

GOUVERNEUR CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 GOUVERNEUR NEW YORK 13642  
 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education of the Gouverneur Central School District was called to order by President David Fenlong, at 5:29 PM, in the High School Auditorium.

Trustees Present: Todd E. Bates, Brooke Bush, Dr. William Cartwright, David Fenlong, Lisa McGregor, Nickolas Ormasen, Laurie M. Roberts.

Trustees Absent: Laura Spicer.

Also Present: Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools; Dale R. Munn Jr., Business Manager; Jessica Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent; Cory Wood, Executive Director of Operations & Personnel; Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk.

II. COMMENT PERIOD

A parent addressed the board to question a school procedure she felt was not in the best interest of her own students. Superintendent Kelly said she would arrange to have the building principal call the parent and address the concerns. President Fenlong thanked her for coming forward and said the Board appreciates the communication.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Wildcat News

Superintendent Kelly shared news about the successful orientations that took place, beginning with the Freshman Orientation on August 28. The Middle School Orientation and the Elementary Meet and Greet were both held on September 3rd, and there was a record number of students and families in attendance. She concluded by saying, "the education of our students is a partnership with families and with this level of family involvement, we will be able to work together to help all of our students be successful."

B. Upcoming Events

Superintendent Kelly highlighted the upcoming *Walk With a Doc* on September 14, adding that following that event, there will be a celebration honoring Dr. Schuessler for 40 years of service of providing care to the children and families of Gouverneur and the surrounding communities.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Financial Report – August 2024

*(See Sheet #1, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Business Manager Dale Munn summarized the points of interest for the month of August. The district's STAR reimbursement continues to decrease as New York State shifts to a STAR credit paid directly to homeowners rather than as a deduction on their tax bill. He added that one of the benefits to homeowners is that the STAR credit by direct payment can increase up to 2% every year, whereas the STAR exemption stays the same. In terms of revenues, he stated that many financial analysts are predicting that a decrease to the interest rate will occur soon. That action will decrease the amount our investments earn, but at the same time will benefit us with lower bond rates for our capital project. Regarding expenditures, Mr. Munn highlighted a recent large outlay of over \$34,000 to Fowler Hydro, explaining that was our percentage of the settled amount of their contested property tax assessment over the last 4-5 years. This affects our fund balance since it will deplete and close the *Reserve for Tax Certiorari*. That Reserve is used to pay for prior year judgments and claims in tax certiorari proceedings, and he reminded board members that was the only outstanding claim, and once the claim is settled it can't be challenged again. Discussion ensued about the use of the *Reserve for Tax Certiorari*, with Mr. Munn explaining it is not legal to add funds to that Reserve until there is a viable claim for an assessment challenge.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policies

*(See Sheet #2, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Bates, and seconded by Trustee McGregor, that the Board of Education approve the revisions to the Board Policy Manual, effective immediately, as presented:

September 9, 2024

## V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

A. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policies (Cont.)

- 5620 – Fixed Asset Inventories, Accounting, and Tracking
- 6192 – Workplace Violence Prevention Policy Statement
- 6470 – Staff Use of Computerized Information Resources and Email
- 7210 – Promotion and Retention of Students
- 7370 – Student Use of Computerized Information Resources
- 7521 – Students with Life-Threatening Health Conditions
- 7530 – Child Abuse and Maltreatment
- 8260 – Title I Parent & Family Engagement
- 8271 – Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering Policy

**DISCUSSION:** Trustee Roberts asked the superintendent to review the policy process for the benefit of those new to it. Mrs. Kelly explained that typically the updates are brought to us by Erie I BOCES Policy Services. The policy committee reviews the recommendations, seeking legal advice when needed, then brings them to the full board for two readings.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. REVISED POLICIES, ADOPTED AS PRESENTED.**

*[Clerk's note: Revised Policy 5685, Use of Surveillance Cameras, was not included for the second reading and adoption. It will return at a future meeting.]*

B. Second Reading and Approval of Unchanged Policies

*(See Sheet #3, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Vice-President Bates, that the Board of Education approve that the following policies remain unchanged in the Board Policy Manual, as presented:

- 5670 – Records Management
- 5672 – Information Security Breach and Notification
- 5673 – Employee Personal Identifying Information
- 5674 – Data Networks and Security Access

