



Galway Central School District
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MINUTES
Thursday, August 28, 2014
6:30 PM – High School Library

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

President Dennis Schaperjahn, Vice President Melodye Eldeen, Anita Crawford, Laura Sakala, Joan Slagle

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Jay Anderson, Thomas Rumsey

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, second by Joan Slagle to move into executive session at 5:32 PM to discuss specific personnel matters. All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Anita Crawford, second by Melodye Eldeen to move out of executive session and into regular session at 6:30 PM. All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OTHERS PRESENT

Shannon C. Shine, Superintendent of Schools; Tim Hilker, School Business Administrator; Michael Healey, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Brita Donovan, Associate Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Michelle McDougall, Elementary School Principal; Linda Jackowski, Director of Pupil Services; Joanne Donnan, Teacher; Jeanine Flinton, Teacher; one community member.

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Were noted by Superintendent Shine.

PRESENTATION

Jeanine Flinton gave a presentation on the establishment of Project Lead the Way in the Elementary School. Project Lead The Way (PLTW) enables students in grades K through 12 to gain knowledge in the STEM disciplines and then work collaboratively to apply that knowledge to solve real-world, relevant problems. It engages students in hands-on activities that develop creativity, critical thinking and collaborative problem solving. The PLTW curriculum addresses Common Core ELA, Math and Next Generation Science Standards.

Globally, STEM based jobs are increasing. By providing STEM education for students in grades K – 12, we will be preparing them for careers or to continue on to higher education, so that ultimately they will be successful in a global economy. The PLTW Launch curriculum also aligns with District Goals:

Soaring to the Future: Common Core and Beyond – “Students will have increased opportunities to apply higher level skills through various activities such as STEM.”

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

DISTRICT COMPONENT UPDATES

None

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Policy Committee completed a review of the first third of our policies. Revisions were made to some of them. NYSSBA Policy Services are in the process of reviewing the potential revisions before they are submitted to the Board of Education for a first reading. Mr. Shine hopes to have the policies ready for a first reading at the next Board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Shine provided the Board with a draft list of 2014-15 school events that will be revised to include athletic events. The Board is interested in having one board member present at as many events as possible instead of having more than one at some events and none at another.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, second by Laura Sakala approve the Consent Agenda below with approval of the August 14, 2014 Board Meeting minutes removed from the Consent Agenda.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

CONSENT AGENDA

PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

NAME	TITLE	RATE OF PAY	EFFECTIVE DATE
JOANNE DONNAN	FRESHMAN CLASS ADVISOR	\$1,139 PER YEAR	09/04/14 -- 06/30/15
SUSAN TALMADGE	SUBSTITUTE CLEANER	\$12.47 PER HOUR	08/21/14
MICAELA ETHIER	MATH TEACHER STEP B1 3 YEAR PROBATIONARY PERIOD EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 – AUGUST 31, 2017 TENURE AREA OF MATH	\$41,387 PER YEAR	09/02/14
ERIC FANA	AFTER SCHOOL ELA/MATH & HOMEWORK LAB	\$42.00 PER HOUR	09/04/14 - 06/30/15
ERIC FANA	CAMP CHINGACHGOOK CHAPERONE	\$81.00 PER NIGHT	AS ASSIGNED
ARTHUR ARMSTRONG	SUBSTITUTE BUS DRIVER	\$16.01 PER HOUR	09/02/14
RACHEL MONTALBANO	MENTOR	\$29.00 PER HOUR	09/02/14

PERSONNEL RESIGNATION

NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
EILEEN THEROUX	BUS MONITOR	08/21/14

BOARD MEETING MINUTES DISCUSSION

Dennis Schaperjahn stated that he once attended a District Clerk conference where he was the only board member present with over 100 District Clerks and Attorneys present. He didn't realize how much was involved in being the Clerk. He said that out of all the lawyers he talked to, all of them said that the less you have in your minutes the better off you are. Things like opinions, comments and details of discussions should not be included in the minutes for legality purposes that could impact the District in a negative way. Minutes are to contain official actions taken by the Board and a brief summary of what occurred at the meeting. In the future, the Board will provide a summary at the conclusion of a discussion that will be included in the Minutes. The summary will reflect the topic being discussed, the conclusion of the discussion and nothing more. The Board will ask Mr. Shine to research out and report back at the next meeting any item that may have been brought up that they want further information on.

Board of Education Meeting Minutes will no longer be placed on our District Website in Draft format for liability purposes. Once formally approved at a Board Meeting, they will be posted on our site. This is common practice with most schools. Minutes will be posted as quickly as possible.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Various comments were made by the Board regarding the successful Back to School BBQ, Opening Day Activities, Project Lead the Way, etc. Everyone involved was thanked for their efforts. They talked about sending a survey to all parents to get feedback on how we are doing, etc. that may be useful to the Board. Joanne Donnan volunteered her Honor Society students to do a survey at the upcoming Open House.

