

February Agenda
Regular Meeting of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for Monday, February 12, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gallatin Gateway School multipurpose room.

(All policies mentioned in the agenda can be found at www.gallatingatewayschool.com.)

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Presiding Trustee's explanation of procedures to be followed for addressing the Board – (GGS Policy #1441)

Public Comment- Non Agenda Items- Public Comment- Sign in sheet- (GGS Policy #1441)

Minutes

January 8, 2007 (regular meeting) (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

January 22, 2007 (special meeting) (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

January 29, 2007 (special meeting) (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

Finance

Warrants & Expenditure vs. Budget Report (GGS Policy #7310 & #7326)

Cash Reconciliation (GGS Policy #7410)

Extra-Curricular Recap and Reconciliation (GGS Policy #7425)

06-07 Budget Amendment Approval from OPI

Personnel

Hire- Classified/Certified Substitutes (GGS Policy #5120)

Hire- Track Coach (GGS Policy #5120)

Superintendent's Report

Old Business

New Business

***Academics**

Montana Educational Consortium- Interlocal Agreement

Instructional Materials- GGS Policy #2311P- revision

***Community & Public Relations**

2006-2007 Volunteer Handbook

Non-resident Student Attendance Agreement (GGS Policy #3141)

Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing- GGS Policy #3226- revision

Facility Use Agreement- GGS Policy #4330F-revision

Adjournment

Regular Meeting, Board of Trustees, Gallatin Gateway School District #35

Open Session

DATE: February 12, 2007

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Gallatin Gateway School Library

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Erik Yager, Board Chair
Alec Nisbet
Nikki Robbins
Cheryl Thiem

MEMBERS

ABSENT: Jess Holloway, Vice Chair

STAFF

PRESENT: Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent; Carrie Fisher, Clerk; and Elizabeth Matthews, Teacher

OTHERS

PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Board Chair Erik Yager.

Board Chair Erik Yager explained the public comment process to be followed for addressing the Board in accordance with Gallatin Gateway School Policy #1441. He stated that prior to a vote the public may comment on agenda items. There will be time for public comment on non-agenda items. Public comment periods are not intended to be a question and answer session and may not include discussions of performance, evaluations or anything that may infringe on any person's right to privacy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve the minutes for the January 8, 2007 (regular meeting), January 22, 2007 (special meeting) and January 29, 2007 (special meeting). Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve warrants (#26744-#26836- Void-none) and Expenditures vs. Budget Report- Budgeted Funds as of February 9, 2007. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alec Nisbet. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve the cash reconciliation report as of February 9, 2007. The motion was seconded by Board Chair Erik Yager. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the Extra-Curricular recap and reconciliation report as of February 9, 2007 with a balance of \$12, 528.11. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board recognized and reviewed a letter from Nica Carte, Fiscal Officer at OPI stating that the general fund amendment of \$34,970.92 was approved due to an unanticipated enrollment increase for the fiscal year 2006-2007.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to hire Jill Bowman, Sam Magro, and Lacey Ward as 2006-2007 classified/certified substitutes pending acceptable background/fingerprint checks and TB tests results. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to hire Mike Coon as the Track & Field coach for a stipend of \$1200. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Trustee Nisbet abstained from voting. Motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kim DeBruycker discussed the following information with the Board: 1) Attendance, staff and student illnesses; 2) Artist and GYG art auction items; 3) Ski Trip; 4) MathCounts Competition; 5) Indian Education; 6) 4th grade to Bozeman Symphony; 7) Professional Development – Assessment training, February 15-16; 8) Ski Day make-up work policy will be presented to the Board at the April 07 meeting by the teaching staff; 9) PIE fundraiser, Original ArtWorks; 10) three MSU reading interns in middle school and first and second grades; 11) Student community letters; 12) Spring pictures; 13) WWLA Valentine Boxes for community; 14) Wrestling tournament update; 15) Girls' basketball update; 16) MSSA- Tom Vanderbeck, Indian Education curriculum; 17) 4-Rivers Superintendent meeting update; 18) Adult Education classes; 19) NAEP 8th grade testing; 20) Newsletter feedback; 21) Administrative compensatory time March 5-9; 22) Third grade dental screenings; 23) Facility building use, Pony Club, Basketball, etc.

24) Ms. DeBruycker also discussed in depth her concerns with fire exits being blocked and staff accountability when continually asked and instructed on fire exit egress requirements. Trustee Alec Nisbet stated that Ms. DeBruycker would have his full support regarding any disciplinary actions that may need to be taken because he felt the fire safety guidelines need to be strictly followed because student safety should be the Board's primary concern. The other members of the Board agreed with Trustee Nisbet. Ms. DeBruycker was instructed to continue strict enforcement and documentation of staff disregard for student safety and

25) Ms. DeBruycker provided the Board with facts about the volunteer drivers program, how drivers continue to provide transportation to extra-curricular activities, and how openly liable the District may be in a situation of driver/coaching staff abuse of the program. She expressed her concern that coaching staff has not consistently enforced the Board's measures to ensure safety of students being transported through appropriate forms on file with the office and that those transporting students were not always properly approved through a background check by the Western States Insurance through submittal of the required documentation. She explained that volunteer drivers have been beneficial to the Board's budget and the District's need for budget cuts, however; only one accident involving one Gallatin Gateway child/student would cancel all benefits or budget savings received. Ms. DeBruycker asked for Board clarification on this policy/procedure and how they would like to see the continuation of this program. She asked the Board for clarification on how they would like this driver policy enforced to ensure student safety or if they would prefer to use bus drivers and bus services to transport students for extra-curricular events. If bus drivers and school buses are the preferred choice, the Board would need to include these expenditures in the next fiscal general fund budget.

NEW BUSINESS

ACADEMICS

Ms. DeBruycker reviewed information regarding the Montana Educational Consortium- Interlocal Agreement and its benefit for Gallatin Gateway School's curriculum development. Ms. DeBruycker recommended the Board approve a resolution to enter the Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement of the Montana Education Consortium.

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve a resolution to enter the Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement of the Montana Education Consortium and pay a fee of \$1500 for the membership for the 2006-2007 school year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve revisions to GGS Policy #2311- Instructional Materials. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve school calendars for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve the 2006-2007 Volunteer Handbook. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve the non-resident student attendance agreement for one sixth grade student from Monforton School District. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve revisions to the Facility Use Agreement- GGS Policy #4330F. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alec Nisbet. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to hold the regular March meeting on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 7 pm in the Gallatin Gateway School multipurpose room. Trustee Nikki Robbins seconded the motion. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to adjourn meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Chair Erik Yager. For: Nisbet, Robbins, Thiem and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Erik Yager, Board Chairman

Carrie Fisher, District Clerk