

# January Agenda

## Regular Meeting of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for **Monday, January 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm** at the Gallatin Gateway School Library. (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

(GGS Policy #1441 & 1420F)

### Public Comment- Non Agenda Items

(GGS Policy #1441 & #1420F)

### Guests

Mr. Coon & Gallatin Gateway School Broadcasting & Public Communications Class

Mrs. Matthews- Expedition! Yellowstone Trip - May 9-13, 2011

Mr. Vanderbeck & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington DC Trip - May 5-12, 2011

### Consent Agenda

Minutes-December 13, 2010- regular meeting (GGS Policy #1420 & #1401); Finance-Warrants (GGS Policy # 7310 & #7326)-Budget vs. Expenditure Report (GGS Policy # 7310 & #7326)- Cash Reconciliation (GGS Policy # 7410)- Extra-Curricular Recap and Reconciliation (GGS Policy #7425)- Food Service Program Reports (GGS Policy #8200)

### Old Business

Roofing Bids (GGS Policy #7320)

Quality Schools Grant Program (GGS Policy #7110 #7210)

### Superintendent's Report

### New Business

2006-07, 2009-10, & 2010-11 Certified Teacher Contract Salary (Master Agreement- Salary Schedule, Appendix A)

May 2011 Election Resolution (GGS Policy #1111)

Hire- Substitutes- classified/certified (GGS Policy #5120)

ITBS Testing (GGS Policy #2110, #2120, & #2130)

Board Teamwork Self-Assessment (GGS Policy #1620P)

School Board Annual Review of Policy - 1000 Series, 2000 Series (GGS Policy #1310)

Set Board Meeting Dates:

- February
- March
- April
- May

### Adjournment

Open Session

**DATE:** January 10, 2011

**TIME:** 7:00 PM

**PLACE:** Gallatin Gateway School Multipurpose Room

**MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Erik Yager, Chair  
Celia O'Connor, Vice Chair  
Cheryl Arnaud  
Cheryl Deats  
Wayne Thiem

**MEMBERS**

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Dr. Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent; Carrie Fisher, District Clerk; Deb Clark, Teacher; Mike Coon, Teacher; Liz Matthews, Teacher

**OTHERS**

**PRESENT:** Mickey Arnes, Olivia Arnes, Steve Fisher, Zander Fisher, Kyra Fisher, and Alex Smith

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm.

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**

Olivia Arnes and Alex Smith, middle school broadcasting class students, presented information to the Board about their elective class and then interviewed the Board for the GBS news broadcast. The segment will air on the GBS News on Friday, January 14, 2011 at 8:20am.

Mrs. Liz Matthews informed the Board that the sixth grade class has been chosen to participate during the week of May 9-13, 2011 in the *Expedition! Yellowstone*. She requested the Board's approval to travel out of state to attend the trip in Yellowstone National Park. The students will fundraise to cover the expenses of the trip.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Celia O'Connor to approve the sixth grade class trip to Yellowstone National Park May 9-13, 2011 with *Expedition! Yellowstone* and allowing students to fundraise to pay for the expenses of

the trip. Trustee Cheryl Arnaud seconded the motion. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, Thiem, and Yager.  
Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Vanderbeck was unable to attend the meeting, so the eighth grade trip to Washington DC May 8-12, 2011 will be held at the February 7, 2011 meeting.

## CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice Chair Celia O'Connor to approve the minutes for the December 13, 2010 - regular meeting; approve warrants #30487-30545 and the direct deposit payroll. (Voids-none); Expenditure vs. Budget Report; Cash Reconciliation as of November 30, 2010 dated January 6, 2011; Extra-Curricular Expenditure and Reconciliation Report as of January 7, 2011 with a balance of \$28,330.05 and December 2010 Food Service Reports, including inventory as of December 30, 2010. Trustee Wayne Thiem seconded the motion. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

## OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed and discussed bids from Adam Rabel Construction, Langley Roofing, and Epic Construction to repair GGS building hail damage from June 2010. Board Chair Erik Yager stated that all the companies bidding on the school's hail project have outstanding reputations and he recommended that the Board consider working with Epic Construction as they have been actively assessing building damages identified by the insurance company and in addition, identifying hail damage beyond the scope of those listed by the insurance company.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Deats to hire Epic Construction and Epic Field Supervisor Mickey Arnes to continue negotiations with the school's insurance company and make building repairs. Trustee Wayne Thiem seconded the motion. For: Deats, O'Connor, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Abstain: Arnaud. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. DeBruycker, Superintendent discussed the Quality Schools Grant Program and reviewed the list of concerns the Board and community members provided at the December 13, 2010 meeting. Further concerns discussed were:

