

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

NOVEMBER 3, 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 Middle School Cafeteria, 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 & Personnel; Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk.

II. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Vice-President Todd Bates, and seconded by Trustee Tina French, 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 5:31 PM.**

**Open session resumed at 6:06 PM.**

III. COMMENT PERIOD

Halloween Parade. Trustee Tina French commended the Gouverneur Elementary School students and staff after attending the parade and applauded the great job with the venue change from outdoors to inside.

Gouverneur Wrestling Club. Jim Minckler, parent and board member of the Wrestling Club, requested consideration to let the school wrestling team members use their Club facility for school practices rather than the Gouverneur Elementary School, where their practices are currently scheduled for the 2025-26 season.

IV. DISCUSSION

A. Presentation: Staff Recognition Award

The District Shared Decision-Making Committee selected Richard Patton, Middle School Band Director, to receive the Award this month. In the words of his colleagues, "Richard has spent the entire summer working on clearing out the auditorium and organizing all things in the light booth and the auxiliary cabinet. He has continued to work hard to ensure that his students are receiving a top-notch band education, and that everything in the auditorium runs smoothly."

B. Wildcat News: Capital Project Update

Director of Facilities Cory Wood provided photos and brief updates of the work at the Dolan building; the well field at the high school, where the 100<sup>th</sup> well was completed last week; the bus garage; and the stadium project at the Middle School.

C. Public Response to Previous Comments

Superintendent Kelly read a statement addressing the concerns expressed at recent board meetings regarding safety and support in the district, emphasizing that collected school data shows we are making progress in student discipline and classroom behavior. She cited the results comparing the first two months of this school year to the first two months of last school year that showed the number of discipline referrals at the elementary school decreased by 20%, and the number of classroom evacuations decreased by 30%. The middle school saw a significant decrease in discipline referrals of 70%. For the first time, there is a School Resource Officer in every building. The elementary school has a school social worker, two school counselors, two teaching assistant counselors, and a behavior consultant. This is well within the guidelines set forth by the New York State Education Department. The district continues to build on the improvement, including ongoing training of faculty and staff in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention For Schools (TCIS). She concluded, saying, "Accountability and professionalism guide our decisions as a district. And we will continue to maintain high expectations and standards. We will continue to lead with honesty and transparency, and we will continue our mission which is focused on teaching, learning and moving forward together. Thank you."

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## IV. DISCUSSION (CONTINUED)

D. Upcoming Events

Numerous events coming up this month include the Veterans' Day Ceremony at the Middle School; the Middle School Musical production of *Beauty and the Beast Junior*; parent-teacher conferences for elementary and middle school families; and Thanksgiving recess. Superintendent Kelly reminded everyone that the next Board of Education meeting on December 8 will be held at the Elementary school.

## V. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. GCS External Audit Corrective Action Plan: 6/30/2025

(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Lisa McGregor, and seconded by Trustee Tina French, that the Board of Education approve the External Audit Corrective Action Plan, as presented.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. EXTERNAL AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

## 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 Laurie Roberts, seconded by Trustee Laura Spicer, that the Board of Education approve items A-B as a consent agenda:

A. Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2025, as presented.

B. 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:

5105273	5104993	5102693	5101877	5102187	5103080
5100807	5104387	5102737	5102024	5104647	5102511
5102202	5105280	5104618	5104490	5104967	5102837
5103222	5102987	5102802	5105287	5103547	5105260
5102138	5104589	5102844	5104337	5102976	

**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 Dr. William Cartwright, and seconded by Trustee Lisa McGregor, that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel items, A-C, as a Consent Agenda:

A. Memorandum of Agreement #8 between the Gouverneur Central School District and the

Gouverneur Education Association

(See Sheet #3, Board Minutes File Folder)

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

A. MOA #8 between the GCSD and the GEA (Cont.)

Approve the MOA#8 to the contract between the District and GEA to amend Appendix A: Coach classifications – move Varsity Indoor Track from Class 2 to Class 1; rename JV Wrestling to Varsity Assistant/JV Wrestling; add Indoor (Winter) Track Assistant at Class 3. Club classifications – remove clubs that have not been filled for five years or more: Communication Club, FHA 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, Fitness Center Trainer, Freshman Academy #1, Freshman Academy #2, Hospitality Club, MS Tech Club, Tech Club.

B. Retirements

Accept the request for resignation for retirement purposes from Paulette Fenlong, from her position as Cleaner-8hr, effective December 31, 2025, with appreciation for her service.

