

August

Special Meeting Agenda

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for **Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 9:00am** via **Zoom**. (All policies can be found at www.gallatingatewayschool.com.)

Call to Order

Presiding Trustee's explanation of procedures

Public Comment- Non Agenda Items- Sign in sheet

New Business

Board review of findings for formal complaints *(possible executive session)*

Adjournment

Due to COVID-19 public health concerns, and social distancing restrictions the meeting will be conducted by electronic means. Members of the public will be able to observe and participate in the meeting by utilizing an online platform. Please use one of the following options if you wish to participate:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957527828?pwd=QTl5dWVhOVV01DaDIINDBRa1dzQllvZz09>

Meeting ID: 889 5752 7828

Passcode: 155714

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,88957527828#,,,,,0#,,155714# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,88957527828#,,,,,0#,,155714# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 889 5752 7828

Passcode: 155714

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88957527828?pwd=QTl5dWVhOVV01DaDIINDBRa1dzQllvZz09>

"The Gallatin Gateway School community empowers our students to take responsibility for their learning so they may achieve their individual potentials as lifelong learners and productive citizens."

Excerpt from GGS Policy #1441- Audience Participation

Audience Participation

The Board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in its meetings. The Board also recognizes the statutory and constitutional rights of the public to participate in governmental operations. To allow fair and orderly expression of public comments, the Board will permit public participation through oral or written comments during the “public comment” section of the Board agenda and prior to a final decision on a matter of significant interest to the public. The Chairperson may control such comment to ensure an orderly progression of the meeting.

Individuals wishing to be heard by the Chairperson shall first be recognized by the Chairperson. Individuals, after identifying themselves, will proceed to make comments as briefly as the subject permits. The Chairperson may interrupt or terminate an individual’s statement when appropriate, including when statements are out of order, too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant. The Board as a whole shall have the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such rulings. It is important for all participants to remember that Board meetings are held in public but are not public meetings. Members of the public shall be recognized and allowed input during the meeting, at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Cross Reference: 1420 School Board Meeting Procedure

Legal Reference: Article II, Section 8, Montana Constitution – Right of participation
Article II, Section 10, Montana Constitution – Right of privacy
§§ 2-3-101, et seq., MCA Notice and Opportunity to Be Heard

“The Gallatin Gateway School community empowers our students to take responsibility for their learning so they may achieve their individual potentials as lifelong learners and productive citizens.”

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, GALLATIN GATEWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT #35**

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees of the Gallatin Gateway School District #35 met at 5:30pm on Thursday, August 27, 2020, via Zoom. Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman presided and called the meeting to order at 9:01am.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Aaron Schwieterman, Board Chair; Julie Fleury, Vice Chair; Mary Martin, Carissa Paulson

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Patti Ringo

STAFF PRESENT

Theresa Keel, Superintendent and Carrie Fisher, District Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT

No sign-in sheet due to COVID-19 and meeting being held virtually
Dick Shockley, Ann Prescott, and Samantha Stith

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting attendees recited the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

PRESIDING TRUSTEE'S EXPLANATION OF PROCEDURES

Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman explained the public comment process to be followed for addressing the Board in accordance with Gallatin Gateway School policy. He noted: 1) that prior to a vote the public may comment on agenda items; 2) there will be time for public comment on non-agenda items; 3) public comment periods are not intended to be a question and answer session.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Board review of findings for formal complaints (possible executive session)

As the presiding officer, Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman determined that the discussion related to a matter of individual privacy and clearly exceeded the merits of the public disclosure and therefore, under Montana Law, convened the Board in executive session.

The meeting was closed at 9:05am.

Due to the meeting being held on Zoom, all parties were provided a new Zoom login link and the Board, complainant, party involved in the matter, the Board's legal counsel, and the investigative counsel convened a new meeting at 9:07am.

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:51am.

Motion: Vice Chair Julie Fleury to approve the minutes from the executive session.

Second: Trustee Mary Martin
Public Comment: None
For: Fleury, Martin, Paulson, Schwieterman
Opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously

Motion: Vice Chair Julie Fleury to deny the complaint and requested remedies in the matter S001.
Second: Trustee Mary Martin
Public Comment: None
For: Fleury, Martin, Paulson, Schwieterman
Opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously

The next phase of the meeting addressed a complaint against Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman. As a public official, Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman did not have a right to privacy. The Board requested Andrew Vigeland provide a summary of the results of his review conducted as it related to Ms. Stith's complaints.

Motion: Trustee Carissa Paulson to deny the complaint and requested remedies based upon the findings as it relates to Ms. Stith's allegations against Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman.
Second: Vice Chair Julie Fleury
Public Comment: None
For: Fleury, Martin, Paulson, Schwieterman
Opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Aaron Schwieterman adjourned the meeting at 10:05am.



Aaron Schwieterman, Board Chair



Carrie Fisher, District Clerk