

Galway Central School District  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
**MINUTES**  
Thursday, May 22, 2014  
6:30 PM  
High School Library

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CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

ONE NEW BOARD MEMBER ELECTED / ONE BOARD MEMBER RE-ELECTED

Anita Crawford was elected to a one year term of office on the Board of Education on Election Day, May 20, 2014. By submitting a signed an Oath of Office to the District Clerk her term of office became official and effective immediately. Mrs. Crawford participated in the remainder of the meeting.

Joan Slagle was re-elected to a four year term effective July 1, 2014.

Congratulations were extended to each of them.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Thomas Rumsey, President, Dennis Schaperjahn, Vice President, Jay Anderson, Anita Crawford, Melodye Eldeen, Laura Sakala

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Joan Slagle

OTHERS PRESENT

Shannon C. Shine, Superintendent of Schools; Brita Donovan, Associate Jr./Sr. HS Principal, Michael Healey, Jr./Sr. HS Principal; Linda Jackowski, Director of Pupil Services; Lions Club Representatives; Janet VanRijsewijk, Employee and Community Member; Neal Evans, President Booster Club; parents and students.

AWARDS

Lions Club Citizenship Awards were presented to students Joshua Newell and Justine Quay. One student was not present and will be invited to the next board meeting to receive their award.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Shine, Superintendent of Schools, reported that on May 8, 2014 the Galway CSD hosted a half day "Tabletop" exercise involving district administrators and supervisors and local first responders. The purpose of the tabletop exercise was the evaluation and revision of coordinated internal and external safety protocols and procedures. Establishing working relationships with and between the various groups was also a primary goal of the exercise. Those in attendance were:

- Galway CSD - Shannon Shine, Tim Hilker, Mike Healey, Michelle McDougall, Brita Donovan, Linda Jackowski, Mike Sherman, Amy Trigg, Scott Carpenter, Cynthia Holmes
- Galway Police Department - Geoff Bullock, John DeCristofaro, Fred Scheidt
- New York State Police - Paul Ritteriser, Robert Schlegel, Kyle Hutter
- Galway Fire Department - Matt Compainion, Ron Lyons and two others
- Galway EMS - Mark Genier and Ethan Genier
- Broadalbin-Perth CSD - Mike Carney

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

The tabletop scenario, created and facilitated by Fred Scheidt, Galway Police, and assisted by Cynthia Holmes, District Safety Officer, was an "Active Shooter" situation, which was not known to participants prior to the exercise. Using an enlarged school floor plan and "tokens" to represent different people and vehicles, participants worked through step-by-step emergency procedures, responses, responsibilities and Incident Command System (ICS) roles. Obstacles, complications and other "challenges" were worked throughout the exercise such that participants not only practiced the "routine" and expected, but also discussed and examined the unexpected and unforeseen. A Galway APP will also be set up to work in conjunction with Twitter in an attempt to get the word out quickly in an emergency situation. Future exercises of this nature will appear in the District Newsletter as a means of communication to the public. Below are District Follow-up Action Plans:

- Revisit placement of faculty and staff at main entryways during student arrival and dismissal.
- Establish a two-way radio infrastructure among administrators and key supervisors. (Emergency situations often result in a loss of cell service to the affected area.)
- Increase entryway and internal facility "labeling" (e.g., Rooms 300-315 with arrow, "Gymnasium" with arrow, etc.).
- Public Address system improvements. The new phone system will incorporate some of the needed upgrades/changes. Add additional PA speakers to the exterior of the buildings.
- Develop/establish offsite remote access to the schools' security cameras.
- Upgrade and modify kitchen door locks.
- Revise written lockdown procedure to include fire alarm during lockdown. Once revised, practice a lockdown drill with the fire alarm activated.
- Combine ID badges with door swipe cards.
- Establish the Town Hall as a potential Command Post and/or Press Conference location. Create a memorandum of agreement with the town to establish this.
- Further analyze and improve after school security (e.g., address "door-propping" and enforce students with adult supervisors expectation).
- Plan and coordinate safety drills with emergency service providers.
- Plan and coordinate annual safety "audits" with emergency service providers as stakeholders.
- Allow emergency service providers to utilize school facilities for trainings and drills.

