

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

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

September 17, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. – High School Media Center

Next Regular Board Meeting: October 15, 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: 17.

**I. ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS:**

- A. Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was called to order by President Rutherford at 7:02 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance.**
- C. Roll Call.**

**Members Present:**

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

**Administrators Present:**

Tim Vagts, Superintendent  
Dr. Garth Cooper, Primary School Principal  
Jeremy Mansfield, Middle School Principal  
Richard Bowers, High School Principal  
Lynne Buchkowski, Special Education Director

- D. Agenda Approval.** A motion was made by R. Fletcher and supported by B. Kinas to approve the September 17, 2012 GACS Board of Education regular meeting agenda adding item B. Transportation Handbook under Section IV. Business Items – Decision.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0.

- E. Secretary's Report.** Recommend approval of:  
The regular meeting minutes of August 20, 2012, the closed session meeting minutes of August 20, 2012, and the special meeting minutes of August 29, 2012.
- F. Accounts Payable Report.** Recommend approval of accounts payable in the amount of:

\$74,274.51 for August 3, 2012, \$161,411.38 for August 16, 2012, \$111,555.37 for August 16, 2012, \$1,730.00 for August 29, 2012, and \$45.00 for August 23, 2012. **Grand Total: \$349,016.26.**

**G. Treasurer's Report.** Recommend approval of the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2012, showing a balance of **\$2,430,975.99.**

**H. Personnel.**

**APPROVAL:**

Megan Brummel has been hired as Elementary Music Teacher, Autumn Roodbeen as 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, and Megan Wilson as Primary School Resource Room Teacher.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

Denise Nesti has been hired as Title I Paraprofessional at the Primary, Brenda Hinds has been hired as Middle School Special Education Paraprofessional.

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

**Members:**

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

**AYES:** 7     **NAYS:** 0.     Motion Carried.

**II. REPORTS**

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

The following community members all shared their concerns about student transportation to and from school: Kathy Morton, Keith Diller, Laura Bresson, Lisa Coleman, and Tammy Hoffman.

**B. Middle School Camera and Technology Report – Jeremy Mansfield**

Jeremy Mansfield, Middle School Principal, reported on the need to replace the security cameras at the middle school to improve student and employee safety. Mr. Mansfield reported that there are funds available in his building budget that could be used to start replacing this system. Mr. Mansfield also gave a brief update on the types of technology in place at the middle school and how middle school students are utilizing technology in the classroom.

**C. Alternative Education Report – Richard Bowers**

Richard Bowers, High School Principal, gave an update on the new alternative education program in place at GAHS. He stated that there are currently ten students enrolled in the

program, and may have room for up to 15 students. Mr. Bowers also stated that he will bring back recommendations in regard to an attendance policy and number of credits needed to graduate.

**D. Auxilio Transportation Report**

Sarah Alberts, Auxilio Human Resource Manager, gave a statement regarding the first weeks of student transportation and how Auxilio is working to “fine-tune” the system. Efforts are being made to work with administration and parents to improve the safety and efficiency of transporting students to and from school.

**III. BUSINESS ITEMS – DISCUSSION**

**A. Board Election in November**

Karen Rutherford, Board President, stated that there are three board seats up for election in November. Ms. Rutherford suggested coming up with some ideas on how to identify school district residents who would be interested in running for these seats. Three members in the audience indicated that they have filed paperwork with the city clerk to run as write-in candidates in the November election.

**B. Oakland Schools Virtual Learning Academy - Kalamazoo RESA**

Tim Vagts, Superintendent, reported on Oakland Schools Virtual Learning Academy – Kalamazoo RESA agreement. He stated that Kalamazoo RESA has partnered with Oakland Schools Virtual Learning Academy to provide online learning for students in grades 6-8 whose parents choose to home-school their children. Mr. Vagts stated that this is a joint effort between the districts in the Kalamazoo RESA service area and recommended that the district approve the agreement.

**C. Transportation Handbook**

Tim Vagts, Superintendent, stated that a new transportation handbook has been developed by the administrative team. A revised copy will be brought back to the Board in October for approval.

**IV. BUSINESS ITEMS – DECISION**

**A. Oakland Schools Virtual Learning Academy – Kalamazoo RESA**

A motion was made by S. Noteboom-Wood and supported by L. Wells to approve the Oakland Schools Virtual Learning Academy Agreement as presented . Roll Call Vote.

**Members:**

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

**AYES:** 7     **NAYS:** 0.     Motion Carried.

**B. Transportation Handbook**

A motion was made by C. Whitman and supported by R. Fletcher to postpone this decision item until the final revisions are made and presented to the Board for approval in October.

**Members:**

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

**AYES:** 7    **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

**V. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Public Participation**

The following community members addressed the Board regarding transportation concerns: Tammy Hoffman, Lisa Coleman and Jessica Dolph. Candy Thweatt and Diane Doorlag addressed the Board regarding the High School Yearbook. Keith Diller addressed the Board regarding Robert's Rules of Order, and Jeff McCubbin addressed the Board regarding the Budget and cell phone use policy.

**B. Board Comments**

Beth Wilson asked if there was a school calendar in place yet. Richard Fletcher thanked the audience for their participation.

**C. Superintendent's Update**

1. Katie Fotis MACUL Grant
2. Drug Testing
3. Audit

**VI. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. Negotiations**

A motion was made by B. Kinas and supported by B. Wilson to enter into closed session at 10:16 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiations.

**AYES:** 7    **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by R. Fletcher and supported by C. Whitman to come out of closed session and resume open session at 11:14 p.m.

**AYES:** 7    **NAYS:** 0. Motion Carried.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The September 17, 2012 regular meeting adjourned at 11:14 p.m.

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Karen Rutherford, President

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Richard Fletcher, Secretary

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Brenda Sutherland, Recording Secretary