

Galway Central School District
Board of Education Work Session

MINUTES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

6:30pm – High School Library

Board Members Present: Thomas Rumsey, President, Dennis Schaperjahn, Vice President, Joan Slagle, Melodye Eldeen, Jay Anderson, Laura Sakala.

Board Members Absent: None.

Others in Attendance: Shannon Shine, Superintendent, Tim Hilker, School Business Official.

Meeting was called to order by Thomas Rumsey, at 5:29pm.

Motion to move into executive session at 5:20pm was made by Laura Sakala, seconded by Dennis Schaperjahn, to discuss Board of Education candidates, GTA arbitration representation, and a school business administration position.

Aye – 6

No – 0

Motion Carried

Motion to move into regular session was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, seconded by Melodye Eldeen, at 6:31pm.

Aye – 6

No – 0

Motion Carried

Before announcing the new Board member, Mr. Rumsey shared the following; “The board would like to offer our sincere appreciation to both of the outstanding candidates that came forward to fill our vacant position, Andrew McPherson and Anita Crawford. Both candidates offered exceptional perspectives and skills that would be valuable to the district. I want to personally thank them both for stepping forward and offering to help improve their community. “

Appoint New Board Member

Motion was made by Laura Sakala, seconded by Jay Anderson to appoint Anita Crawford as a member of the Galway Central School District Board of Education, effective January 9, 2014, until the next School Election on May 20, 2014, replacing Nancy Lisicki who resigned.

Aye – 6

No – 0

Motion Carried

Annual Visual Inspection

The District’s Annual Visual Inspection was completed on December 11, 2013, reviewed and electronically submitted to SED as required for the following occupied school buildings: Galway K-12 Facility, Bus Maintenance/Storage, and Grounds Maintenance. (SED requires that this statement be included in the Board Meeting Minutes.) It was completed and we are in compliance.

2nd Reading of Board Policies was noted.

Policy #2510 New Board Member Orientation

Policy #5152 Admission of Non-Resident Students

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, seconded by Jay Anderson, to approve the following consent agenda.

Aye – 6

No - 0

Motion Carried

Accept the resignation of Sharon Miller from her Music Teacher position effective June 27, 2014 for retirement purposes with thanks and appreciation for her many years of service to the district.

Accept the resignation of Melissa Cornthwaite from her Elementary Teacher position effective June 27, 2014 for retirement purposes with thanks and appreciation for her many years of service to the district.

Accept the resignation of Alicia Rysewyk from her Bus Monitor position and appoint her as a Teacher Aide instead effective January 6, 2014 at a rate of \$8.67 per hour.

Appoint Eileen Theroux as a Bus Monitor effective January 6, 2014 at a rate of \$8.67 per hour.

Appoint Emily Howard as a Teacher Aide effective January 7, 2014 at a rate of \$8.67 per hour.

Appoint Eric Fana to the After School ELA/Math and Homework Lab for the 2013-14 school year at a rate of \$42 per hour.

Appoint Kaitlin Smith as a Substitute Cleaner effective December 26, 2013 at a rate of \$11.11 per hour. She is also a Teacher Aide in the district.

End of Consent Agenda

Mr. Hilker, School Business Official, spoke regarding the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA). The GEA reduces State Aid to school districts by applying a negative percentage against the calculated computerized aids for each school district. There was no mention of it in the Governor's State of the State speech earlier this week. Since the 2010-11 school year, just short of \$6,000,000 has been cut in aid to our school. The GEA was used by the State to reduce State aid payments that would otherwise be due to school districts and will continue to reduce the amount of aid to school districts. He presented different scenarios of what could have been done with all the money cut from State aid since the implementation of the GEA. Mr. Hilker concluded that the State projects a \$2B surplus and State aid that was promised, needs to be given back. Aid restoration should start with the elimination of the Gap Elimination Adjustment. Advocacy needs to occur well before the legislative proposal comes, and finally the State aid for 2013-14 is still below the 2008-09 levels. The proposed State budget should be

unveiled in approximately 2 weeks, at that time we will have better idea of how to proceed. He also commented that even if State aid was the same as last year, we would be in great shape.

After the completion of the Energy Performance Review, we will be looking at Capital Project options.

Mr. Rumsey would like to honor retirees and new faculty and staff members each year. Some ideas were brainstormed - Perhaps a recognition/reception before one of the Board meetings in the spring.

The Board members would like to publish an article in our District Newsletter to let the community know the happenings of the Board.

Mr. Anderson would like consideration in the budget to have a full-time, consistent teacher aide assigned to the Co-K classroom for the 2014-15 school year. He would also like to see more involvement in Project Lead The Way and have the Board continue to pursue weighted grades. He would like the District to look into Universal Pre-K, however, a previous administrator signed off on it several years ago, and now the District is no longer eligible. The Governor is talking about Universal Pre-K again, so perhaps, there may be another chance for our District to receive funding for this program at some point in the near future.

Mrs. Eldeen would like achievements published in articles from the Board of Education in the District Newsletter, focusing on our District and Board goals.

Motion was made by Jay Anderson, seconded by Joan Slagle to adjourn at 7:25pm.

Aye – 6

No - 0

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara A. Agresta

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District Clerk