Michelle McDougall will be presenting a 2014 Summer School Proposal at the June 12th Board meeting.

Mr. Shine spoke about a new initiative "Eagle Pride" spearheaded by Brita Donovan, Associate Jr./Sr. High School Principal that will be funded by money received by the District and Mrs. Donovan as a result of her becoming a certified DASA trainer to several area school districts. Mr. Shine stated that "Eagle Landing" has basically been kept a secret until now because Mrs. Donovan did not want to let anyone know about it until she was sure that it was going to happen. If it didn't happen, she did not want to disappoint the students. Mr. Shine recalls a conversation with Mrs. Donovan where she said to him "I want to do this for the kids, please let me do this for the kids." From this point Mrs. Donovan presented the "Eagle Landing" initiative:

The Galway School District and Community have a need for a recreational area that would include leisure activities that are done for enjoyment. The essential need to do something for recreation is an element of human biology and psychology; the benefits are numerous. Eagle Landing will be available for physical education classes, lunch recess and after-school and weekend recreation.

- Health and Wellness – a natural way to stay fit and healthy. Physical benefits include aerobic, cardiovascular and muscular fitness, weight loss, as well as improved functioning of the immune system.
- Social Emotional Learning – provides bonding activities, team building opportunities and practice in leadership skills. Improves self-esteem and cultivates school and community pride.
- Help to Relax and Reduce Stress – also improves confidence and creativity. Provides an arena for students, adults and community members to have fun together.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

Eagle Landing will be multi-purpose outdoor area that will encourage wellness, provide opportunity for social-emotional learning and advance pride for Galway students and community. There will be two phases. Phase I will include a regulation sand volleyball area, 2 regulation bocce ball courts, 1 grass field for soccer, lacrosse, flag football and tag games, 2 eagle benches, 2 picnic tables, 2 permanent outdoor garbage cans and 2 sign feather flags. Phase II will include resurfacing the basketball court, additional picnic tables, horseshoes, wall ball and filling the wet area by the basketball court.

Mr. Shine stated that Mrs. Donovan also took on the initiative to have framed photos of our students put on display near the Junior/Senior High school entrance. She also took on the initiative of purchasing new dresses for all of our Chamber Singers. Mrs. Donovan noticed that the Chamber Singers were wearing outdated dresses during their performances so she went out and purchases dresses for everyone from the DASA money she earned.

The Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools and those present commented on the great job she is doing and the amazing things she was done for the district. They expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to her for all of her efforts.

Mr. Shine reported that the District received a \$1500 donation to be used toward the split rail fencing that was recently installed in the District. Neal Evans, Galway Booster Club President, was present and the Board expressed their thanks and appreciation to him and everyone involved in helping fund this project.

Mr. Evans and Mrs. Donovan both excitedly reported that for the first time in 12 years the Boys Varsity Baseball Team made it to Sectionals and were congratulated for their hard work in getting there.

The Board of Education listened to feedback from the administrators regarding contracting with a school attorney for next year. The current School Attorney's contract expires at the end of the school year. The Board appoints a School Attorney at their annual Organizational Meeting on July 10, 2014.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

The Board of Education thanked everyone for their support with the recent passing of next year's school budget and bus bond proposition and those involved in the budget planning process which appears to be by far the best process the district has gone through in years. The Board also thanked the Board Candidates that were not elected for their interest in our School District. The Board once again thanked Brita Donovan for all she has done for the district and all her efforts that are so greatly appreciated by everyone. The students will be so excited when they hear about "Eagle Landing". The District wants to continue to work on improving student scores and possibly get students back that we may have lost in the past to homeschooling or private schooling. It was stated that Mr. Shine has been a significant breath of fresh air to the District. The school is cleaner, brighter and Eagle Pride is soaring. The Board talked about the possibility of offering a second language to the curriculum and to begin teaching it to students at a young age. Currently there is only Spanish offered. The Galway School Band recently participated in a Scotia Memorial Day Parade and our students were a lively group. They were happy and clearly displayed school pride. Thanks were extended to Gary Barrow, Music Teacher for an excellent job with the School Band. He was congratulated for being named National Honor Society Teacher of the Year for the 2013-14 school year. Deborah Hutchinson was congratulated for being named Teacher of the Year by Galway School teachers for the 2013-14 school year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Neal Evans commented that the Board and community will be invited to a Wall of Fame Ceremony in June where an Athlete of the Year and a Coach of the Year will be named. The mission of the Wall of Fame is to recognize and honor athletes, coaches, teams, administrators and community supporters who have made significant contributions to the Galway athletic program, through their service, performance, dedication, commitment and accomplishment. This is another initiative of Brita Donovan's who is working closely with Galway Physical Education Teacher Mrs. Wilday and the Booster Club. He stated that Mrs. Donovan has done a tremendous amount of work in the District and has made huge positive changes in the District.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

