

## June Agenda Regular Meeting of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for Monday, June 11, 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](http://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. Vollmer and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Class—EIC River Study

Mr. Coon- Tech demonstration from students

### **Minutes**

May 30, 2007- Special Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

May 30, 2007- Regular Meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401)

### **Finance**

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

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

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

2007-2008 Budget Discussions (GGS Policy #7110 & #9300)

Select Budget Meeting Date (GGS Policy #1400)

### **Personnel**

Resignation of Classified Staff (GGS Policy #5250)

Hire- Part-time Office Staff (GGS Policy #5140)

2007-2008 Stipends (GGS Policy #5140)

- Adult Education
- Athletic Director
- Mentoring Program
- Student Council
- Coaching
- Public Communications & Broadcasting Class (morning class)

Superintendent's Contract Amendments (#1521 & #6110)

### **Superintendent's Report**

### **New Business**

#### **\*Academics**

#### **\*Community & Public Relations**

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

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

Operational and maintenance Technical Assistance Visit- Water System Report (GGS #9300)

Goal Setting Date for 2007-2008 School Year (GGS Policy #1610 & #7000)

### **Adjournment**

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

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Open Session

**DATE:** June 11, 2007

**TIME:** 7:00 PM

**PLACE:** Gallatin Gateway School Library

### **MEMBERS**

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

### **MEMBERS**

**ABSENT:** None

### **STAFF**

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

### **OTHERS**

**PRESENT:** Zoe' Brown, Kalena Paea, Zalie Zitzer, Alec Nisbet, Sarah Tuininga, David Pinkerton, Alyssa Nagel, Rachel Tuininga, Emily Rabel, Joshua Tunininga and Ken Visser

### **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**

None.

### **GUESTS**

Mr. Vollmer and fifth grade students provided the Board with a summary of activities and a video presentation regarding the EIC River Study project which was completed throughout the 2006-2007 in conjunction with the Montana Environmental Education Association (MEEA). Students presented information to the Board about what they learned and the Board asked the students questions about their findings during the river study project.

Mr. Coon and seventh grade students Emily Olsen, Graham Francis and Spencer Coffin presented the Board with information about the Gallatin Gateway School technology program and the Board viewed personalized operating systems developed by the students in the second semester technology class. Mr. Coon explained that the project required the students to explore a higher level of thinking, creativity and involved students teaching students skills.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Jess Holloway to approve the minutes for the May 30, 2007 special meeting and the May 30, 2007 regular meeting. Trustee Celia O'Connor 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 (#27162-#27273- Void-none). 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 Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve the expenditure vs. budget reports dated June 8, 2007. The motion was seconded by Trustee Celia O'Connor. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

*Public Comment:* Business Manager Ken Mosby stated that he is working really hard with Superintendent DeBruycker to make the budget work for the 2006-2007 and that Ms. DeBruycker was working to secure donations to make up the current deficit in the general fund operating budget.

A motion was made by Trustee Nikki Robbins to approve the payment of the \$500 stipend the Kitchen Manager for maintaining an acceptable level of total kitchen inventory of \$500 or less. 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 Trustee Cheryl Thiem to approve the extra-curricular account summary with a balance of \$9,825.33 as June 8, 2007. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Jess Holloway. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Business Manager Ken Mosby and Superintendent DeBruycker provided the Board with preliminary budget information for the 2007-2008 year. The Board was presented the following information: 2007-2008 Budget Worksheet, Current Salary Matrix for Certified Employees, Proposed Salary Matrix for Certified Employees that included a 4%, 4.5% and 5% base salary increase, 2007-2008 Salary Matrix Chart, Certified Teacher Salary Comparisons for 2007-2008, Financial Decisions for Budget Adoption Worksheet, Teacher Certification Summary, Considerations for Negotiations that affect the budget, and 2007-2008 Stipend Proposals. Ms. DeBruycker encouraged the Board to enter the negotiations process with the goal of being fiscally responsible and building trust between the certified staff, administration and Board. Mr. Mosby included budget considerations for providing every employee at Gallatin Gateway School the same percentage increase and Ms. DeBruycker stated that this consideration would provide for more consistent planning and would provide every employee a raise, which would improve moral and trust.

