



Galway Central School District
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION

MINUTES

DRAFT

Thursday, August 14, 2014
6:30 PM – High School Library

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Dennis Schaperjahn called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

President Dennis Schaperjahn, Vice President Melodye Eldeen, Jay Anderson, Anita Crawford, Thomas Rumsey, Laura Sakala, Joan Slagle (Laura Sakala was present during regular session but not during executive session.)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None (Laura Sakala was present during regular session but not during executive session.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Jay Anderson, second by Melodye Eldeen to move into executive session at 5:32 PM to discuss specific personnel matters.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 6-Yes 0-No

REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, second by Jay Anderson to move out of executive session and into regular session at 6:30 PM.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 6-Yes 0-No

OTHERS PRESENT

Shannon C. Shine, Superintendent of Schools; Tim Hilker, School Business Administrator

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

The revised Consent Agenda included additions and revisions as noted by Superintendent Shine.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2014-15 JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Mr. Healey presented highlights of the 2014-15 Jr./Sr. High School Program as follows:

- Junior High ELA and Math Labs - Will increase 7th & 8th Grade ELA/Reading and Math instruction by 50% for each student.
- 10-week Study Skills Course embedded in the 8th Grade Family and Consumer Science Program.
- Academic Intervention Service expanded to HS Chemistry, Physics, Geometry, Algebra 2/Trig, and Social Studies.
- Distance Learning Classes:
 - Irish Literature
 - Statistics (UHS)
 - Digital Photography
 - History of Rock and Roll
 - Equine Science
 - Pre-Veterinary Science
 - Sociology (Syracuse University – SUPA)
 - Economics (Syracuse University – SUPA)
 - Business Management (SCCC)
 - International Business (SCCC)
 - Intro to Agriculture
 - AP US History
 - Marine Science
 - Calculus I and Calculus II (Syracuse University – SUPA)

- College/UHS/AP Courses:

Business Management	Pre-Calculus	Spanish 4	English 101
Advanced Computers	Calculus I & II	Spanish 5	English 102
Financial Accounting	Statistics	AP US History	English 109
International Business	AP Biology	AP Literature	
American Political System	Biological Engineering	Principles of Engineering	
- Honors Courses are returning:

English 9H-11H	Global Studies 9H & 10H	US History 11H
Living Environment H	Earth Science H	Integrated Alg H
Geometry H	Spanish 2H	Spanish 3H
Alg 2/Trig-AR	Chemistry-AR	Physics-AR
Economics – H	Science-8 H	English 8-H
Social Studies-8 H	Spanish-8H	
- New Courses:

Tech Ready	Current Events/World Culture	Public Speaking/Film Studies
General Chemistry	Creative Writing/Writing Workshop	
- Other Important Initiatives:
 - STAR Testing Days Established (extended program into Alg and Geo)
 - Expanding the Extended School Day RTI Lab into the HS
 - Developed Jr/Sr High RTI plan
 - Established Guidance Document for Jr/Sr High Guidance Counselors
 - Eliminated Early Release for Seniors (with exceptions for performance incentives)
 - Eagle Landing
 - Beatification continues (picnic tables, flowers pots, benches, painting, etc)
 - Honors Breakfast
 - APARC!!
- 2014-15 Jr./Sr. High School Meeting Schedule Established
 - Faculty Meetings
 - Shared Decision Making Meetings
 - Professional Development Meetings
 - Grade Level Data Meetings
 - Department Meetings
 - RTI Data Meetings
 - Master Scheduling Meetings

GPA AND WEIGHTED RANK PROPOSAL

Mr. Healey also presented the following GPA and Weighted Rank proposal to the Board. Lengthy discussion followed. The board unanimously approved the weighting of GPA and Class Rank. They talked about whether PE should be included in the GPA and what opportunities are given to students to improve in PE class. It was suggested that teachers be asked to come to the next Board meeting to provide feedback. Mr. Anderson asked Mr. Healey if he was ever given any direction from the Board regarding the minimum number of students required to have an AP course. Mr. Healey's response was that he did not receive any direction from the Board regarding this. Mr. Healey will be presenting a draft policy to the Board that may address the various questions and concerns that they had. The Board thanked Mr. Healey for the information provided to them.

Currently, Galway High School reports an unweighted grade point average (GPA) and an unweighted class rank. The GPA is calculated using all courses with the exception of physical education. Courses are all worth the same value (1) when computing the GPA.

Proposal:

Galway High School reports an unweighted grade point average (GPA) and a **weighted** class rank. The GPA is calculated **using all courses**. Courses are all worth the same value (1) when computing the GPA.

Weighted rank is computed using a three tier system in which courses with the Honors, Advanced Regents, Advanced Placement, University in the High School, and College Credit designation are weighted at different levels. Courses without these designations are calculated with a weight of one.

