

August Agenda Regular Meeting of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 9, 2005 at 7:00 pm** at the Gallatin Gateway School Multipurpose room.

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

High School Bond Committee

Minutes

July 12, 2005- regular meeting
July 12, 2005- special meeting
July 18, 2005- special meeting
July 26, 2005- 6:00 pm special meeting
July 26, 2005- 7:00 pm special meeting

Finance

Warrants
Discussion of necessary budget cuts of \$45,676.77 for final budget adoption
2005-2006 Final Budget Adoption--\$684,954.57- Advertised July 31, 2005- (GGS Policy #1400 & #7110)
Gym Floor Update

Superintendent's Report

New Business

***Public Relations**

Discussion about Past and Present School Mascot
Discretionary Nonresident Student Attendance Agreements (GGS Policy #3141)
Board Meetings- GGS Policy #1400- Revision
School Closures- GGS Policy #2221- Revision
Transportation- GGS Policy #8100- Revision
Set Meeting Date to Offer Remaining Employee Contracts-- August 25th, 26th, 29th or 30th

***Academics**

Field Trips, Excursions, and Outdoor Education- GGS Policy #2320- Revision
Searches and Seizure- GGS Policy #3231- Revision
Student Discipline- GGS Policy #3310- Revision
Administering Medicines to Students- GGS Policy #3416- Revision
Montana Authorization to Carry and Self-Administer Asthma Medication- GGS Policy #3416F- New

***Personnel**

Tobacco Free Policy- GGS Policy #5225- Revision
Leaves of Absences- GGS Policy #5321- Revision

Vacations- GGS Policy #5334- Revision

District Safety- GGS Policy #8301- Revision

Certified 2005-2006 Contract

- Counselor (GGS Job Description Cert-004)

Classified 2005-2006 Contracts

- Volleyball Coach (GGS Job Description Clas-008)
- Girls' Basketball Coach (GGS Job Description Clas-008)
- Boys' Basketball Coach (GGS Job Description Clas-008)
- Nurse Contacts (GGS Job Description Clas-012)

Adjournment

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

Open Session

DATE: August 9, 2005

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Gallatin Gateway School Multipurpose Room

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Erik Yager, Chair
Helen Zinner, Vice Chair
Jess Holloway
Alec Nisbet
Cheryl Thiem

MEMBERS

ABSENT: None

STAFF

PRESENT: Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent; Carrie Fisher, Clerk; Ken Mosby, Business Manager; Mike Coon, Teacher; Joe Mohr, Teacher; and Scott Vollmer; Teacher.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Wayne Thiem, Pam Border, Carrie Mikkelson, Lauri Olsen, Kathy Umbaugh, Connie Evenson, Beth Guest, Duane Walker, Shawna Brenner, Cindy Nelson, Nikki Robbins, Andrea Gossett, Melissa Mikkelson, Cam Walkuski, Marti Klette, and Abby Beggs.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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. At the end of the meeting 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 Vice Chair Helen Zinner to approve the minutes for July 12, 2005 (regular meeting). The motion was seconded by Trustee Jess Holloway. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to approve the minutes for July 12, 2005 (special meeting). The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Helen Zinner. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve the minutes for July 18, 2005 (special meeting). The motion was seconded by Trustee Jess Holloway. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Jess Holloway to approve the minutes for July 26, 2005 (6:00pm special meeting). The motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Helen Zinner to approve the minutes for July 26, 2006 (7:00 special meeting). The motion was seconded by Trustee Jess Holloway. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to approve warrants (#24983-25028- Void #25003). The motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Thiem. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Business Manager Ken Mosby and Superintendent Kim DeBruycker presented the Board with several budget worksheets which included: 2002-2005 Salary Comparisons, 2005-2006 General Fund Budget, Travel Breakdown, and Enrollment Summary by Grade Level. The Board discussed the necessary budget cuts of \$45,676.77 for the 2005-2006 school year. Many options were discussed including, but not limited to: cutting field trips, coaching stipends, custodial services, and combining classes.

