

June Agenda

Regular Meeting of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for Monday, June 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:

Mr. Haxton and 5th Grade Class—MT History Trip

Mr. Vanderbeck- Washington DC Trip

Sewer District Committee

Community Planning Committee- Warren Vaughn & Christie Francis

School Growth Committee- Nikki Robbins

Minutes

May 6, 2008- Special Meeting- canvass votes (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

May 7, 2008- Regular Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

May 13, 2008- Special Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

May 19, 2008- Special Meeting- Goal Setting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

May 19, 2008- Special Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

May 27, 2008- Special Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

June 2, 2008- Special Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

Finance

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

Cash Reconciliation Report (GGS Policy #7310 & #7326)

Kitchen Manager year-end Contract Agreement - Inventory (GGS Policy #5140)

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

Western States Insurance Rates

Gallatin City-County Health Department- School Nursing Agreement

Personnel

Resignation of Certified Staff (GGS Policy #5250)

08-09 Extra-curricular Stipends

Superintendent's Report

New Business

***Academics**

Kindergarten Enrollment

***Community & Public Relations**

Discretionary Nonresident Student Attendance Agreements (GGS Policy #3141 & #7008)

Primary Care Clinic Year-End Summary (GGS Policy #2130 & #2510)

Adjournment

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

Open Session

DATE: June 9, 2008

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Gallatin Gateway School Multipurpose Room

MEMBERS

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

MEMBERS

ABSENT: None

STAFF

PRESENT: Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent; Carrie Fisher, Clerk; and Tom Vanderbeck, Teacher

OTHERS

PRESENT: Anne Millbrooke, Steve Fisher, Kyra Fisher, Dick Shockley, Ann Prescott, Beth Guest, and Jim Robbins

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 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

Anne Millbrook introduced herself to the Board and community members present as a candidate for House District 70. She explained that she is open to feedback from the District and community about what is working, what is not working and any concerns anyone may have.

Ann Prescott encouraged the Board to readdress goal setting after the summer. She stated that she understood the Board tried on two separate occasions to conduct community goal setting, but received little to no attendance at the two meetings. However, she urged the Board to set their own goals because she felt that without goal setting one can not set a course for the school.

GUESTS

Kyra Fisher, fifth grade student, summarized the two day trip taken by the fifth grade class on May 28-29, 2008 to West Yellowstone, Quake Lake and Hebgen Lake. She also included a description of daily learning activities, such as the Quake Lake visitor center, fly-fishing, gold panning, GPS, knife safety, survival skills, river studies, operating a compass, and Grizzly Wolf Discover Center.

Eighth grade homeroom teacher, Mr. Vanderbeck, provided the Board with an update of the 8th grade class trip to Washington, D.C. May 4-8, 2008. Mr. Vanderbeck also shared with the Board a photo album that was given to him by the class that included pictures from the trip and excerpts from student journal entries.

Matt Donnelly from the Sewer District Committee was unable to attend, but Dick Shockley explained the water/sewer concerns of Gallatin Gateway to the Board and noted that the concerns are critical with the mounting growth issues with the dense areas of Gallatin Gateway. Mr. Donnelly is expected to attend the next Board meeting to provide more information on the subject.

Dick Shockley and Christie Francis, both members of the Gallatin Gateway Planning and Steering Committee, thanked the Board and the School Growth Committee for providing them with the school growth plan and information about the school's current condition and how it will be affect by growth within the community. They explained that the community is very concerned about the well-being of the school. They presented a letter from the Monforton School Board to its community members addressing the issue of school impact fees. Mr. Shockley and Mrs. Francis explained that there are currently no impact fees for school districts, yet growth has a significant impact on a school district. Therefore, they encouraged the Board to write a letter in agreement with Monforton School District to the County Commissioners. In addition, they encouraged the Board to attend the County Commissioner meeting, most likely in September, where they will address this concern. They explained that the County Commissioners must vote unanimously to approve impact fees for schools; therefore it is important the Board present their concerns and urge them to approve impact fees for school districts. The Board agreed that Board Chair Erik Yager will attend the County Commissioner meeting and represent the Board.

Trustee Nikki Robbins provided the Board with the needs assessment conducted by the School Growth Committee and asked the Board for further direction as to where they would like the committee to focus their efforts. Trustee Robbins presented several options to the Board for school growth such as split the district into two campuses, purchase neighboring land to expand, or abandon current facility and build a new facility on more acreage. The Board encouraged the committee to research acquiring more land near the current building and expanding the current facility. The School Growth Committee will advertise for new members, as the committee is now moving on to Growth Phase II and some of the current volunteers would like to be relieved of their duties. An advertisement will be placed in the next school newsletter and Trustee Robbins proposed an August meeting for the committee members of Growth Phase II in order to look at options available to expand the current campus.

NEW BUSINESS

ACADEMICS

Board Chair Erik Yager moved the ageneda item "Kindergarten Enrollment" to the beginning of the agenda.

Superintendent Kim DeBruycker provided the Board with current kindergarten enrollment information. She noted that there were currently 24 students planning on attending Gallatin Gateway School. However, she explained that 17 of those students are in-district and seven are out-of-district, which include three students who already have older siblings attending Gallatin Gateway School. Superintendent DeBruycker stated that according to GGS Policy #3141 nonresident students may be admitted when the population of kindergarten drops below 17 students. She explained that there are currently 17 in-district students enrolled therefore she felt it was too early to make a recommendation to the Board to accept any out-of-district kindergarten students. Board Chair Erik Yager agreed with the Superintendent's recommendation and stated that he felt the Board could make no solid decision regarding out-of-district kindergarten students until August. He said that the Board should encourage families to enroll their kindergarten students in their home district with the hopes of Gallatin Gateway School having openings in August.

