	Step 2
 - b) 2025-26 Advisors. Approve the appointments of the 2025-2026 Advisors, to be compensated in accordance with the Club Salary Schedule of the GTA contract, as presented:

SELECT STRINGS	JANEEN STREETER	CLASS C	Step 2
ADVISOR, GRADE 9 #1	GINA WHITE	CLASS E	Step 1
COSTUME CLUB	MEAGHAN A. MATTHEWS	CLASS E	Step 4
DEI CLUB	JANEEN STREETER	CLASS E	Step 1
- 5. Extra Duty
 - a) High School Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors (Extended Day After School Program) for the 2025-2026 school year: Robert Dunkelberg, Kathleen Beese, Jill Davis, Sarah Wood, Sam Sochia, Lisa Dunkelberg, Lisa Carbone.
 - b) High School Detention Monitors. Appoint the following personnel for the 2025-2026 school year: Bobbie Holmes, Tracy Whitton, Alexia Taylor, Kristen Gaebel, Lisa Carbone, Sam Sochia.
 - c) Middle School Afterschool Tutoring – Instructors: Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors (Extended Day After School Program) for the 2025-2026 school year. Beth Siebels
- 6. Students
Approve the appointment of the following student workers as Lifeguards and/or Fitness Room attendants for 2025-26, pending completion of all requirements: Wyatt Slate
- 7. Other
McKinney-Vento 2025-2026. Through the McKinney-Vento consortium grant we are able to have the following people support our identified homeless population: M-V DTST Members: Monica Scott, Kayley Learn, Christie Warren, Kaitlin McEathron, Saddle Whitaker (Support Leader), Stephanie Plaisted (Support Leader), M-V Mentors: Monica Scott (Liaison/Mentor); Christie Warren, Hunter Hitchman, Kaitlin McEathron, Kayley Learn.

Vote on Consent Agenda – Personnel Items A, B(a), and C:

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL ITEMS A, B(a), and C, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**B. Resignations**

- b) Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Laurie Roberts, seconded by Vice-President Todd Bates, to accept the request for resignation from Jacqueline Scott Hardy, from her position as School Counseling Assistant, effective October 3, 2025, at the end of the day.

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VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

DISCUSSION: Trustee Roberts asked whether that would affect the NYS Mental Health grant; Superintendent Kelly clarified that her duties will be redistributed among current staff.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. RESIGNATION OF JACQUELINE SCOTT HARDY, ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Phase 2 Building Contracts - Revised

(See Sheet #5, Board Minutes File Folder)

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 the contracts for the Capital Improvements Project – Phase 2, as referenced on the attached document from BCA Architects & Engineers. This document is a revision to and replaces the document approved at the 8/18/25 Board of Education meeting. (A clerical error on a bid tab calculation and an incorrect number on the base bid summary have been corrected.) The awarded apparent low bidders did not change.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. REVISED PHASE 2 BUILDING CONTRACTS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

B. School Lunch and Breakfast Program - Correction

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Lisa McGregor, and seconded by Trustee Laurie Roberts, that the Board of Education approve the corrected Adult Breakfast price of \$3.49 + tax.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Roberts asked for clarification; Superintendent Kelly explained that the previously approved amount was an estimate because the USDA rates had not yet been released, but we wanted to have the prices in place for the start of school. When the USDA rates were announced, our breakfast price was too low because we underestimated our needs ratio, which is what they base our reimbursement on; adults must pay at least as much as the government pays us for the same meal. She confirmed that the lunch price was correct as approved at the last meeting.

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. REVISED SCHOOL BREAKFAST ADULT PRICING - APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

IX. COMMENT PERIOD

Elementary Principal Richard Trowbridge recognized the custodians and cleaners who kept the buildings looking great and assisted with the many moves to keep everything functioning throughout the summer.

X. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

YEAS: All Trustees Present NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:00 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Open session resumed at 6:41 PM.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Lisa McGregor, to return to open session and adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present. NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file
Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk

Signature on file
David Fenlong, President