

**Galena City School District  
Board of Education Meeting  
Charles Evans Community Library  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

President Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

a) Introduction of Guests

Staff Members: Jim Merriner, Chris Javier, Dean O'Dell, Jessie Towarak, Heath Day, Kaitlin Applegate, Lisa Shelby, Cory Stringer, Lynn Betterton, Charlie Green, Amanda Aloysius, Lavern Demoski, and Jason Johnson.

b) Roll Call

Shirley Cleaver – present

Marylee Kauffman – present

Fred Huntington – present

Karin Bodony – present

Jenny Bryant – present

Alissa Peter – present

A quorum was established.

**2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**3) VISION/MISSION/CORE VALUES**

The Vision, Mission, and Core Values were read aloud by all Board members.

**4) AGENDA APPROVAL**

a) Agenda

Board member Cleaver made a motion to approve the agenda.

Board member Bodony seconded the motion.

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

Amendment:

Board member Bodony made a motion to amend the agenda.

Board member Huntington seconded the motion.

Add: NB - under item 10 e. Rockin B Construction LLC Change Order

Add: NB – item 12. Executive Session

Move: Adjournment to item 13

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

**5) STUDENT/STAFF PRESENTATIONS**

No Comments

**6) STUDENT/STAFF COMMENTS**

Superintendent Johnson introduced Student Board Rep, Alissa Peter.

**7) COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Superintendent Johnson thanked the school board for attending the activities over the weekend.

**8) REPORTS - \*Consent Agenda**

Board member Bodony made a motion to approve the agenda.

Board member Cleaver seconded the motion.

a. **Secretary's Report**

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b. **Financial Report** – A financial report was included in the board packet.

c. **Principals' and Directors' Reports**

**Maintenance Director** – Charlie Green presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**Technology Director** – Chris Javier presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**IDEA Director** – Dean O'Dell presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**Special Education Director** – Jessie Towarak presented her report that was included in the Board packet.

**Director of Talent Relations & Recruitment** – Heath Day presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**Director of Administrative Projects** – Jim Merriner presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**SHS Principal** – Cory Stringer presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**GILA Principal** – Naomi Winters' report was included in Board packet.

**Residence Life Director** – Ben Blasco's report was included in the Board packet.

d. **Activity Director** – Cory Stringer presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

**Assistant Superintendent Report** – Lisa Shelby presented her report that was included in the Board packet.

e. **Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Jason Johnson presented his report that was included in the Board packet.

f. **Correspondence** – None

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

9) **OLD BUSINESS** - None

a. Board Policy 3300 Revisions – 2<sup>nd</sup> & Final Reading

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Kauffman seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve attached Board Policy 3300 as a 2<sup>nd</sup> & Final Reading.

DISCUSSION:

1. **BP 3300** is attached with proposed revisions. Proposed text for removal has a ~~strike through~~. Proposed text for addition is **highlighted**.

2. The revised **BP 3300** has been provided this evening to ensure that the District's superintendent has the flexibility to make timely purchases in emergent situations, while providing a policy and framework within which to operate.

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

10) **NEW BUSINESS**

a. CBA MOA – Section 901

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Bodony seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement between the GCSD and the GEA.

DISCUSSION:

1. The attached MOA amends Section 901 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between GCSD and the District's teachers.

2. The attached MOA is non-precedent setting.

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

b. GCSD Board Policy Updates – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Huntington seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the attached Board Policies as a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

DISCUSSION:

1. On December 5, 2023, the GCSD Board Policy Committee reviewed the attached Board Policy (BP) updates.

The GCSD Board Policy Committee recommends the attached Board policies for GCSD Board of Education consideration as a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