Janet VanRijsewijk, Galway School employee and community member thanked Mrs. Donovan for all she done for the District. She stated that "Eagle Landing" will be wonderful thing for our students and community and that Galway has never had anything like this before. She wanted to personally thank her for all she has done and continues to do for our school.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, seconded by Melodye Eldeen to accept the Consent Agenda. All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Accept April, 2014 Student Activity Accounts Treasurer's Report

PERSONNEL:

Accept the resignation of Emily Howard from her Teacher Aide position effective May 16, 2014.

Appoint Marisa Guisti as a Substitute Cafeteria Worker effective May 23, 2014 at a rate of \$8.86 per hour.

The Board of Education received a Budget Status Report for month ending May, 2014 and District Treasurer's Reports for February, March and April, 2014 from Mr. Tim Hilker, School Business Administrator, for review. They will be submitted for approval at the next Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Jay Anderson, seconded by Dennis Schaperjahn to accept the following May 20, 2014 Election results.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

MAY 20, 2014 ELECTION RESULTS

Proposition #1: Shall the proposed budget of expenditures for the Galway Central School District for the 2014-2015 school year in the amount of \$18,704,120 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?

YES 393 NO 157 PASSED

Proposition #2: Shall the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District be authorized to acquire various school buses for use by the District and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$687,000; that a tax is hereby voted in the amount of not to exceed \$687,000 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; and that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$687,000 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable?

YES 377 NO 160 PASSED

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

MAY 20, 2014 ELECTION RESULTS

Vacancies on the Board of Education:

There were two vacancies on the Board of Education. One was a four year term of office currently held by Joan Slagle effective July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2018. The other was a one year term of office effective immediately upon signing an oath of office until June 30, 2015. The one year term is to complete Nancy Lisicki’s four year term of office who resigned in September, 2013. Anita Crawford was then appointed to fill Nancy Lisicki’s seat until the next general election on May 20, 2014. All Board seats were at-large. Thus the successful candidate with the most votes received the four year term and the candidate with the second highest number of votes received the one year term.

Joan Slagle	# of Votes 309	Re-elected to a four year term of office
Anita Crawford	# of Votes 304	Elected to a one year term of office
Andrew McPherson	# of Votes 187	Not elected
Cathryn Hunt	# of Votes 131	Not elected
Total Number of Votes:	556 including 19 absentee ballots	

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, seconded by Laura Sakala to move into executive session at 7:05 PM for CSE/CPSE recommendations and to talk about the Management-Confidential handbook.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Jay Anderson, seconded by Dennis Schaperjahn to move out of executive session and return to regular session at 7:35 PM.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, seconded by Jay Anderson to approve CSE/CPSE recommendations for the following students: 5177, 6039, 6156, 6070, 6437, 2870, 6430, 5118, 5407, 5154, 5177, 5113, 3845, 5283, 5399, 6185, 6184, 5152, 5063, 5043, 5235, 6012, 5107, 5377, 5279, 5037, 5036, 5039, 6138, 5311, 5569, 6035, 3780, 6033, 6050, 6032, 2834, 3587, 222, 3357, 5425, 6437, 5450, 6008, 5027, 6023, 5573, 6001, 3203.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, seconded by Melodye Eldeen to approve the Management-Confidential Employee Handbook.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Dennis Schaperjahn, seconded by Jay Anderson to adjourn at 7:40 PM.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion Passed AYES: 6 NOES: 0

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda M. Casatelli*

Linda M. Casatelli, District Clerk