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. POLICIES APPROVED – UNCHANGED - AS PRESENTED.**

C. Second Reading and Approval to Delete Policies

*(See Sheet #4, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee McGregor, and seconded by Trustee Dr. Cartwright, that the Board of Education approve the deletion of the following policies from the Board Policy Manual, effective immediately, as presented:

- 1630 – Absentee Ballots
- 6212.1 – Incidental Teaching
- 7513 – Medication and Personal Care Items

**DISCUSSION:** In response to Trustee Roberts, Superintendent Kelly clarified for those present that policies are often recommended for deletion if they duplicate existing New York State education law or are repeated in a different policy.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. POLICIES DELETED AS PRESENTED.**

D. Board Meeting Structure and Committee Designations (Discussion)

Board committee representation was established as follows: GEA Labor Management – Fenlong, Roberts, Bush, McGregor; GAA Negotiations – Roberts, Bush, Spicer; GSRPU Negotiations – McGregor, Cartwright, Roberts; Capital Project – Cartwright, Bates, Fenlong, Ormasen; Safety Plan – Fenlong, Ormasen; Transportation – Bates, Spicer, Bush; Technology – Bates, Ormasen; Policy – Fenlong, Bates, McGregor. President Fenlong brought up the board meeting structure, explaining that there is one vacancy on the 9-person board, and asked Superintendent Kelly to summarize the options available to fill the vacancy. It was decided to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

## VI. CONSENT AGENDA

President David Fenlong asked if any member on the Board wished to have any item on the Consent Agenda removed for special consideration and discussion. No member asked any item to be removed.

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda:**

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Dr. Cartwright, seconded by Trustee McGregor, that the Board of Education approve items A-C as a consent agenda:

A. Minutes

Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 19, 2024, and the Special Meeting of August 26, 2024, as presented.

B. Claims Auditor's Reports

*(See Sheet #5, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Approve the Claims Auditor's Reports for the period 8/08/24 – 9/03/24 as presented.

C. CSE Business

*(See Sheet #6, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Approve the services, including additions, modifications and deletions, for the following classified students, as reflected in the attached CSE Meeting Minutes report:

5102291	5104002	5102021	5100766	5102531	5104964
5103056	5104647				

**Vote on Consent Agenda:**

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

President David Fenlong asked if any member on the Board wished to have any item on the Consent Agenda – Personnel removed for special consideration and discussion. No member asked for any item to be removed.

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda – Personnel:**

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Vice-President Bates, that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel items, A-B, as a Consent Agenda:

A. Resignations

Accept the request for resignation from Amber Hosmer, from her position as Individual Aide, effective August 26, 2024.

B. Appointments1. Instructional

- a) Gouverneur Elementary Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors (Extended Day After School Program) for the 2024-2025 school year: Corey Rogers, Penny Matice.
- b) Middle School Afterschool Tutoring – Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors (Extended Day After School Program) for the 2024-2025 school year: Jennie Dalton, Chris Cognetti, Michele Brenno, Shari Ronas, Denise Baer, Lisa Stowell, Terri Whitaker, Barb Gauthier, Brock Davison, Brandon Griffin, Kim Reed, Nola Farns, Julie Neiss, Penny Simons, Danielle Peake, Melinda Schiszler, Gina Taylor, Sean Devlin, Desiree Simmons, Candace Brown, Sarah Scott, Melissa Sweeney, Stacey Devlin (Tutor and Coordinator).
- c) High School Afterschool Tutoring - Instructors. Appoint the following personnel as Tutoring Instructors (Extended Day After School Program) for the 2024-2025 school year: Kathleen Beese, Lisa Carbone, Jill Davis, Lisa Dunkelberg, Robert Dunkelberg, Jean Johnson, Sam Sochia, Sarah Wood.
- d) High School Detention Monitors. Appoint the following personnel for the 2024-2025 school year: Kathleen Beese, Jill Davis, Michelle Deaton, Lisa Dunkelberg, Robert Dunkelberg, Jean Johnson, Sam Sochia, Sarah Wood.

## VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

B. Appointments (Cont.)2. Non-Instructional

- a) Individual Aide. Appoint Erika Woodrow to the position of Individual Aide in the non-competitive class of the civil service, commencing on September 3, 2024, at an annual salary in accordance with the Gouverneur School Related Personnel Union agreement, Individual Aide 7.5HR Level 1, from the current GSRPU salary schedule.
- b) 6-hr Food Service Helper. Appoint Crystal Christman to the position of 6-hr Food Service Helper in the labor class of the civil service, commencing on September 16, 2024, at an annual salary in accordance with the Gouverneur School Related Personnel Union agreement, Food Service Helper 6HR Level 1, from the current GSRPU salary schedule.

3. Substitutes and Tutors

Approve the appointment of substitutes and tutors for 2024-25, pending completion of all requirements, as presented: Pat Williams, certified teacher; Tanner Hitchcock, B&G; Amber Hosmer, teacher, assistant, aide

4. Extra-Curricular

2024-25 Advisors. Approve the appointments of the 2024-2025 Advisors, to be compensated in accordance with the Club Salary Schedule of the GTA contract, as presented:

DEANONIAN	CORY V. YOUNG	CLASS A	Step 10
MUSICAL DIRECTOR # 1	EMILY M. BASON	CLASS A	Step 7
ART CLUB HS	ROBERT D. DECKER	CLASS B	Step 11
FFA	KYLIE A. TORRES	CLASS B	Step 3
SELECT CHOIR (CHAMBER SINGERS)	BRETT M. WORDEN	CLASS B	Step 2
DEANONIAN 2	BETHANIE J. DENESHA	CLASS B	Step 10
TRAPSHOOTING TEAM - FALL	PAUL D. CAPPELLINO	CLASS B	Step 2
TRAPSHOOTING TEAM - SPRING	PAUL D. CAPPELLINO	CLASS B	Step 2
DRAMA CLUB 7 & 8	BRANDON A. GRIFFIN	CLASS C	Step 3
HONOR SOCIETY 7 & 8	MONICA L. SCOTT	CLASS C	Step 4
HONOR SOCIETY 9-12	JULIA M. STREETER	CLASS C	Step 2
STAGE BAND	OLIVIA R. MONTAGNO	CLASS C	Step 1
STUDENT COUNCIL HIGH SCHOOL	HEATHER L. PARKER	CLASS C	Step 1
VARSITY CLUB	SARAH J. WOOD	CLASS C	Step 3
ADVISOR, GRADE 11, #1	KATHLEEN M. STAMPER	CLASS D	Step 6
ADVISOR, GRADE 11 #2	BOBBIE HOLMES	CLASS D	Step 2
ADVISOR, GRADE 12 #1	BETHANIE J. DENESHA	CLASS D	Step 14
ADVISOR, GRADE 12 #2	SARAH J. WOOD	CLASS D	Step 6
KEY CLUB	EMILY B. MASHAW	CLASS D	Step 2
STUDENT COUNCIL 7 & 8	HEATHER I. ROSE	CLASS D	Step 23
WHIZ QUIZ	EMILY M. BASON	CLASS D	Step 6
MUSICAL SET DIRECTOR	ROBERT D. DECKER	CLASS D	Step 3
ADVISOR, GRADE 10 #1	JEAN C. JOHNSON	CLASS E	Step 2
ADVISOR, GRADE 9 #1	HEATHER L. PARKER	CLASS E	Step 13
COMPETITIVE SPEAKING CLUB	MICHAEL J. BASON	CLASS E	Step 8
COSTUME CLUB	MEAGHAN A. MATTHEWS	CLASS E	Step 3
MATH CLUB	CORY V. YOUNG	CLASS E	Step 5
SENIOR HIGH FALL PLAY	MICHAEL J. BASON	CLASS E	Step 3
K-KIDS CLUB (0.5)	ALISSA M. COLLIER	CLASS E	Step 2
K-KIDS CLUB (.5)	KAYLA M. SIDE	CLASS E	Step 2
ROBOTICS - ELEM	BROOKE A. JUNE	CLASS E	Step 5
BAND PEP	OLIVIA R. MONTAGNO	CLASS F	Step 1
TRI-M ADVISOR (shared)	BRETT M. WORDEN	VOLUNTEER	
TRI-M ADVISOR (shared)	OLIVIA R. MONTAGNO	VOLUNTEER	