C. Appointments1. Instructional

Teaching Assistant – Counselor. Appoint Lindsey L. Felio, pending NYS Teaching Assistant certification, to the position of Teaching Assistant – Counselor effective November 18, 2025, in the Teaching Assistant tenure area for a four-year probationary period.

2. Substitutes and Tutors

Approve the appointment of the following personnel as listed to work as per diem substitutes in instructional and/or support positions: Jennie Young, Kelly Houle, Kirsten Petrie, Ava Isereau, Tamara Stowell, Johnessa Simmons, Ciera Way, Marlene Thomson.

3. Extra Duty

Gouverneur Middle School Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors (Extended Day After School Program) for the 2025-2026 school year: Evan Shampine

4. Extra-Curricular

2025-26 Coaches - Winter. 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:

WRESTLING – VARSITY BOYS	GEORGE J. BAER	CLASS 1	Step 16
BASKETBALL BOYS 8TH GRADE	JARRETT W. BULLOCK	CLASS 4	Step 3
WRESTLING ASSISTANT – VOLUNTEER	ALAN COUNTRYMAN	N/A	
INDOOR TRACK ASSISTANT	SHAWN P. CUMMINGS	CLASS 3	Step 29
WRESTLING ASSISTANT - VOLUNTEER	DAVID M. DAILEY	N/A	
BASKETBALL GIRLS VARSITY	SEAN T. DEVLIN	CLASS 1	Step 20
CHEERLEADING WINTER	ERICA DOWLING	CLASS 1	Step 3
BASKETBALL GIRLS 7TH GRADE	CHELSEI (GRIFFITH) PECK	CLASS 4	Step 1
INDOOR TRACK – MODIFIED	JULIE NEISS	CLASS 4	Step 2
BASKETBALL GIRLS 8TH GRADE	KORRINE PATTERSON	CLASS 4	Step 3
BASKETBALL GIRLS 7TH GRADE	SARAH RIUTTA	CLASS 4	Step 1
BASKETBALL BOYS VARSITY	MICHAEL A. SHATTUCK	CLASS 1	Step 9
BASKETBALL BOYS VOLUNTEER	NICHOLAS A. STERLING	N/A	
BASKETBALL BOYS 7TH GRADE	TRENTON SULLIVAN	CLASS 4	Step 1
BASKETBALL GIRLS JV	RICK L. VROOMAN	CLASS 2	Step 14
BASKETBALL BOYS JV	JACOB A. WELDON	CLASS 2	Step 2
INDOOR TRACK	KURTIS P. WELLS	CLASS 2	Step 19
WRESTLING – MODIFIED	COLTER WHITMORE	CLASS 4	Step 1
SWIM BOYS	BRETT M. WORDEN	CLASS 1	Step 3

5. Students

Approve the appointment of the following student worker(s) for the Buildings & Grounds department for 2025-26, pending completion of all requirements: Karlee L. Ashley

**Vote on Consent Agenda – Personnel:**

YEAS: All Trustees Present      NAYS: None.

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

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## IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. 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 McGregor, and seconded by Trustee Roberts, that the Board of Education approve the Claims Auditor's Reports for the period 10/23/25 – 10/31/25, as presented.

YEAS: Cartwright, Fenlong, French, McGregor, Ormasen, Roberts, Spicer      NAYS: None.

ABSTENTION: Bates

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

B. Approval of District Shared Decision-Making Plan 2025-2027

(See Sheet #5, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Dr. Cartwright, and seconded by Trustee Spicer, that the Board of Education approve the District Shared Decision-Making Plan 2025-2027, as presented.

DISCUSSION: Responding to Trustee Roberts, Superintendent Kelly clarified that a board member is no longer part of the SDM committee as it has since been prohibited by law.

YEAS: All Trustees Present      NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. SHARED DECISION-MAKING PLAN 2025-2027, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

C. Resolution Approving Easement for Utility Purposes

(See Sheet #6, Board Minutes File Folder)

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Bates, and seconded by Trustee French, that the Board of Education approve the Easement for Utility Purposes, as presented in the attached document.

YEAS: All Trustees Present      NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. RESOLUTION APPROVING EASEMENT FOR UTILITY PURPOSES, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## X. COMMENT PERIOD

Safety and Support Concerns. Parents Jacqueline Scott Hardy and Courtney Lucidi separately addressed the board to relay their continuing dissatisfaction with the disruptions in their children's classrooms and the related communication procedures.

Athletics. Marion Bowhall conveyed criticism pertaining to a member of the coaching staff.

## XI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Trustee Tina French, and seconded by Trustee Lisa McGregor, 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 6:48 PM.**

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

**Open session resumed at 7:45 PM.**

## XII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND 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 7:45 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present.      NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:45 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,