SPOTLIGHT ON ACADEMICS

Mrs. McDougall provided a report to the board containing data of this year's Summer School Program that was a huge success.

Mr. Healey provided the Board with a draft proposal for Valedictorian and Salutatorian recognition based on advice and feedback from the NYSSBA. The Board was in favor of implementing the proposal at Galway School. The proposal will be submitted as a regulation for the Board to vote on following a 1st and 2nd reading. Although it is not required that the Board vote on regulations, it is a good practice.

Mr. Healey presented a revised GPA and Weighted Rank Proposal that reflects revisions from the last Board meeting. The board was in agreement with the proposal. Mr. Healey stated that the Board has the opportunity to revise the proposal when needed.

Mr. Healey talked about the excellent support and outstanding job that was provided by Kelly Martin, parent, in assisting students to pass the exams required for high school graduation. Sincere thanks and appreciation was extended to her.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, second by Laura Sakala to approve transportation contract extensions for the 2014-15 school year and authorize the Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education President to sign on behalf of the district.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

Motion was made by Joan Slagle, second by Melodye Eldeen to approve a contract proposal with CS Arch for Architecture & Engineering Services-Building Condition Survey, Long Range Planning and Energy Use Assessment and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign on behalf of the District.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

Motion was made by Joan Slagle, second by Melodye Eldeen to approve a Varsity Cross Country Team Trip to Burlington, VT on Friday, September 12 to Saturday, September 13, 2014 for 12 students to compete in the Burlington High School Cross Country Invitational and view other sites in the area. The cost of \$70 per student will be largely subsidized by the Track and Cross Country Booster Club.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

Motion was made by Melodye Eldeen, second by Anita Crawford to authorize the Board President to sign a Memorandum of Agreement regarding changes to Shannon C. Shine's contract as Superintendent of Schools of the Galway Central School District.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Melody Eldeen, second by Laura Sakala to adjourn at 8:40 PM.

All voted aye to approve the motion. Motion passed. 5-Yes 0-No

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Casatelli

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District Clerk

Attachments: Valedictorian and Salutatorian Recognition - Draft

GPA and Weighted Rank Proposal – Revised August 28, 2014

*Galway Central School District
Galway, New York*

*School Board Policy
Rules and Regulations*

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN RECOGNITION

DRAFT

Policy# _____

For a student to receive valedictorian or salutatorian recognition in the Galway Central School District, the recognized students **must meet all of the following criteria:**

1. The valedictorian and salutatorian must be students enrolled in the 12th grade and graduate with their cohort class.
2. The student must have attended the school from which he or she is graduating for at least five consecutive semesters or ten consecutive quarters immediately preceding the determination of the class valedictorian and salutatorian. Therefore, any student who transfers into the High School after the start of the first semester of the sophomore year will not be eligible to be valedictorian or salutatorian.
3. The valedictorian must have earned the highest ranking scale average of his or her graduating class based on the school's consistent use of the weighted scale. The salutatorian must have earned the second ranking scale average in his/her graduating class. The ranking scale shall be determined by grades received in all classes taken through the first seven semesters or fourteen quarters of high school attendance. The ranking scale average is calculated to the third place beyond the decimal point.
4. To be considered for valedictorian and salutatorian, a student must complete all regular level required courses by the end of the seventh semester and must graduate with his or her cohort class. All GCSD graduation requirement policies must be followed and all grade transcripts accepted and verified by the high school principal and guidance counselor.

In case of a tie for valedictorian and salutatorian, co-valedictorian and co-salutatorian will be recognized. Valedictorian (s) will be ranked as one; salutatorian (s) will be ranked as a number equal to the number of co-valedictorian (s) plus one. Co-valedictorians and co-salutatorians will be listed in alphabetical order.

Galway Jr/Sr High School
GPA and Weighted Rank Proposal
Revised August 28, 2014

DRAFT

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 a quarterly **weighted** grade point average (GPA) and a **weighted** class rank. The GPA is calculated **using all courses except Physical Education**.

Weighted GPA 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. **The weighted GPA for qualifying classes will be applied each quarter. The student's weighted GPA at the end of the seventh semester will be used to determine class rank as defined in BOE Policy #_____.** Quarter and Final GPAs will be capped at 100 for report card purposes; actual Final GPA (ex 103.123) will be recorded and kept confidential for the purpose of class ranking.

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	
Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA)	Drawing and Design for Production (DDP)		

Example:

Using this method, a student earning an 85 in Calculus (UHS) would receive a weighted grade of 90 (85×1.06) on their quarterly report card. **The quarter grade of 90 will be averaged with the three other weighted quarter grades and weighted final exam to determine the weighted grade point average (GPA). The final Calculus grade (already reflecting weighted GPA) will then be used when determining class rank.**

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