

April Agenda Regular Meeting of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for **Wednesday, April 9, 2008 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)

Guests:

Christie Francis & Warren Vaughn- Gateway Planning

Deputy Paul Griffin School Resource Officer- Letter to Board

Recognition of Superintendent Ms. DeBruycker- Junior Achievement Administrator of the Year Award

Board of Trustee Candidates for May 6, 2008 Trustee Election- Cheryl Arnaud & Suzanne Marshall

Minutes

March 5, 2008-regular meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

March 25, 2008- committee meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & 1401)

April 1, 2008- committee meeting (GGS Policy 1420 & 1401)

Finance

Warrants GGS Policy # 7310 & #7326)

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

Cash Reconciliation (GGS Policy #7410)

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

MUST Renewal Rates (GGS Policy #5331 & Certified Master Agreement)

Budget Discussion

Ballot Approval- May 6, 2008 election (MCA 13-12-201, 20-20-401, & 15-10-425)

Personnel

Personal Leave Request- Elizabeth Matthews (Certified Master Agreement)

Hire- Track Coach (GGS Policy #5120)

08-09 Substitute Pay (GGS Policy #5120)

Superintendent's Report

Old Business

2007-2008 Certified Master Agreement

New Business

*** Community and Public Relations**

2007-2008 Non-Resident Student Tuition Rates

Homeschool student participation in Track & Field program

2007-2008 Parent Survey Results

***Academics**

2007-2008 Accreditation Determination and Status

Adjournment

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

Open Session

DATE: April 9, 2008

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Gallatin Gateway School Multipurpose Room

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Erik Yager, Chair
Jess Holloway, Vice Chair
Celia O'Connor
Nikki Robbins
Cheryl Thiem

MEMBERS

ABSENT: None

STAFF

PRESENT: Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent; Carrie Fisher, Clerk; Ken Mosby, Business Manager; Renae Myers, Teacher; Elizabeth Matthews, Teacher; Mike Coon, Teacher; Kelly Haskins, Teacher; and Deb Clark, Teacher

OTHERS

PRESENT: Suzanne Marshall, Steve Fisher, Dick Shockley, Shawna Brenner, Christie Francis, Cheryl Arnaud, Lain Kay, and Kyra Fisher

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 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.

GUESTS

Christie Francis and Dick Shockley provided the Board a draft of the Gallatin Gateway Core document that was developed by the Gateway Planning Committee (GPC). They explained that the school has a huge impact on the planning considerations for the committee and commended Trustee Nikki Robbins for her efforts with the Gallatin Gateway School Growth Committee. The Board asked about impact fees for developers to support school growth. Dick Shockley explained that there are currently no state or local laws, but the planning board can suggest that developers provide funds to the school. Christie Francis asked the Board to read through the draft document and if the Board would like any changes in regards to the school, the GPC would be willing to review it. The committee supports the District 100%. She also noted that the Board is welcome to read through the Gateway Planning Committee minutes or to gather more information on their website: www.gatewaycommunityplan.com.

The Board reviewed and recognized a letter from Deputy Paul Griffin, School Resource Officer about his experience with Gallatin Gateway School Administrator, Kim DeBruycker.

The Board recognized Superintendent DeBruycker for receiving the 2008 Junior Achievement Administrator of the Year Award.

The 2008 Board of Trustee candidates were introduced and each provided background about themselves and a statement as to why they were running for the Board. First, Suzanne Marshall introduced herself and explained that she has two children currently enrolled at Gallatin Gateway School and would like to be on the Board because she feels it is important to be involved in the school. She also explained that she is an attorney and felt that her education and training would be beneficial to the District and Board. Cheryl Arnaud introduced herself and explained that she has been involved in fundraisers, substitute teaching and the local 4-H club for several years in Gallatin Gateway. She said that she would like to be more involved in the school and felt that being on the Board would be a great opportunity.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Celia O'Connor to approve the minutes for March 5, 2008- regular meeting; March 25, 2008- committee meeting; and April 1, 2008- committee meeting. Vice Chair Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve warrants (#28085-#28173). The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jess Holloway. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the Expenditure vs. Budget Report as of April 7, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to approve the Cash Reconciliation Report as of April 7, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to approve the Extra-Curricular Report as of April 7, 2008 with a balance of \$19,105.38. Motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jess Holloway. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to renew MUST health and life insurance coverage (\$10,000 included) for the 2008-2009 school year with the cost of single medical coverage being \$299/month, dental \$31/month and vision \$8/month. Motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed asking voters to approve a general fund mill levy proposition for the purpose of properly maintaining and operating the programs of the district. Board Chair Erik Yager stated that he was personally torn on the issue because the District has been constantly falling behind and then trying to catch up so he would like to ask the community to approve a mill levy. Trustee Celia O'Connor stated that she felt the District should give voters a chance to decide. The Board noted that the primary reasons for asking for a general fund mill levy included, but were not limited to: electricity costs, maintenance, roof repairs, fuel costs, freezer repairs/replacement, boiler repair, insurance, and payroll costs.