Public Comment: Pam Border requested clarification regarding which positions were listed on the Salary Comparison worksheet as unfilled. Beth Guest expressed concern regarding the possibility of the combination class in kindergarten & 1st and asked if the 1st grade teacher was aware of the possible combination and if the teacher had the experience to teach a combination class. Nikki Robbins urged to Board to train the first grade teacher if she is not experienced in combination classrooms to ensure that she be adequately prepared. Pam Border requested clarification regarding the 1.5 FTE Custodian, coach stipends and asked if there was a possibility to contract with Laidlaw for bus services. Lauri Olsen noted that the Board could eliminate field trips because Partners in Education usually funds most of them and stated that when there are budget cuts the District should not be adding more sports programs. Cindy Nelson recommended that the students help with the janitorial work at the school. Connie Evenson suggested combining the Bus Driver position and the custodian to increase the hours with hopes of attracting an interested person. Lauri Olsen requested clarification regarding the number of aides that are needed at the school during the year. Pam Border clarified the duties of the Technology-Network position listed on the salary comparison worksheet and asked if the technology levy funds could cover this position. Pam Border also questioned the added responsibility to other teachers to cover classes if the seventh and eighth grades were combined. Cindy Nelson requested the number of out-of-district students and stated that it doesn't make sense to have more out-of-district students if you have to hire additional staff. Nikki Robbins stated that it seemed convenient to combine seventh and eighth grades and kindergarten and first grades with the upcoming arbitration and asked the Board if they had the combinations in mind when they didn't renew them in May. Connie Evenson asked if it would have made a difference in the budget if kindergarten was still half-day rather than full-day. Carrie Mikkelson noted that when she attended school, combination classes were common and they had a third-fourth-fifth combination class and a sixth-seventh-eighth combination class. Shawna Brenner stated that she would like to see first grade and kindergarten combined because six students are too few and there is more interaction for the students in a bigger class. Cindy Nelson recommended that the Board still offer challenging classes for the students such as Algebra in sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

A motion was made by Trustee Alec Nisbet to adopt the 2005-2006 Budget as follows:

General Fund	\$684,954.57
Transportation Fund	\$ 67,000.00
Bus Depreciation Fund	\$115,664.01
Tuition Fund	\$ 690.00
Retirement Fund	\$100,294.24
Adult Education Fund	\$ 16,330.00
Technology Fund	\$ 18,000.00
Flexibility Fund	\$ 0.00
Debt Services Fund	\$119,810.00
Building Reserve Fund	\$ 15,000.00

Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Kim DeBruycker provided the Board with information regarding the installation of the gym floor donated at the July 26, 2005 meeting by the Gym Floor Committee. She also represented the committee when she stated that all donations to the gym floor will be without contingencies of the mascot change and any that are contingent will be returned to the advertisers. Ms. DeBruycker urged the Board to consider the choice of a future mascot for Gallatin Gateway School without connection to their acceptance of a gym floor donation at the July 26 2005 Board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kim DeBruycker discussed the following information with the Board: 1) Bus Driver Ad; 2) New Bus Arrived; 3) Goal Setting Monday September 12, 2005 at 6:00pm; 4) GYG Survey—Academic Based Child Care Program for Kindergartners; 5) Lawn Care; 6) Senior Citizen Meal Program Consideration; 7) Teacher's Aides; and 8) MTSBA Survey.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Board discussed the possibility of changing the school mascot from the Gators to the Hornets per a request from Russ Olsen at the July 26, 2005 meeting.