Beth Guest explained that she currently has a child that missed this year's cut off for enrollment by only three days and that she has two other children attending Gallatin Gateway School. She urged the Board to consider allowing her son to either enroll in kindergarten or first grade in the fall because of his birth date. She commented that her family has really found a home in Gallatin Gateway School and she does not want one child attending at a different school than her other two children. Board Chair Erik Yager said that he was not completely convinced that the District will not have room for her child, but stated that the Board could not currently make a decision on the matter until they had a more exact enrollment in kindergarten. Jim Robbins commented that the Board faces many challenges in these situations as they are often forced by policy, but urged the Board to act a little outside the policy and consider the individual family. He explained that the children's father works in the community and volunteers during the wrestling season. He stated that it was a pretty obvious choice to keep this family in the school, as it is unlikely that the District will run into this situation again. Superintendent DeBruycker explained that the family is likely to be accepted for enrollment, but it was just too soon to tell.

Beth Guest asked the Board if they would consider other options, such as enrolling her son in first grade if kindergarten is full. Superintendent DeBruycker explained that the District would have to conduct testing to ensure that her child was ready for first grade and once the testing is completed she could bring a recommendation to the Board.

Ann Prescott commented that she understands that the Board is guided by the policies, but noted that dynamics change significantly within classes and it is important for the Board to find a balance. She asked if the Board could change the policy. Board Chair Erik Yager stated that the Board can change the policy, but has never changed policy for individuals. Jim Robbins noted that one of the older children in the family is enrolled in a very small class and he felt the dynamics of that class would change significantly if the family left to attend their home district.

Trustee Nikki Robbins asked the Board if they would be willing to consider going outside the policy in August if the enrollment in kindergarten was at 17 or 18 students to allow enrollment of families that have older siblings in the district. Board Chair Erik Yager explained that if the Board bends the policy one time it has the potential to create problems in the future. He stated that it is a double edged sword as the Board can never forecast the future. He also stated that he would be surprised if the District was not able to make it work for these families.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the minutes for May 6, 2008- special meeting; May 7, 2008- regular meeting; May 13, 2008- special meeting; May 19, 2008- special meeting (goal setting); May 19, 2008-special meeting; May 27, 2008- special meeting and June 2, 2008- special meeting. Trustee Celia O'Connor seconded the motion. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE

A motion was made by Trustee Celia O'Connor to approve warrants (#28266- #28385- no voids). The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve the Expenditure vs. Budget Report as of June 6, 2008. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jess Holloway. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve the Cash Reconciliation Report as of June 6, 2008. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jess Holloway. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Celia O'Connor to award the Kitchen Manager a stipend of \$500 for maintaining a food inventory of \$500 or less at the end of the 2007-2008 school year in accordance with the contract. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

The Extra-Curricular Recap and Reconciliation will be presented to the Board at the June 30, 2008 meeting.

The Board would like more information regarding the Western States offer for a three-year rate guarantee. The Board did not want to commit to on company for the next three years at this time. More information will be provided at the June 30, 2008 meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Arnaud to approve the Gallatin City-county Health Department- School Nursing Agreement for the 2008-2009 school year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the resignations of Lori Hicks, School Counselor and Renae Myers, Teacher, effective June 5, 2008. Motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chair Jess Holloway made a motion to approve the following stipends for the 2008-2009 school year:

Mentor Program	\$300/year for each non-tenured teacher choosing to participate
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Volleyball	\$1200
Boys' Basketball	\$1200
Girls' Basketball	\$1200
Wrestling	\$1200
Track & Field	\$1200
Adult Education Coordinator(s)	\$2750
Athletic Director(s)	\$2500
Broadcasting & Public Communications	Hourly rate of pay/one hr/day

Board Chair Erik Yager seconded the motion. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

Ann Prescott stated that she would like to see a stipend added for the 8th grade teacher for all of the planning that goes into the Washington D.C. trip each year. Steve Fisher urged the Board to offer a stipend for the school newsletter.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kim DeBruycker discussed the following information with the Board: 1) Summer Maintenance; 2) PIE- Thank you; 3) Student Appreciation Day; 4) Newsletter; 5) Report Cards; 6) June 30, 2008 meeting at 6pm; 7) Last Day of School Awards; 8) 8th Grade Graduation; 9) Kindergarten Graduation; 10) Gym Sound Panels- PIE Donation; 11) Employment Openings- School Counselor, Teacher Aide and Classroom Teacher; 12) Food Program; 13) 08-09 Budgeting; 14) Negotiations; 15) Missoula Children's Theater; 16) Photography Class Elective; 17) Indian Education Opportunities- 3rd Grade; 18) Kiwanis BUG program; 19) School Food Service Visit from Ramsey School; 20) Creative Writing Class; 21) Class Scheduling for Fall; 22) 8th Grade Video Production for High School; and 23) Music On Mill Street- CD Production.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve the following two out-of-district students for the 2008-2009 school year:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
6	Cottonwood	New	\$943.20
5	Bozeman	New	150.00

and wait to consider a request for a second grade student from Cottonwood School District until August. The motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Arnaud, Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Kim DeBruycker reviewed the 2007-2008 Primary Clinic Year-End Summary with the Board. She also encouraged the Board to contact First Presbyterian Church and thank them for the donation of a school nurse once a week at Gallatin Gateway School. She noted that the service First Presbyterian Church provides is needed and greatly appreciated by the staff and families at Gallatin Gateway School.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Erik Yager, Board Chairman

Carrie Fisher, District Clerk