Public Comment: Lain Kay recommended the Board ask the community to approve a general fund levy because the Board really has nothing to lose if they ask. She stated, "If you don't get it, you are back where you were." Lain also stated that she would like the Board to add a band program to the existing music program so that students can be better prepared to participate at the high school level. Lain stated that she would be willing to research the cost of a part-time band teacher to teach students and provide that opportunity to GGS students in the future.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the May 6, 2008 ballot wording to include the following:

SCHOOL TRUSTEE-for a 3 Year Term (vote for 1)
Cheryl Renae Arnaud and Suzanne Marshall

BUILDING RESERVE LEVY PROPOSITION

Shall the district be authorized to impose an increase in local taxes to support the general fund in the amount of \$47,492.18 which is approximately 11.38 mills for the purpose of properly maintaining and operating the programs of the District? Passage of this proposal will permanently increase the taxes on a home with a market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$ 22.61 per year and on a \$200,000 home by approximately \$45.21 per year.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to approve a personal leave request for 7.75 additional days from Elizabeth Matthews. Motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Celia O'Connor to hire Mike Coon as the 2007-2008 Track & Field Coach for a stipend of \$1200. Motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed substitute pay for the 2008-2009 school year. The current substitute pay is \$65/day. The Board tabled for a future meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kim DeBruycker discussed the following information with the Board: 1)Swimming Lessons; 2) DARE; 3) Gator Tator Feed; 4) Private donation of \$4000 for Art; 5) State Funding Update; 6) PIE Support of Art Auction- all money raised goes right back to art program; 7) Greenhouse; 8) Booster Update; 9) Track and Field Season; 10) School Growth Committee Update; 11) MT Shakes- GYG donation grades K-5 (May 17th); 12) Kindergarten Roundup- May 1st; 13) PIE- Sound panel donation for gym; 14) PIE- Arbor Day project; 15) Pancake breakfast; 16) GYG Community Clean-up; 17) Building Appraisal; 18) BHS Board- Rural Trustee opening; 19) County Declamation Contest: "The Greatest First Lady"; 20) Big Brothers- Big Sisters Rural Transition Program Update; 21) County Commissioner meeting April 23rd @ 1:30pm; 22)Breaking Point- Hip Hop lessons; 23)Adult Education; 24) Midterm- April 25th; 25) 6th Grade Expedition Yellowstone- April 14-18; 26) May Board Meetings- Special Meeting- May 6th @ 9pm- Canvass Votes; Regular Meeting- May 7th @ 7pm; Community Goal Setting- May 19th @ 6:30pm; and 27) Private donation of \$1000 for art and music.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the signed copy of the 2007-2008 Certified Master Agreement. Motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

A motion to set the 2008-2009 out-of-district tuition at the estimated state rates of \$471.60 for kindergarten, \$943.20 for grades 1-6 and \$1207.40 for grades 7-8, waiving all but \$150.00 per family per year or have the district of residence pay the full state rate amount per student was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem and seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the participation of one eighth grade homeschool student in the track and field program for the 2008 season. The motion was seconded by

Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2007-2008 Parent Survey results. It was noted that there was a 35% return rate.

The Board recognized the accreditation status of Gallatin Gateway School for the 2007-2008 school year. Gallatin Gateway School was granted regular accreditation by the recommendations of the Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education. Gallatin Gateway School met all accreditation standards for the 2007-2008 school year.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Celia O'Connor to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Nikki Robbins seconded the motion. For: O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Erik Yager, Board Chairman

Carrie Fisher, District Clerk