

**GALWAY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Monday, August 21, 2023**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order by President Jay Anderson, at 5:00 PM in the Auditorium.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – was recited.

**ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA** – were noted

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT** – Jay Anderson, Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Karen English, Michelle Bombard, David Page, Krystal Pashley and Jeremy Sowle.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT** - None

**PRESENTATIONS** - None

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Second Michelle Bombard to accept the following Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA	
FINANCIAL REPORTS/BOARD MEETING MINUTES	
CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS	
Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations as presented to the Board prior to the meeting for the following students: 6015	
RESIGNATIONS/OTHER	

## APPOINTMENTS

NAME	DESCRIPTION	RATE OF PAY	EFFECTIVE DATE
Michael Glenn	Athletic Director	\$7,500	07/01/2023-06/30-2024
Corbin Diano	Volunteer Soccer Assistant	-	8/21/2023
Nicole Menge	Co-Modified Volleyball Coach	\$652	8/22/2023
Michelle Becker	Co-Modified Volleyball Coach	\$652	8/22/2023

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

**NEW BUSINESS****1. Motion Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Second Michelle Bombard**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Galway Central School District and the Galway Administrators Association and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the addendum to the contract.

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

**2. Motion Karen English, Second Stacey Caruso-Sharpe**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Galway Central School District and the Galway Teachers Association and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the addendum to the contract. (Substitute Coverage)

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

**3. Motion Jeremy Sowle, Second Karen English**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Galway Central School District and the Galway Teachers Association and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the addendum to the contract. (Tutoring During the Workday)

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

**4. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Stacey Caruso-Sharpe**

To Approve the Resolution to Establish the Updated School Tax Warrant for the 2023-24 school year.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Amelia Jordan a student at Galway gave the Board suicide statistics and informed the Board that books help teens who are struggling and gives them new perspective.



- Rob Davies is a former BOE president and informed the Board the our country was founded on religious freedom and tolerance and book banning is the first step into a totalitarian state and makes the population ignorant. He stated you cannot “ban” reality.
- Steve Frank supports dismissing the complaints. Liberty and justice for all.
- Amy Lynn Slzeniak-Nelson has been in education for over 10 years and has taught all ages and the Board must follow NYS guidelines. Neither book is important, it is the process, because if it passes we will all be back here again. People are not complaining about the book, they are complaining about diversity. The parents had the right to have their children read something different and they did and she feels the complainants want control. The Board must uphold NYS guidelines. Banning books is violating civil liberties.
- Renee Thorpe believes censorship is a direct hack on civil liberties and the US Constitution is not a choose your own buffet. Banning books is a direct attack on our 1st amendment rights. She is very embarrassed with the BOE.
- Virginia Thorpe is an 11th grade student at Galway and told the Board they need to dismiss the complaints. She feels that vicariously experiencing from others trials is good.
- Cheyenne North is a former educator who believes it is a slippery slope when other people choose for us.
- Magdalene Maciag is a student at Galway and thinks it would be a great idea if parents were able to look over the curriculum. The vote tonight will affect every student and will set a dangerous precedent.
- Drey McElhinney is a student at Galway and believes banning books will allow the hate to spread.
- Jessica Budress believes in parents rights and no parent should dictate over other students. Banning books is a slippery slope to banning freedom.
- Mildred Restivo is concerned that so much is being assumed and no one knows what the concerns were and is very concerned about the lack of dialogue between the parents and the BOE.
- Paul Hutchins is the parent of an 11 year old at Galway and learned from the news about the book banning and was alarmed and angry. Book banning is a dangerous first step in criticizing the United States.

- Shayna Johnson is a veteran who upheld the Constitution in the armed forces and is saddened to see the attacks on the Constitution and the diversity being stifled. She would like to thank the board members who are against the ban.
- Deena Balcome applauds the people who have come up to speak. The choice was given to read the books or choose a different book.
- Neil Evans is proud of the students who spoke tonight and although he has no idea what the complaints consist of and he is wondering why the complainant had the opportunity to speak but did not. The Board of Education needs to unify.
- Leslie Perkins said listening to the public comment reminds her of 1 passage in “Ink Knows No Borders”. Although there are disagreements in the community and each side is passionate about their side, everyone should respect one another. Our children need to be equipped when they encounter differences and by shielding children it is not doing them any good.
- Trudy VanArmeran is a 2016 Galway graduate and currently an educator and believes our job is to protect and prepare our students. It is easy to create a white wash world blocked from the outside world. Children face these topics daily and by banning books and stories we are discrediting experiences and underestimating the intellect of our students.
- Allison Saragosso is a retired teacher very concerned about the banning of books.
- Pamela Mele is an educator and a mom. They purchased their house in Galway because of the school. The teachers and administrators here are well educated and highly qualified. Neighbors should not be allowed to dictate curriculum. All students should feel seen and comfortable. Parents were given a choice and she believes it should not be up to the Board to make any decisions on book banning. Students should learn about the world and issues before going out into the world and urge the Board to dismiss the complaints.
- Kerrington Davis is a Galway graduate and is disappointed to be back to the school so soon under these circumstances. There are very few in the room who look like me and understand what its like to grow up unheard and unseen. There is an entire world outside. The ideas in these books are not corrupting your children. Your poor morals are no excuse to not educate students about the world. It is a privilege for everyone to sit and listen to experiences instead of living through them day after day.



