

June 2, 2022 Agenda Special Meeting of Trustees

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for **June 2, 2022 at 1:00 P.M. in the boardroom.**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Presiding Trustee's Explanation of Procedures

Public Comment - Non Agenda Items

New Business

Action Items:

Amended Salary Scale for Master Agreement

Teacher Hire - 2022-23 School Year

Resignation and Rescind Contract

Next Meetings:

Regular Meeting - June 30, 2022 @ 6 pm

Adjournment

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 comments 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

Zoom procedures:

1. *Login details are on the district website -- [See District Calendar](#)*
2. *Please ensure your mic is muted until called upon by the Chair*
3. *Public Comment is accepted two times during the meeting:*
 - a. *During non-agenda public comment for items not on the agenda*
 - b. *When the Chair opens it for public comment as determined appropriate*
4. *To participate from a mobile device or computer:*
 - a. *Please use the “Raise Hand” button under “Participants” button at the bottom of your screen*
 - b. *Once called on please unmute yourself to provide comments*
5. *To participate from a phone when dialed in:*
 - a. **9 to raise and lower hand for public comment*
 - b. *Once called on please press *6 to unmute yourself to provide comment*

Hire Recommendation: Teacher

Recommended Motion: I move to hire Rebecca Cristando as a 1.0 FTE certified teacher for the 2022-2023 academic year to be placed at the appropriate spot in the negotiated salary matrix based on educational attainment and years of experience (not to exceed five years). The successful hire further pending proof of certification and adequate fingerprint/background check.

Recommendation:

Rebecca Cristando

Rationale:

Interviews were conducted May 26 before a hiring committee composed of: Theresa Keel, Jamie Hetherington, and Mike Coon.

Rebecca has a Master of Education in Elementary Education Degree. Her most recent position was out of state, and she has a current Montana Certification in Health Enhancement K-12, and is eligible and has applied for a Montana Provisional K-8 Certificate. Her experience includes teaching Physical Education and 4th grade self-contained. While she does not have middle school experience, the committee was unanimous that she is a good fit for the position.

Resignation Recommendation

Recommendation:

To accept the resignation letter submitted by Jerry Lee on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 10:46 am.

Rationale:

The District will be able to move forward in filling the vacated position once the Board accepts the resignation letter, thereby releasing Mr. Lee from his contract.

Motion:

To accept the letter of resignation submitted by Jerry Lee on May 23, 2022.

Jerry Lee
23 May, 2022
P.O. Box 654
Gallatin Gateway,
Montana 59730


Brittney Bateman,
District Clerk
Gallatin Gateway School
P.O. Box 265
Gallatin Gateway, Montana 59730

Re: Employment Termination – End of 2021-2022 School Year

Please be advised that I shall not be returning for the academic year 2022-2023 and am ending my employment with Gallatin Gateway School effective with my end of contract for the current 2021-2022 academic year.

In addition to my normal payroll for the Month of June 2022, kindly pay out:
My accrued Vacation Time,
My Contract Bonus,
25% of my accrued Sick-Time hours.

Respectfully yours.



Jerry Lee

PS: You may wish to contact Carrie Fisher re the 25% of accrued sick-time hours as I understand it is paid to employees upon their employment termination.

- Received 5/23/22 (B)

Superintendent Resignation Recommendation

Recommendation:

To accept the resignation letter submitted by Theresa Keel on Monday, May 31, 2022 at 10:46 am.

Rationale:

Ms. Keel had signed an administrative contract with Gallatin Gateway Schools for the 2021-2023 academic years and the board will need to accept the resignation and release her from that contract. The District will be able to move forward in filling the vacated position once the Board accepts the resignation letter, thereby releasing Ms. Keel from her contract.

Motion:

To accept the letter of resignation submitted by Theresa Keel on May 31, thereby releasing her from the 2021-2023 contract with Gallatin Gateway School District #35.

May 24, 2022

Gallatin Gateway School
Board of Trustees
100 Mill Street
Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

Dear Board,

It is with great conflict and sadness that I am writing this letter of resignation as the Superintendent of Gallatin Gateway School. My last day for the district will be June 30, 2022.

My reasons for resigning are purely personal. As you know, my rent increased last year, and the cost for me to live here has become increasingly fiscally irresponsible for the financial goals of my family. In addition, being separated during the week from my husband, my father-in-law, and my parents is putting a growing burden on my husband.

I am heartbroken to be leaving an amazing education community! As a Board, through good and bad times, you have always done what is right in the best in interest of children – that, in my experience is a rarity. The teachers at Gallatin Gateway are the best group of collaborative educators that I have had the pleasure to work with. They are always willing to do whatever it takes to ensure the increasing success of the children. The paraprofessionals never cease to go above and beyond, both in building relationships with kids, but working tirelessly to close the learning gaps of children who have fallen behind. Last, the staff are an amazing group of people to work with – great problem solvers and a great team!

I was blessed to be a part of this organization, and I am grateful to everyone for helping to create an amazing learning environment.

Thank you for everything, and I pray that the leadership moving forward continues to thrive!

Sincerely,



Theresa Keel