

Galway Central School District
Board of Education Meeting
MINUTES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

5:30 PM - High School Conference Room – Executive Session

6:30 PM - High School Library – Regular Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, Second by Nancy Lisicki to move into executive session at 5:30 PM for specific personnel matter(s).

All Board members were present except for Joan Slagle.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, Second by Thomas Rumsey to return to regular session at 6:30 PM.

All Board members were present except for Joan Slagle.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM in the High School Library.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - was recited

ATTENDANCE

Board members present: Cheryl Smith, President; Thomas Rumsey, Vice-President;
Nancy Lisicki, Dennis Schaperjahn, Lauralyn Sakala,
Janet Glenn

Board members absent: Joan Slagle

Others present: William F. Scott, Superintendent of Schools; Brita Donovan, Assistant Jr./Sr.
HS Principal; Linda Jackowski, Director of Pupil Services; Michael Healey,
Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Tim Hilker, School Business Official; Michael
Sherman, Operations, Maintenance and Transportation Supervisor; Community
Members; Faculty; Staff; Students

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – were noted

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA - None

AWARDS

Student of the Month Awards were presented to the students shown below. Congratulations were extended to each of them. Jay Oakes-Grades 11, Nicole O'Brien-Grade 10, Jillian Quay-Grade 7

GTV PRESENTATION

Mrs. Karen Decker and Mrs. Kristin Ostrander, GTV (Galway Television) Co-advisors, were present to discuss the possibility of televising Board meetings through the District's website. There are costs involved to the district. Although GTV has the capability to mentor the process of streaming board meetings, the actual execution of the task on a routine basis is beyond the scope of the existing entity. There are several items to consider when pursuing this route and BOCES or our computer coordinator would need to outfit the library and/or the Large Group Instruction room for streaming. The District would need to consider manpower and equipment for the actual streaming of meetings. The wear and tear on existing GTV equipment (purchased through grants and fundraising) during the process would need to be compensated for. We would need at least two cameras and there are issues with storage. The frequency of meetings and the need for an advisor and/or a knowledgeable student representative to be there each time would require additional training for each of the students and that the students and advisor have a flexible schedule. The student body has been the primary subject for most filming and streaming endeavors (graduation, concerts) in the past so most students who film don't perceive they are sacrificing their time to be there. Though this is an authentic showcase of the democratic process and the students who attend in this capacity may benefit in the short-term or long-term from being part of the dialogue, it is a hard sell, especially when there are so many other avenues to pursue with the equipment as well as other extracurricular interests and only so much time in the day. Following the discussion, the Board of Education decided not to pursue this topic any further at this time. Minutes of board meetings are posted on our district website. The Board commented that they did not want to use equipment from GTV that is intended for student use but said that they did not mind if anyone wanted to record meetings on their own.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Tim Hilker, School Business Official, presented the following budget information and responded to questions at the end of the presentation. A budget of \$17,944,933, which is an overall increase of \$601,868 or 3.47% from last year's budget will be presented to voters on May 21, 2013 following board approval later in the meeting. Mr. Hilker summarized what was contained in the budget. Details will be posted on the district's website and in a district newsletter being sent to all community residents and in a school report card also being sent to them. There will also be a public budget hearing on May 9, 2013 at 6:30 PM in the High School Library that everyone is encouraged to attend. The proposed budget results in an estimated tax levy of \$9,585,389 or \$14.21 per \$1,000 assessed value resulting in an increase of 5.36% from last year which stays within the allowable tax levy for Galway which is 5.40%.

The Board of Education and the administration have developed a program and a schedule, as well as a supporting budget that meets the needs of all community members. This year's budget was driven primarily by the focus of the Board of Education on improving course offerings, rigor of curriculum, intervention services, and enrichment opportunities. The resolve of district leaders to improve in these areas was communicated early in the year to the administration with the task of developing a competitive program that is intended to promote the success and retention of its students. The Board of Education has been equally resolved in their efforts to develop a three-year financial plan and to ensure long-term sustainability. It is the intent of the district to provide stability in its budgeting practices and to balance these practices with manageable tax levy increases for the taxpayers. There has been an extremely positive reaction thus far to the programming changes, as well as the budget development process. Feedback and suggestions are always welcome in the business office. Further detailed information will be posted on the District's website and in a Newsletter being sent to each member of the community explaining in detail in early May. As a part of the improvements to the instructional program that the district will be offering in 2013-14, the district will consolidate its bus runs, with the elementary schedule to be more aligned with the secondary campus schedule, and provide a late bus run allowing students the opportunity to take extra-curricular activities. This change will allow significant opportunity for improved learning, as well as increased availability of assisted instruction and extra-curricular activities. The board of education and the administration of the school district thanked the community for their support, as well as parents for their cooperation, throughout the process of this transition. They recognize that this is a sensitive issue for many parents and are appreciative of the input that school employees have provided. The safety and success of our children are of the utmost importance. It was stated that students will not spend any more time on the bus than before and there will be few, if any, children seated three to a seat. The school district is taking every precaution to ensure that safety is the number one priority in their efforts.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Scott reported that after an extensive search process, a new Superintendent of Schools has not been selected. The Board will continue to work with the WSWHE BOCES District Superintendent of Schools, Mr. James Dexter, to continue the search. At this time, the Board is moving forward with the search process, and will continue to work to identify potential candidates for the position. It is anticipated that the Board will be interviewing additional candidates at the end of May and the same committees will be asked to be involved again with a goal of early July to get everything wrapped up. A decision could be made in July to hire a new superintendent and the person could most likely start approximately a month after that.