- Energy efficient televisions for classrooms
- Computer software to shut off every computer at night to be used more effectively
- Hallway tiles - moisture issue possibly tied to the crawl space moisture
- Leaking gutters
- Stairs at east end of gym- drainage and ADA compliance
- Walk-in Freezer- energy efficiency and food safety
- Membrane roof – moisture issue where moss is present
- Windows in old building for energy efficiency
- Swing Gate for safety to deter access to back of school grounds
- Irrigation Pump in well
- Dishwasher- energy efficient and student health

The Board requested Dr. DeBruycker hold community meetings to allow community member to visit the school and present any health or safety issues concerns they may have.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kim DeBruycker presented the following information with the Board: 1) Girls' Basketball- Coach Duane Walker; 2) Dodge ball Tournament- January 21<sup>st</sup>; 3) Booster Club Spirit wear Orders Due January 21<sup>st</sup>; 4) Gallatin Gateway Planning Committee Letter; 5) Ski Day for grades 4-6 on January 26, 2011; 6) Donation: Lone Mountain Sports- Rentals and Lessons for Ski Day; 7) 2011 MBI Summer Institute- June 20-24, 2011; 8) OPI Accreditation Standards Review- Public Input; 9) Water System- Well Update; 10) Kitchen Dishwasher; 11) Wrestling Program- January 14<sup>th</sup> First Practice; 12) Primary Care

Clinic Schedule for January; 13) Assessment Conference- January 20-21 in Billings, MT; 14) NAEP Testing for 4<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders- February 22, 2011; 15) Second Quarter Ends: January 21 and Report Cards Sent to Parents January 28; 16) Fundraisers: Little Caesars Pizza Kits- Grades 5-7; 17) Early Release & Report Card Preparation: Friday, January 21; 18) Gator Girls' 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Basketball Tournament- January 28-29; 19) Geography Bee: January 12 at 2pm; 20) Early Release & Report Card Preparation: Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>; and 21) 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sweetheart Spaghetti Supper- February 4, 2011 from 6-8pm at Community Center; 22) National Principals Mentor Certification.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the salary for Deb Clark from 2006-2007, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011. The Board noted that Mr. Mosby, Business Manager and Dr. DeBruycker, Superintendent discovered that according to the wording on the salary schedule Deb Clark was over-paid \$984 in 2006-2007, \$1,173 in 2009-2010, and \$1,220 in 2010-2011 for a total of \$3,478 over the three years. Mr. Yager stated that the wording on the salary matrix stated that "...D.C. is grandfathered into the old matrix at 20 year maximum this year and will receive the percentage adjustment according to the agreement. (This salary will be based on the cell rate of 1.905 of the base salary)..." However, Mr. Yager noted that for some reason the cell multiplier used was incorrect for the years Deb Clark was over-paid. In fact the cell was multiplied by 1.947, rather than the 1.905.

Vice Chair Celia O'Connor felt the contract overpayment was difficult for both the teacher and the District because the salary matrix was part of the certified master agreement, and the yearly contracts had been ratified by the district and the union, and now a discrepancy is found in how Deb Clark was paid and should have been paid.

Mr. Yager noted that the overpayment is not his money to negotiate with, but rather taxpayer money. Mr. Yager recommended that both parties prior to Master Agreement ratification verify future wording and calculations in order to minimize the risk of such a mistake happening in the future.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Celia O'Connor to continue the current year's contract salary at \$56,585 for Deb Clark including the overpayment of \$1,220, for previous years' salaries of 54,409 and 47, 860.01 to not require Deb Clark to pay back any of the overpayments, and that all future salary schedules be verified by both the Union and Board prior to contract ratification to ensure accuracy. Trustee Wayne Thiem seconded the motion. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, and Yager. Opposed: Thiem. none. Motion passed 4-1.