*Public Comment:* Alec Nisbet cautioned the Board against hiring a new teacher with a BA+5 because that person would make more money than other teachers that already have seniority at Gallatin Gateway School and that he felt it would be an insult for someone new to the school to make more than someone that has put in a year or two. In addition, Mr. Nisbet expressed concerns with a salary increase for all employees because it felt it wouldn't be the most effective decision on the part of the Board.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Thiem to set the final budget meeting date for the 2007-2008 budget adoption for August 6, 2007 at 7pm and hold budget discussions at the July 16, 2007 meeting held at 7pm. 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 Vice Chair Jess Holloway to accept the resignation of Tanya Bokma, hourly classified for the 2007-2008 year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nikki Robbins. Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Nikki Robbins made a motion to hire Kelly Haskins for at total of 248 hours at \$12.00 during the summer in the office. Vice Chair Jess Holloway seconded the motion. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem. and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cheryl Thiem made a motion to approve the following stipends for the 2007-2008 school year:

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

Trustee Nikki Robbins seconded the motion. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Robbins, Thiem. and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

*Public Comment:* Alec Nisbet encouraged the Board to maintain the Adult Education Coordinator stipend at \$2750 because Adult Education is important because it brings the community into the building and noted that if participation in the courses remains low, then the Board may want to consider lowering the stipend.

Vice Chair Jess Holloway made a motion to amend the Superintendent's contract to read: "The Superintendent shall receive a minimum of the same percentage to Superintendent Contract as the certified receive to the base on the matrix in any given contract year." Trustee Cheryl Thiem seconded the motion. For: Holloway, O'Connor, Thiem. and Yager. Opposed: Robbins. Motion passed 4-1.

*Public Comment:* Carrie Fisher stated that the amendment to increase the Superintendent's salary at the same rate is the fairest system and provides for consistency and builds on the teamwork and trust the Board has been trying to enforce between the administration and staff. Mr. Coon stated that it made the most sense to increase the Superintendent's wages at the same rate as the teachers because everyone is here for the same reason, it keeps everyone equal across the board and then the Board treats everyone the same every year. Trustee Erik Yager stated that he agreed with amending the contract so that the Superintendent received at a minimum the same percentage increase as the base within the certified matrix. Trustee Nikki Robbins expressed her concerns with the Superintendent contract transferring to someone new if the current Superintendent were to leave and stated that she'd like to see what other schools were paying their Superintendents. In addition, Trustee Robbins recommended the Board take the contract year-by-year and not commit itself tot such binding language. Ken Visser commented that if the Superintendent was not adequately performing his/her duties he was sure the Superintendent's contract would provide the Board with the proper authority to non-renew and noted that the Board should amend the Superintendent's contract to offer a minimum of the percentage increase offered the certified staff, because the wording was not that binding for the Board. Mr. Visser noted that he wants to know that the Board is doing everything it can to retain the Superintendent. Trustee Nikki Robbins stated that she would be more comfortable if the Board amended the contract to offer "5% increase to salary for the contract year July1, 2007-June 30, 2008." Vice Chair Jess Holloway expressed his concern with that decision binding the Board to a 5% increase for certified and classified employees if the Board wanted to remain fair with all employees. Trustee Nikki Robbins expressed concern as to whether the Superintendent's performance each year would warrant a salary increase and the Board would be obligated to provide an increase if it provided one to certified staff. Carrie Fisher noted that when the Board provides an increase to the certified matrix it provides a salary increase to all certified teaching staff regardless of performance and questioned why the Board would base the Superintendent's salary on performance when it doesn't base others' salaries on performance.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kim DeBruycker discussed the following information with the Board: 1) Newsletter costs; 2) Recognized and thanked PIE for the year-end activities; 3) recognized and thanked Boosters for support of the athletic program; 4) recognized and thanked GYG for providing the after school program for students in grades k-5; 5) Headstart Program for 3-5 year olds- possibly starting at GGS in Fall 2007; 6) Community Planning Meetings; 7) MUST health insurance annual report; 8) Letter from Julie Alexander-Ruff, County Health Nurse; 9) Workers' Compensation Options; and 10) Gift Certificates for volunteers during 2007-2008, 11) Thanks to Merle Adams and Ann Prescott for teaching Jr. Achievement.

## NEW BUSINESS

### COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

A motion was made by Vice Chair Jess Holloway to approve the following out-of-district students for the 2007-2008 school year:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Home School District</u>	<u>Tuition Amount</u>	<u>Attendance Status</u>
K	Bozeman	\$ -	Current Family
K	Bozeman	\$ 150.00	New Family
K	Bozeman	\$ 150.00	New Family
K	Bozeman	\$ 150.00	New Family

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

Ms. DeBruycker presented the Board with an end-of-year summary submitted by Barbara E. Prescott DNP, FNP, RNC for the Primary Care Clinic as of June 1, 2007. Ms. DeBruycker noted that there were 181 student visits, 176 parent consults, four team consults and six accidents for the entire 2006-2007 year.

The Board acknowledged a letter and report from Callie Ronning of the Midwest Assistance Program regarding the Operational and Maintenance Technical Assistance Visit for the district's water system conducted on May 15, 2007.

The Board stated that it will begin goal setting for the 2007-2008 school year in September 2007.

## ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Erik Yager, Board Chairman

Carrie Fisher, District Clerk