The District is following through with the purchase of the NYSSBA Policy service to keep our policies up to date and in compliance with the law.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, Second by Dennis Schaperjahn to approve the Consent Agenda below.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

CONSENT AGENDA

Accept March, 2013 Student Activity Accounts Treasurer's Report.
Board meeting minutes will be available at the next meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Accept March, 2013 Student Activity Accounts Treasurer's Report.
Accept District Treasurer's Reports if applicable.
Accept Budget Transfers if applicable.

PERSONNEL

Appoint Amy David as a Substitute Grades 7-12 Science Teacher and Substitute Grades K-12 Art Teacher effective April 19, 2013 per the SASIE agreement. She has fingerprint clearance.

Appoint Kathleen Pfeiffer as a Substitute Family & Consumer Science Teacher effective April 15, 2013 per the SASIE agreement. She has fingerprint clearance.

Appoint David Neahr as a Boys Modified Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2012-13 school year.

Accept the resignation of Linda Hoffman from her Assistant Food Service Helper position effective April 5, 2013.

Abolish one position of Assistant food Service Helper effective April 5, 2013.

End of Consent Agenda

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Cheryl Smith commented that there will be a public budget hearing on May 9, 2013 at 6:30 PM in the High School Library. She encouraged everyone to attend to ask any questions they may have.

Dennis Schaperjahn asked that if anyone is interested in talking about cost saving strategies to contact him. He can be reached at deschaper@gmail.com or 882-6163.

NEW BUSINESS

The budget and the bus purchase proposition below will be voted on by qualified voters of the Galway Central School District on Election Day, May 21, 2013 from 10 AM – 9 PM in the auditorium lobby.

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, Second by Nancy Lisicki to adopt the 2013-14 School Budget in the amount of \$17,944,933 and approve Proposition #1 below to appear on the ballot on Election Day - May 21, 2013:

Proposition #1: Shall the proposed budget of expenditures for the Galway Central School District for the 2013-2014 school year in the amount of \$17,944,933, and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education, be approved and the amount thereof be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the school district, after first deducting monies available from State aid and other sources as provided by law?

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, Second by Nancy Lisicki to approve the following:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District approve the purchase of four (4) school buses as shown below and approve Proposition #2 below to appear on the ballot on Election Day – May 21, 2013:

Proposition #2: Shall the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District be authorized to (A) purchase four (4) buses at a cost not to exceed \$386,000, (B) expend such sum for such purpose, (C) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law, taking into account state aid received, and (D) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$386,000 and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, Second by Dennis Schaperjahn

To **adopt the Real Property Tax Report Card.**

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

The report card will be sent to all community residents in early May along with a budget district newsletter.

Motion was made by Nancy Lisicki, Second by Thomas Rumsey

To authorize the Board President to sign a **Health & Welfare Services Contract** with the Ballston Spa Central School District for Health & Welfare Services for approximately twelve (12) students residing in the Galway School District and attending non-public schools in the Ballston Spa Central School District in the amount of \$5,981.40 (\$498.45 per student).

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Motion was made by Janet Glenn, Second by Laura Sakala

Award tenure to Elizabeth Wilson effective September 1, 2013 in the tenure area of Special Education.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, Second by Laura Sakala

Award tenure to Nancy Christiansen effective September 1, 2013 in the tenure area of Special Education.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Motion was made by Laura Sakala, Second by Janet Glenn

Award tenure to Kristyn Akin effective September 1, 2013 in the tenure area of Mathematics.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, Second by Laura Sakala

Approve a **trip** for approximately 20-25 students to attend a **Body World's Pulse Exhibition in New York City** on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at a cost of \$65 per person. Students will be offered fundraising opportunities to help pay for the trip. The bus will leave at approximately 6 AM and return at approximately 7 PM.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

A copy of the **Public Use of School Facilities Policy** was given to the Board to mark up any revisions they may have to the policy and return it to the District Clerk so a 1st reading with the changes incorporated can take place at the next meeting.

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, Second by Laura Sakala

Accept a donation of \$2,000 from David Jankowski, Jankowski Agency Inc., 7 West Main Street, Broadalbin, NY 12025 to be used toward the purchase of two outdoor basketball hoops with thanks and appreciation.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, Second by Janet Glenn

Approve the use of one unused emergency school closing day to **extend the 2013 Memorial Day Holiday** to include the Friday before Memorial Day.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were made by those in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Nancy Lisicki, Second by Janet Glenn to move into executive session at 7:55 PM for CSE/CPSE recommendations.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 - No

REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, Second by Thomas Rumsey to return to regular session at 9:25 PM.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 - No

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion was made by Nancy Lisicki, Second by Thomas Rumsey to approve CSE/CPSE recommendations for the following students: 3598, 5418, 6213, 6181, 5107, 5001, 3842, 3631, 3616, 6138, 5266, 5324, 4657, 4197, 2602, 3843, 3357, 3587, 2222, 5283, 4594, 4319, 2705, 4638, 5315, 6211, 5569, 5033, 6044, 3072

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 - No

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Nancy Lisicki, Second by Dennis Schaperjahn to adjourn at 9:30 PM.

All voted Aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed 6 - Yes 0 – No

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Casatelli

Linda M. Casatelli, District Clerk