2. Proposed text for removal is in red font and has a ~~strikethrough~~. Proposed text for addition is highlighted.
3. The Association of Alaska School Board (AASB) recommends the following policies for either revision updates or adoption. Attached is an AASB-provided summary providing details as to the recommended changes to each AASB-recommended policy.
  - BP 3270
  - BP 3311
  - BP 3312
  - BP/AR 5124.1
    - Brand NEW to GCSD
  - BP 5131.9
  - BP/AR 5141.43
    - Brand NEW to GCSD
  - BP 6020
    - Suggested revisions to BP 6020 bring it into compliance with Alaska Statute 14.03.016. The attached letter from Attorney General Treg Taylor prompted the discovery that GCSD did not update this policy per a 2016 AASB recommendation.
  - BP 6112
  - BP 6147
    - Brand NEW to GCSD
  - BP 6148
    - Brand NEW to GCSD

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

Alissa Peter was excused from the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

c. 2023-2024 GCSD Advertising

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Huntington seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the expenditure of **\$151,500** for our IDEA, iGrad, and GILA programs for 2024-2025.

DISCUSSION:

1. **BP 3300** – The Superintendent or designee may purchase supplies, materials and equipment in accordance with law. Prior Board approval is required for purchases over \$40,000.00.
2. Given the current economic environment of the state, ensuring strong IDEA, iGrad, and GILA enrollments is critical for the overall health of the district and allows GCSD to improve and expand curricula options for our families and students.

Roll Call

Marylee Kauffman – Yes

Karin Bodony – Yes

Shirley Cleaver – Yes

Fred Huntington – Yes

Jenny Bryant – Yes

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

d. Staff Adjustments

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Kauffman seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the following hires:

Additions: (effective now)

Madison (Maeson) Hawley	Cook's Helper (GILA) Thomas Cook	Cook's Helper (GILA)
Megan Hogate	Residential Advisor (GILA)	
Shawn Schott	Receptionist / Secretary (IDEA – Region F)	
Justina Loughridge	Clerical II (IDEA Business Office)	
Arlene Sommer	GILA Custodian	

Transitions:

Lynn Betterton	Assistant Business Manager, Galena
Lavern Demoski	Administrative Assistant III, Galena
Gabriel Bourne	Registrar (IDEA Business Office)
Miranda Martinez	Coordinator of Talent Relations & Recruitment, Galena

DISCUSSION:

1. **BP 4111 Certificated Personnel Recruitment and Selection** is attached that provides guidance for the appointment of certificated personnel.
  2. **BP 4212 Appointment and Conditions of Employment (Classified Personnel)** is attached that provides guidance for the appointment of classified personnel.
  3. GCSD's Strategic Plan provides guidance for the recruitment of staff to support student learning.
- Motion carries. Board (5/0)

e. Rockin B Construction LLC Change Order

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Bodony seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the change order for Rockin B Construction, dated 12/31/2023, in the total amount of **\$151,040.00**.

DISCUSSION:

1. **BP 3300** – The Superintendent or designee may purchase supplies, materials, and equipment in accordance with law. Prior Board approval is required for purchases over \$40,000.00.

Roll Call

Shirley Cleaver – Yes

Marylee Kauffman - Yes

Fred Huntington – Yes

Karin Bodony – Yes

Shirley Cleaver – Yes

Jenny Bryant – Yes

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

11) **BOARD COMMENTS:**

**Cleaver**, commented on the upcoming AASB Conference, wainscoting, and thanking the staff.

**Huntington**, congratulated Emily for winning the 2024 Knik 200 sled dog race.

**Bodony**, commented on the Superintendent's evaluation, adding that we are happy to have Dr. Johnson.

**Kauffman**, commented on the hiring of the Philippine teachers, stating that she is very happy with them.

**Bryant**, thank you to all the staff. Condolences to the Patrick Anderson family and to the maintenance staff.

12) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Kauffman seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to go in to executive session for "Matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential." (BB 9321 Executive Sessions)

- For personnel reasons, which if made public, would tend to prejudice the reputation and character of the individual(s); provided the individual(s) has waived their right to be heard in public session.

- 9:20 p.m. into executive session  
Motion carries. (5/0)  
Reconvene meeting at 9:33 p.m.

13) **ADJOURNMENT**

President Bryant adjourned the regular meeting of the GCSD Board of Education at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Fred Huntington, Board Secretary

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Date Minutes Approved