Public Comment: Pam Border asked if there was any history regarding the history of the Hornets and a timeline as to when the name was changed to the Gators. Connie Evenson asked if there was a reason for the mascot change in the first place. Pam Border stated that she agreed with a letter written to the Board from Zoe' Brown, Booster President, regarding the mascot change. Beth Guest also agreed with Pam Border and stated that changing the mascot would be a waste of money. Lauri Olsen stated that her husband, Russ, was a Gateway Hornet and his work with the Gym Floor committee was done with the intent to change the name of the mascot to the Hornets. She alleged that her husband helped raise \$10,000 for the gym floor and it is all contingent on the mascot being changed to the Hornets. She stated that she was confused that the donation would be given back and then risk the possibility of having to give back the funds that Russ had raised for the gym floor. Duane Walker stated that he appreciated the reasoning for and against the mascot change, but recommended that the mascot remain the Gators yet honor the Hornets in some way because the current students are Gators. Pam Border asked the Board when the mascot would be painted on the center of the new gym floor. Carrie Mikkelson said that she's not opposed to changing the mascot name but recommended honoring the Hornets in the cafeteria because that is where they used to play. She suggested painting a mural on the wall with the Gator and the Hornet and have it say "Past Home of the Hornets" including the years that the school had the Hornet for a mascot. Carrie Mikkelson also stated that collecting memorabilia and such from the time of the Hornets would also be great to display for the current students to see the history of the school. Lauri Olsen stated that if her husband's money is returned it would be a slap in the face for all of the money he raised for the new gym floor. Kathy Umbaugh stated that her family, owners of Timberline Insulation, did not donate to the gym floor with the intent to change the mascot to the Hornets. She stated that Timberline would never support the mascot change. She continued by stating that the Board just spent forty-five minutes making huge cuts and combining classes at the school and didn't feel that the mascot name should be a priority for the District at this time. She stated that honoring the history of the mascot would be great, but this issue was taking too much of the Board's time and resources when there are bigger things to consider. Vice Chair Helen Zinner stated that she felt the Gym Floor Fund Non-Profit Committee and changing the mascot should be two separate issues and that this donation was presented to the Board as a threat. She said that she did not appreciate the Board being threatened and felt it was distasteful. She explained that she called every business that advertised with the gym floor fund and couldn't come up with anyone other than R&R Taylor Construction that had made their donation contingent on the change of the mascot. Vice Chair Zinner continued by stating that the Board has been harped on because they don't create a "team atmosphere" and issues such as this divide the community. She closed by saying "As far as changing the mascot, I think memorabilia is a great idea, but I think we should just drop the mascot issue, move on, and put our energy into making the new sports programs work."

Superintendent DeBruycker recommended the acceptance of the following six out-of-district attendance agreements for the 2005-2006 academic year:

Grade	Home School District	Tuition Amount	Attendance Status
4	Monforton	\$ 150.00	Current
2	Monforton	\$ 150.00	Current
8	Cottonwood	\$ 1,116.80	Current
3	Cottonwood	\$ 150.00	Current
6	Cottonwood	\$ 873.20	Current
4	Bozeman	\$ 150.00	Current

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to accept the out-of-district attendance agreements for, one student from Bozeman, three students from Cottonwood and two students from Monforton. Trustee Alec Nisbet seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Scott Vollmer stated "The more the merrier!"

Trustee Alec Nisbet made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #1400-Board Meetings. Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Alec Nisbet made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #2221- School Closures. Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cheryl Thiem made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #8100-Transportation. Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Beth Guest stated that if the bus could pick up students in Elk Grove the school could probably recruit more students.

Public Comment: Board Chair Erik Yager recessed the meeting at 9:15 pm. The meeting was reconvened at 9:17 pm.

The Board scheduled a special Board meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2005 at 6:00 pm for the purpose of offering remaining employee contracts.

ACADEMICS

Trustee Alec Nisbet made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #2320-Field Trips, Excursions, and Outdoor Education. Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Cheryl Thiem made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #3231- Search and Seizure. Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #3310-Student Discipline. Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #3416- Administering Medicines to Students. Trustee Alec Nisbet seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to adopt GGS Policy #3416F- Montana Authorization to Carry and Self-Administer Asthma Medication. Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

PERSONNEL

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #5225-Tobacco Free Policy. Trustee Alec Nisbet seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #5321- Leaves of Absence. Board Chair Erik Yager seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Alec Nisbet made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #5334-Vacations. Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to adopt revisions to GGS Policy #8301-District Safety. Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Alec Nisbet made a motion to offer Elizabeth McGoff a .6 FTE certified contract for the School Counselor position. Vice Chair Helen Zinner seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to hire Mike Coon as the Volleyball coach for a stipend of \$1200. Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Cheryl Thiem made a motion to hire Scott Vollmer as the girls' basketball coach for a stipend of \$1200. Vice Chair Helen Zinner seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Trustee Jess Holloway made a motion to hire Scott Vollmer as the boys' basketball coach for a stipend of \$1200. Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

Vice Chair Helen Zinner made a motion to hire Christine Hodgson (first 1/2 of school year) and Marie Mitchell (second 1/2 of school year) to fulfill the duties of school nurse on Thursday's throughout the school year; payable with donation from First Presbyterian Church. Trustee Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, Thiem, Yager and Zinner. Opposed: none. Motion passes unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Jess Holloway to adjourn the meeting. Board Chair Erik Yager seconded the motion. For: Holloway, Nisbet, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Erik Yager, Board Chairman

Carrie Fisher, District Clerk