

**Galena City School District
Board of Education Meeting
Charles Evans Community Library
Wednesday, February 14, 2024**

1) CALL TO ORDER

President Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, Naomi Winter, Lynn Betterton, Charlie Green, Lavern Demoski, and Jason Johnson.
Other Guest: Briana Evans, Rebecca Dunn, Evan, Everett Walton, and Lawrence Stevens.

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 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)

5) STUDENT/STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Music Class, IDEA Robotics Team, and Board Appreciation presentation.

6) STUDENT/STAFF COMMENTS

No comments.

7) COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Toys for Tots

8) REPORTS - *Consent Agenda

Board member Bodony made a motion to approve the agenda.

Board member Cleaver seconded the motion.

a. **Secretary's Report** - January 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

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 presented her that 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.

e. **SEGA Report** – Tim Kalke’s report was included in the Board packet.

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

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

g. **Correspondence** – None

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

9) **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Board Policy 3300 Revisions – 2nd & Final Reading

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Kauffman seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the attached Board Policies as a 2nd & Final 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 2nd & Final Reading.
2. Proposed text for removal is in red font and has a ~~striketrough~~. 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 & BP 6148

- Brand NEW to GCSD

- BB 9200

Motion carries. Board (5/1)

10) **NEW BUSINESS**

a. 2024-2025 School Calendar – 1st Reading

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Kauffman seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the presented 2024-2025 School Calendar as a 1st Reading.

DISCUSSION:

1. GCSD administration has developed a draft 2024-2025 School Calendar based on consideration of historical calendars, this year's calendar, and advice from many district stakeholders. The draft before the Board has been through several iterations based on feedback during the consultative conversations.
2. This proposed school calendar complies with Alaska statutes and regulations and with Cognia, GCSD's accrediting organization.

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

b. GCSD 2024-2025 Certified Staff Contracts

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Bodony seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve contracts for the attached list of certified teachers and administrators for the 2024-2025 school year.

DISCUSSION:

1. **BP 4112.1 Contracts (Certificated Personnel)** is attached that provides guidelines for the issuing of contracts for certificated personnel.
2. After January 1, the Board may issue teacher contracts for the following school year. Contracts shall be approved by the Board and signed by at least two Board members.
3. This list represents a staffing plan that will support each of our programs for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

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

c. 2024-2025 Administrative Organization

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Bodony seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the attached 2024-2025 GCSD Administrative Organization.

DISCUSSION:

1. **BP 2100 Administrative Staff Organization** and **BP 2110 Organization Chart/Lines of Responsibility** are attached that outline the responsibilities of the School Board and Superintendent to ensure a single administrative system organized so that appropriate decision making may take place at various levels in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations.
2. The 2024-2025 GCSD Administrative Organization represents an administrative staffing plan that will support each of our programs for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

d. IDEA Region F Robotics Travel & Funding Request

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Cleaver seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve out-of-state travel and one-time funding of up to **\$8,000.00** for travel expenses to get the IDEA Region F FIRST LEGO League "Hungry Robots" team to/from their out-of-state competition during spring semester 2024.

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.

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

e. GRS Controls – SHS Ethernet Re-Wire

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Cleaver 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 3312** is attached that provides guidance for the ratification of all contracts by the GCSD School Board.
2. **BP 3300** is attached that provides guidance on Board action for expenditures over \$100,000.
3. The Request for Proposal (RFP) for this much-needed digital infrastructure project hit the streets on December 13, 2023. The attached quote from GRS Controls, LLC was the only responsive bid received by the January 11, 2024 deadline.
4. Per GCSD request, GRS Controls updated the quote on February 7, 2024 to include budgetary estimates for “IT Closet Construction, and access panel installation” and for “Moving DEMARC for Utility Adder.” The updated quote is the last two pages of the attachment.
5. The \$535,000.00 includes a 10% contingency.
6. GCSD’s past experiences working with GRS Controls have been positive.

Roll Call

Karin Bodony – Yes

Shirley Cleaver – Yes

Marylee Kauffman – Yes

Fred Huntington – Yes

Jenny Bryant – Yes

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

f. Early Graduation Requests

Board member Bodony made the motion.

Board member Cleaver seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the request for the May 2024 early graduation requests of the following IDEA students:

DISCUSSION:

- Dean O’Dell, IDEA Director, has requested GCSD School Board approval for early graduation of these students upon successful completion of the spring semester of the 2023-24 school year by these students.
- Attached are letters of support for these early graduation requests.

Motion carries. Board (5/0)

g. Staff Adjustments

Board member Cleaver made the motion.

Board member Kauffman seconded the motion.

MOTION: I move to approve the following hires:

Mekenzie Beaver –

Early Learning Aide (SHS)

Audril McCarthy –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Alex Fokas –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Marta DeLeon –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Laurie Dolgner –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Isabella Conway –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Debbie Chapman –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Shannon Cowles –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Taryn Lackey –

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Kelvin Odegard –
Justina Loughridge –
Additions: (effective July 1)

Brett Slaathaug –
Kelly McBride –
Keliah Havener
Tal Norvell

Transitions: (effective July 1)
Lori Zulliger –
Tal Norvell

Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)
Clerical III (IDEA Business Office)

Activities Director (SHS/GILA)
Assistant Director of Special Education Services (Statewide)
Coordinator of Early Learning (Juneau)

Site Administrator (IDEA – Wasilla)
Computer Tech (IDEA – Juneau)

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)

11) **BOARD COMMENTS:**

Cleaver: Commented on the number of meetings per year, agenda items, and AASB travel.

Huntington: Commented on AASB conference in Juneau.

Bodony: Thanked everyone who went to Juneau. Thank you for decorating the showcase.

Kauffman: Thanked the Music department. Want to be updated on upcoming meetings.

Bryant: Thanked all the staff who traveled to Juneau. Condolences to Margaret Nollner’s family and friends.

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; provided the individual(s) has waived their right to be heard in public session.
- 9:46 p.m. into executive session
Motion carries. (5/0)
Reconvene meeting at 10:41 p.m.

13) **ADJOURNMENT**

President Bryant adjourned the regular meeting of the GCSD Board of Education at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Huntington, Board Secretary

Date Minutes Approved