Honors level and Advanced Regents courses are weighted at 1.03 and include:

English 9H-11H	Global Studies 9H &10H	US History 11H
Living Environment H	Earth Science H	Integrated Alg H
Geometry H	Spanish 2H	Spanish 3H
Alg 2/Trig-AR	Chemistry-AR	Physics-AR
Economics - H		

Advanced Placement, University in the High School, and College courses are weighted at 1.06 and include:

Business Management	Pre-Calculus	Spanish 4	English 101
Advanced Computers	Calculus I & II	Spanish 5	English 102
Financial Accounting	Statistics	AP US History	English 109
International Business	AP Biology	AP Literature	
American Political System	Biological Engineering	Principles of Engineering	

Example:

Using this method, a student earning an 85 in Calculus (UHS) would receive that grade (85) on their report card and the 85 would be used to calculate their unweighted grade point average (GPA).

However, for the purposes of computing class rank, the grade included for Calculus would be 90.1 (85×1.06).

Rationale:

- Primary purpose of weighted grades is to encourage high school students to take more rigorous courses (GCSD Board Goal #1 Targeting Achievement).

Advantages and Disadvantages of Weighted Grades

(From Research Brief, created by Dr. Karen Walker, University of Maine, Farmington for The Principals' Partnership and sponsored by Union Pacific Foundation).

Advantages:

- More students taking rigorous courses (Honors, AP, UHS, College)
- More challenging courses can be offered
- Higher class rank for those who take more demanding courses

Disadvantages:

- Not all courses, even honors and UHS, are equally demanding
- If a student is afraid of getting a low grade in a more rigorous course, he/she may opt to take less demanding course in order to earn a higher grade (which GCSD students currently do).

Recommended Start Date: September 2014 for all students Grades 9-12

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Mr. Hilker and Mr. Shine talked about the Affordable Care Act, informally known as Obamacare that was signed into law by President Obama in March, 2010. It is aimed at improving the health care system by widening health coverage to more people and protecting existing health insurance policy holders. There are potential penalties involved however the District is two years from any real possibility of changing what we are currently doing regarding health insurance per Mr. Hilker. As more information becomes available it will be shared with the Board and those involved. BOCES is looking into providing less costly insurance to employees.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Schaperjahn talked about progress being done in the District. The old bus garage looks much better since it was painted. Although this was a temporary fix, many positive comments have been made as to how much better it looks. They spoke briefly on the new Town Library to be built and the impact on the District.

Mr. Schaperjahn thanked Tim Hilker, School Business Administrator, for attending all Board meetings and staying to the end of each meeting. He also commented that Superintendent Shine comes very prepared for Board meetings and that his efforts are very much appreciated.

ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Mr. Shine provided information regarding Adirondack Region School District Enrollment Trends that reflects a decline in student enrollments across the area. It appears that we may only have 55 kids enrolled in KK this year and this report may be useful when looking at trends in student enrollment across the area.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board of Education Policy Committee has completed a review of the first third of the policies submitted to the District by the NYSSBA Policy Service have been reviewed. There are many revisions and edits that will be sent to Policy Services to look at. A couple of other policies are also being reviewed and progress is being made. One Board member commented that Board Regulations do not have to be approved by the Board however; it is good practice to approve regulations and related policies at the same time.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

The Board talked about a recent newspaper article published regarding teacher retention contributions increasing and the impact it may have on Galway School. Mr. Hilker will look into this and report back to the Board.

They talked about the role of our District Guidance Counselors and if a job description exists for each of them.

They discussed opening day of school and that information is not being provided to parents, especially for students transitioning from the Elementary School to the Jr./Sr. High School. Many are depending on asking neighbors, friends, etc. to get information and are frustrated at the lack of communication. Written communication must be improved and complete and accurate information must be made available on the District Website at the very least. Information is readily available on our website for the Elementary School, but not for the Jr./Sr. High School.

The Board asked that the topic of Spotlight on Academics appear on future Board Work Session Agendas.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, second by Jay Anderson to approve the following:

Adopt the 2014-2015 tax warrant in the amount of \$9,721,565 and \$132,710 for the Library levy and that the collection period be established as follows:

September 2, 2014 through October 1, 2014 (no penalty)

October 2, 2014 through October 27, 2014 (2% penalty)

The tax levy amount of \$9,721,565 results in the following tax rates per thousand of assessed value. The rate on true is \$14.42 per thousand.