## VII. CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

B. Appointments (Cont.)5. Other

- a) School District Alternate Foster Care Liaison. Appoint Kayley Learn as Alternate School District Liaison for students in foster care, in accordance with Board Policy 7133, Education of Students in Foster Care.
- b) McKinney-Vento 2024-2025. Through the McKinney-Vento consortium grant we are able to have the following people support our identified homeless population: M-V DTST Members: Monica Scott, Kayley Learn, Christie Warren, Grace Mashaw, Pam Mahay (Support Leader), Stephanie Plaisted (Support Leader), M-V Mentors: Monica Scott (Liaison/Mentor); Hunter Hitchman, Kayley Learn, Christie Warren, Grace Mashaw.

6. Students

Approve the appointment of the following student workers as Fitness Room attendants for 2024-25, pending completion of all requirements, as presented: Cayden Middleton, Caleb Premo, Raegan Devlin

**Vote on Consent Agenda – Personnel:**

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## VIII. OTHER PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS:

A. Mentors and Mentees

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee McGregor, and seconded by Trustee Roberts, that the Board of Education approve the following teachers as Mentors or Mentees for the 2024-2025 school year:

Mentees:

Ashley Barr  
Jarrett Bullock  
Alexis Currier  
Jennie Dalton  
Cheyenne Dann  
Bradley Davis  
Kaitlin Ford  
Leigh-ann Kirby  
Autumn Kirker  
Angela LaJoy  
Taylor Marcellus  
Lindsey McCormick  
Allison Medley  
Olivia Montagno  
Richard Patton  
Taylor Rollins  
Jacqueline Scott-Hardy  
Penny Simons  
Catherine Yablonski  
Emma York

Mentors:

Jennifer Anson  
Christine Cognetti  
Alissa Collier  
Robert Decker  
Bethanie Denesha  
Lisa Dunkelberg  
Meagan Dupuis-Fregoe  
Kayley Learn  
Megan Morrow  
Amber Ormasen  
Stephanie Plaisted  
Megan Reddick  
Monica Scott  
Elizabeth Siebels  
Sarah Stedman  
Danielle Stowell  
Julia Streeter (mentoring 2 mentees)  
Sarah Wood  
Justin Young

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MENTORS AND MENTEES, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fire Safety Inspection Report

*(See Sheet #7, Board Minutes File Folder)*

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Trustee Bush, and seconded by Trustee McGregor, that the Board of Education approve the Fire Safety Inspection Report dated 07/18/24; all items listed have been rectified and we have received the Certificate of Occupancy.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

## IX. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

B. Compensation Rate for Athletic Contest Helpers

Upon presentation and recommendation of Superintendent Jacquelyn L. Kelly, motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Vice-President Bates, that the Board of Education approve to compensate Chain Gang, Scorekeepers and Shot Clock Operators at the rate of \$30/contest, effective September 1, 2024.

DISCUSSION: President Fenlong commented that “we have some great people filling important roles, and we appreciate everything they do.”

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. COMPENSATION RATE FOR ATHLETIC CONTEST HELPERS, APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

C. Authorization to Declare as Surplus and Sell/Dispose of Equipment

Upon presentation and recommendation of Jacquelyn L. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools, motion made by Vice-President Bates, and seconded by Trustee Bush, that the Board of Education declare the following as surplus and authorize the Business Manager to sell/dispose of the items:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Rational</i>	<i>Disposal Method</i>
2014 Dodge Caravan	2c4rdgbgxgr335362	Replaced	Auction
Wrestling Mats	3 pieces	Updated to safer more portable model, need space	Donate to GWC

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. ITEMS DECLARED AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZED FOR SALE/DISPOSAL AS PRESENTED.**

## X. COMMENT PERIOD

No comments were offered.

## XI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Trustee Roberts, and seconded by Trustee McGregor, to adjourn to executive session to discuss the employment history of particular persons, and pending litigation.

YEAS: All Trustees Present    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:08 PM.**

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

**Open session resumed at 7:30 PM.**

## XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, motion made by Trustee Dr. Cartwright, and seconded by Trustee McGregor, to return to open session and adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM.

YEAS: All Trustees Present.    NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file  
Tatia Z. Kennedy, District Clerk

Signature on file  
David Fenlong, President