- Jay Girvin, Attorney at Law, explained the Policy (1420-R) to the Board members and community members in attendance. This policy can be located on the Galway Central School website

**5. Motion Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Second Karen English**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District hereby moves to uphold the findings of the Curriculum Review Committee and the Superintendent and therefore dismiss the complaint submitted *Request for Reevaluation of Instructional Materials* for the book *The 57 Bus*.

**Compliant Sustained**

David Page

**Complaint Dismissed**

Jay Anderson

Stacey Caruso-Sharpe

Michelle Bombard

Karen English

Jeremy Sowle

Krystal Pashley

Complaint about curricula or instructional materials "The 57 Bus"

**6. Motion Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Second Karen English**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Galway Central School District hereby moves to uphold the findings of the Curriculum Review Committee and the Superintendent and therefore dismiss the complaint submitted *Request for Reevaluation of Instructional Materials* for the book *Ink Knows No Borders*.

**Compliant Sustained**

David Page

**Complaint Dismissed**

Jay Anderson

Stacey Caruso-Sharpe

Michelle Bombard

Karen English

Jeremy Sowle

Krystal Pashley

Complaint about curricula or instructional materials "Ink Knows No Borders"

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Jay Anderson noted there are 7 people on the board which means there will be diversity of thoughts. He wishes to thank the Board members for making the right decision.
- Michelle Bombard commented that banning books supports tolerance.
- Jeremy Sowle never believed in banning books and hopes that everyone keeps an open mind with his work on the BOE moving forward.
- Krystal Pashley agrees with Jeremy Sowle in that she did not want to ban any book and said she did not have all the information she needed to make the right decision at the meeting on August 17, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Linda M. Dumblewski*  
Linda M. Dumblewski  
District Clerk

# Galway Central School District

5317 Sacandaga Road, Galway, NY 12074

## Board of Education

### **Resolution to Establish School Tax Warrant for 2023-24 School Year**

**August 21, 2023**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Galway Central School District does hereby authorize and direct that the school tax warrant for the 2023-2024 school year be the amount of \$11,750,000 including the STAR aid provided by the State of New York, and \$243,530 for the Library Levy, and does hereby approve the School Tax Warrant document that is attached hereto and made a part of this Resolution.


Yes

No

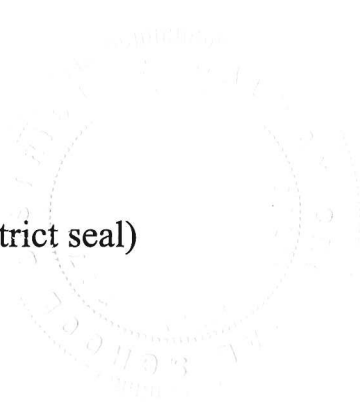
Abstain

MOTION

The above resolution adopted this 21st day of August, 2023 upon the motion of Michelle Bombard and seconded by Stacey Caruso-Sharpe.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Dumblewski,  
District Clerk

(district seal)





TAX WARRANT  
(Tax Collector Appointed to Serve on a Salary Basis)  
To the Tax Collector of the Galway Central School District  
Town of Galway, County of Saratoga, NY

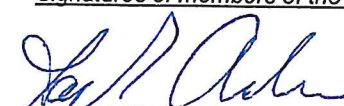
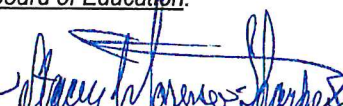





You are hereby directed:

1. To give notice and start tax collection on September 1, 2023 in accordance with the provisions of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.
2. To give notice that tax collections will end on October 31, 2023.  
September 1, 2023 – October 2, 2023 (no penalty); October 2, 2023 – October 31, 2023 (2% interest penalty)
3. To collect taxes in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Law. The School Tax Levy is \$11,837,000 and \$243,530 for the Library Levy.
4. To make no changes or alterations in this tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the board of education. The board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 1316 of the Real Property Law.
5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within ten days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his property on tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the county treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of Sections 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection and to add three percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during any part of the third month of the tax collection period and to account for such sums as income due the school district.
7. To issue receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgment of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 986 of the Real Property Tax Law.
8. To promptly return this warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts collected and the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

This warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 192 and 194 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the members of the board of education. This warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Given under their hands this 21st day of August, 2023.

Signatures of members of the Board of Education:

 Jay Anderson	 Stacey Caruso-Sharpe	 Karen English	 Krystal Pashley
 Michelle Bombard	 Jeremy Sowle	 David Page	