Charlton	\$20.31	Amsterdam	\$149.42	Providence	\$68.66
Galway	\$25.75	Broadalbin	\$ 15.67	Perth	\$23.64
Milton	\$15.30	Glenville	\$ 15.02		

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 7-Yes 0-No

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, second by Laura Sakala to approve the following:

Appoint Joan Slagle as the District's voting representative at the NYSSBA Annual Convention and Education Expo being held on October 26 – 28, 2014.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 7-Yes 0-No

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Thomas Rumsey, second by Jay Anderson to approve the Consent Agenda below.
All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 7-Yes 0-No

The Board suggested that new employees attend a Board meeting so the Board can meet them. Mr. Hilker will include this in the hiring plan he is developing.

CONSENT AGENDA**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

JULY 10, 2014	BUDGET STATUS REPORT (PROVIDED TO BOARD OF EDUCATION AT JULY 10 TH BOARD MEETING)
MAY AND JUNE 2014	DISTRICT TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORT (MAY REPORT PROVIDED TO BOARD OF EDUCATION AT JULY 10 TH BOARD MEETING)
JUNE AND JULY 2014	STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS TREASURER'S REPORT

MINUTES

JUNE 12, 26, JULY 10, AND 19, 2014	BOARD MEETING MINUTES
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PERSONNEL - APPOINTMENTS

NAME	TITLE	RATE OF PAY	EFFECTIVE DATE
AMY DAVID	ART TEACHER .5 FTE STEP M1	\$45,065 PER YEAR PRO-RATED TO \$22,532.50	09/02/14 --06/30/15
JEANINE ABERNATHY	TEACHER AIDE	\$8.67 PER HOUR	09/02/14
LAUREN JORDAN	TEACHER AIDE	\$8.67 PER HOUR	09/02/14
NICOLE LUCAS	TEACHER AIDE	\$8.67 PER HOUR	09/02/14
MARY REID	TEACHER AIDE	\$8.67 PER HOUR	09/02/14
MARJORIE STAULTERS	TEACHER AIDE	\$8.67 PER HOUR	09/02/14
CHRISTINE SWART	TEACHER AIDE	\$8.67 PER HOUR	09/02/14
MARY BEZIO	SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AIDE	\$8.50 PER HOUR	09/02/14
PHILLIP PEUGH	SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVER	\$16.01 PER HOUR	09/02/14
EUGENE BRAZEE	CLEANER	\$12.47 PER HOUR	07/28/14
TAYLOR HUGO	CLEANER	\$12.47 PER HOUR	08/04/14
MELANIE McDONALD	SUMMER CURRICULUM WORK	\$29.00 PER HOUR	AS ASSIGNED
GINA BIKOWICZ	AFTER SCHOOL ELA/MATH & HOMEWORK LAB	\$42.00 PER HOUR	09/04/14 - 06/30/15
SCOTT SMITH	AFTER SCHOOL ELA/MATH & HOMEWORK LAB	\$42.00 PER HOUR	09/04/14 - 06/30/15
SCOTT SMITH	CHAPERONE-BASKETBALL/WRESTLING/VOLLEYBALL	\$81.00 PER NIGHT	09/02/14 - 06/30/15
SCOTT SMITH	CAMP CHINGACHGOOK CHAPERONE	\$81.00 PER NIGHT	AS ASSIGNED
JUDITH HORIGAN	MODIFIED CROSS COUNTRY COACH (LEVEL C2)	\$3,150 PER YEAR	09/02/14 - 06/30/15
MICHELLE McDOUGALL	2014 SUMMER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR	\$3,200 PER YEAR	07/01/14 - 08/01/14
STEPHEN HALL	SOPHOMORE CLASS ADVISOR	\$1,424 PER YEAR	09/04/14 - 06/30/15
JIM REYNOLDS	JR. CLASS ADVISOR	\$1,709 PER YEAR	09/04/14 - 06/30/15

CONSENT AGENDA**PERSONNEL - RESIGNATIONS / OTHER**

NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
GINA BIKOWICZ	REVISE THE APPOINTMENT OF GINA BIKOWICZ AS A PART-TIME (.5) K-6 SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015 TO <u>STEP B1</u> OF THE GTA SALARY SCHEDULE \$41,387 @ .5 = \$20,693.50 PER YEAR INSTEAD OF <u>STEP M1</u> OF THE GTA SALARY SCHEDULE.	09/01/14 - 06/30/15
STEPHEN HALL	RESCIND FRESHMAN CLASS ADVISOR APPOINTMENT	09/01/14 - 06/30/15
KURT REDMAN	MATH TEACHER	07/22/14
MELODY BAKER	BUS MONITOR	06/30/14
MARY BEZIO	TEACHER AIDE	06/30/14
MARJORIE MICKAN	TEACHER AIDE & BUS MONITOR	06/30/14
BARBARA FRASIER	TEACHER AIDE	07/30/14

*End of Consent Agenda***ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Jay Anderson, second by Thomas Rumsey to adjourn at 9:15 PM.
 All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 7-Yes 0-No

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Casatelli

Linda. M. Casatelli
 District Clerk