*Public Comment:* Deb Clark agreed that there was a salary error and that the salary matrix cell should have been multiplied by 1.905 rather than 1.947, but she expressed concern because she felt the error had not be found in a reasonable amount of time and she had also signed contracts that were offered to her by the Board which stated the incorrect salaries three times during 2006-2007, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. She noted that the mistake was made by a trained business professional and was not caught by the Board's negotiation team or the Union's team prior to the ratification of the Master Agreement in 2008. She stated that she feels the overpayment is a mutual mistake since she did not check it for accuracy and the Board's business official did not catch it. She stated that after this contract ends she is willing to accept whatever salary is correct based on the 1.905 multiplier if that is agreed upon during negotiations, but she feels that it was not her mistake and too much time had passed to make her pay back the overpayment in salary.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Celia O'Connor to pass a resolution calling for election May 3, 2011:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for School District No. 35, Gallatin County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2011, which date is not less than forty (40) days after the passage of this resolution.

The polls will be open from noon until 8:00 pm.

The purpose of the election is to elect one (1) trustee for a three-year term, or as otherwise designated. Approval of additional levies to operate and maintain the Gallatin Gateway School for the 2011-2012 school year will also be requested.

BE IT RESOLVED, the election administrator is hereby authorized to cancel any portion of election as deemed necessary, including the trustee portion when the number of candidates is equal to or less than the number of positions to be elected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the clerk of this school district is hereby directed to appoint and notify the election judges and to notify the county election administrator the date of holding said election, and request him/her to close registration and to prepare and furnish election materials as required by law.

No further proceedings were conducted relating to the election.

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

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Arnaud to hire classified and certified substitutes pending adequate background/fingerprinting results and TB test: Patrick Lupton, Paul Churchill, Mikki Judge, and Derek Larson. Motion was seconded by Vice Chair Celia O'Connor. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, Thiem and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

As requested, the Superintendent Dr. Kim DeBruycker brought the Board information regarding the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (or ITBS standardized testing). She noted that in past years GGS Boards had requested for all students in grades 1-8 to be tested using the ITBS. She noted that in first and second grades there are currently only reading and math assessments in the District. She also noted that the Mont-CAS (CRT tests) assesses students in grades 3-8 in math and reading and assesses grades 4 and 8 in science. The ITBS assesses students in information skill, vocabulary, listening, reading comprehension, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, usage and expression, social studies, science, math concepts and estimation, math problem solving and data interpretation, math computation, language, maps and diagrams, and reference materials. In addition, she noted that currently the district does not have yearly or semester assessments for information skills, social studies or science in grades 1, 2, 3, 5, or 7.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Celia O'Connor to test all students in grades 1-8 using the ITBS test for the 2010-2011 school year. The motion was seconded by Board Chair Erik Yager. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

*Public Comment:* Deb Clark noted that the ITBS test allows teachers to collect data on their students for not only low performing students, but also those that need enrichment and it assesses skills beyond reading and math. Mr. Coon noted that the concerns he has regarding the ITBS is that it takes a lot of class time, the cost for the district, and it assesses some of the same topics as the Mont-CAS, which he feels has proved to show the same information and results. Deb Clark recommended the Board have the 1-2 graders take the ITBS because there are no other normed and standardized assessments in the District for children in first and second grade. Mr. Coon agreed with the Board on the importance to have a standardized assessment in all subject areas for parents because it allows parents to compare their student's progress from year-to-year and school-to-school. Vice Chair Celia O'Connor stated that as a parent she always liked the ITBS because they moved often and she could compare her child's results at the national level from school-to-school.

After a review of GGS Policies in the 1000 and 2000 series. A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Arnaud to discuss GGS policies #1332- Authorization of Signatures & #2123- Lesson Plan at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wayne Thiem. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Board meeting dates were set for the upcoming months:

February 7, 2011- regular meeting at 7pm

March 7, 2011- regular budget meeting at 7pm

March 28, 2011- special budget meeting at 7pm

April 4, 2011- regular meeting at 7pm

May 3, 2011- special meeting to canvass votes after election results tallied

May 9, 2011- regular reorganization meeting at 7pm

## ADJOURNMENT

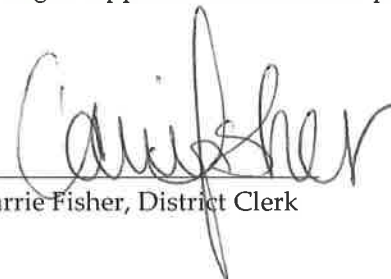
A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Deats to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cheryl Arnaud. For: Arnaud, Deats, O'Connor, Thiem, and Yager. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.



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Erik Yager, Board Chair



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Carrie Fisher, District Clerk