

**Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools**  
1076 N. 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Galesburg, MI 49053 \* 269-484-2000

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

November 19, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. – High School Media Center

Next Regular Board Meeting: December 17, 2012 - 7:00 p.m. – High School Media Center

**MINUTES**

**Superintendent:** Tim Vagts  
**Board Trustees:** Karen Rutherford, Sandra Noteboom-Wood, Richard Fletcher  
Chuck Whitman, Beth Wilson, Bob Kinas, Lynne Wells,

Number of people in audience: 26

**I. ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**A. Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was called to order by President Rutherford at 7:03 p.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**C. Roll Call.**

**Members Present:**

Karen Rutherford  
Sandra Noteboom-Wood  
Richard Fletcher  
Beth Wilson  
Lynne Wells  
Bob Kinas

**Member Absent:**

Chuck Whitman

**Administrators Present:**

Tim Vagts, Superintendent  
Richard Bowers, High School Principal  
Lynn Buchkowski, Special Education Director

**D. Agenda Approval.** A motion was made by B. Kinas and supported by R. Fletcher to approve the November 19, 2012, GACS Board of Education regular meeting agenda moving item D. under section II. Reports to item A and then continuing down the list of reports.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0. Motion Carried.

**E. Secretary's Report.** Recommend approval of:

The regular meeting minutes of October 15, 2012, the closed session meeting minutes of October 15, 2012, the special meeting minutes of November 5, 2012, the closed session meeting minutes of November 5, 2012, and the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of November 5, 2012.

**F. Accounts Payable Report.** Recommend approval of accounts payable in the amount of: \$34,054.49 for October 5, 2012, \$110,433.33 for October 12, 2012, \$843.00 for October 18, 2012, \$110,397.00 for October 26, 2012, \$217,300.27 for October 26, 2012.

**Grand Total: \$473,028.09.**

**G. Treasurer’s Report.** Recommend approval of the Treasurer’s Report dated October 31, 2012, showing a balance of **\$768,501.10.**

**H. Personnel.**

**APPROVAL:**

Raquel Kruse has resigned from her position as .34 Middle School Spanish teacher, and Middle School Library Clerk, Steven Erickson has been hired as High School Alternative Education Teacher, Leigh Ann Link has been hired as Middle School Spanish Teacher. Shana Wiese has resigned as Middle School English Language Arts Chairperson, and Terri Jordan has resigned as Middle School Science Chairperson.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

Tom Nieuwenhuis has resigned from his position as Middle School Behavior Specialist, Alexander Hill has been hired as Middle School Wrestling Coach, David Wayne has been recommended for the position of High School Bowling Coach (not a paid position), Christina Duschene has been hired as Varsity Softball Coach, Anna Dinzik has been hired as High School Special Education Paraprofessional, and Amanda Whittaker has been hired as part-time Central Office Receptionist.

A motion was made by R. Fletcher and supported by B. Kinas to approve agenda items E through H. Roll Call Vote.

**Members:**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Kinas         | yes |
| Wells         | yes |
| Wilson        | yes |
| Fletcher      | yes |
| Noteboom-Wood | yes |
| Rutherford    | yes |

**AYES: 6      NAYS: 0.** Motion Carried.

**II. REPORTS**

**A. High School Failure Rates – Richard Bowers**

Richard Bowers, high school principal, discussed and reviewed the high school student failure rates in comparison to last years’ data. Improvements are being seen due to interventions that have been put into place at the high school.

**B. Community Input – Agenda Items Only**

None

**C. Audit Report – Yeo and Yeo**

Kristi Watson of Yeo and Yeo, the auditing firm that conducted the district’s annual audit, was on hand to present the 2011-12 audit report.

**D. Transportation Presentation – Diane Doorlag, Sarah Alberts**

Sarah Alberts and Diane Doorlag gave a transportation update. A community transportation committee was formed and one of the outcomes was the creation of a new district-wide transportation behavior rubric and policy.

**E. Primary Curriculum Work/United Way and Eaton Corporation Grant**

Tim Vagts, Superintendent, stated that things are moving forward in regard to a reading grant proposal submitted to United Way and the Eaton Corporation.

**F. MASB Reports**

Lynne Wells, Beth Wilson and Tim Vagts all reported on the Michigan Association of School Boards conference session they attended recently at the MASB Conference in Detroit.

**III. BUSINESS ITEMS – DISCUSSION**

**A. Bylaw Recommendations**

Richard Fletcher discussed the recommended changes to the school board bylaws.

**B. G-A Alternative High School Handbook**

Steven Erickson, alternative education teacher, reviewed the high school alternative education handbook.

**C. School Board Goals**

The Board discussed their goals for the 2012-13 school year.

**D. Superintendent Goals**

The Board reviewed the 2012-13 goals for the Superintendent.

**IV. BUSINESS ITEMS – DECISION**

**A. Transportation Policy and Behavior Rubric.**

A motion was made by S. Noteboom-Wood and supported by B. Wilson to approve the Transportation Policy and Behavior Rubric. Roll Call Vote.

**Members:**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Wells         | yes |
| Fletcher      | yes |
| Noteboom-Wood | yes |
| Kinas         | yes |
| Wilson        | yes |
| Rutherford    | yes |

**AYES: 6 NAYS: 0. Motion Carried.**

**B. School Board Goals**

A motion was made by B. Kinas and supported by R. Fletcher to approve the School Board goals as presented. Roll Call Vote.

**Members:**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Wilson        | yes |
| Fletcher      | yes |
| Wells         | yes |
| Kinas         | yes |
| Noteboom-Wood | yes |
| Rutherford    | yes |

**AYES:** 6    **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

**C. Superintendent Goals**

A motion was made by B. Kinas and supported by B. Wilson to approve the Superintendent Goals as presented. Roll Call Vote.

**Members:**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Wells         | yes |
| Kinas         | yes |
| Fletcher      | yes |
| Noteboom-Wood | yes |
| Wilson        | yes |
| Rutherford    | yes |

**AYES:** 6    **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

**V. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Public Participation**

Jeff McCubbin addressed the Board regarding the 2011-12 financial audit.

**B. Board Comments**

Richard Fletcher congratulated the three newly elected school board members; Jessica Dolph, Bill Gates, and Robert Piper. Mr. Fletcher also congratulated four G-A band students who performed recently with the Central Michigan University honors band. Mr. Fletcher recognized the small group of boy scouts who were in attendance working on citizenship in the community by attending a school board meeting. The group of boy scouts also led the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of tonight’s meeting. Bob Kinas, Sandy Noteboom-Wood and Lynne Wells also congratulated the newly elected school board members.

**C. Superintendent’s Update**

1. WiFi Update

Wi-Fi upgrades are complete and working great at the Primary and Middle School.

2. Facebook

The G-A Facebook page will be updated regularly with positive news by the new central office receptionist, Amanda Whittaker.

3. Bus Cameras

Superintendent Vagts is in the process of gathering information on bus cameras. A Title IIA grant will pay for the cameras as they will be used for a security purposes.

**VI. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. Negotiations**

A motion was made by B. Kinas and supported by B. Wilson to enter into closed session at 10:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations.

**AYES:** 6 **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by B. Wilson and supported by L. Wells to come out of closed session and resume open session at 10:51 p.m.

**AYES:** 6 **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The November 19, 2012 regular meeting adjourned at 10:51 p.m.

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Karen Rutherford, President

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Richard Fletcher, Secretary

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Brenda Sutherland, Recording Secretary