

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools
1076 N. 37th Street, Galesburg, MI 49053 * 269-484-2000
Regular Board of Education Meeting
August 17, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting – Meeting ID: 341 600 4497

To join Zoom Meeting by computer:

- Enter <https://zoom.us/j/3416004497>
- Then Click Open Zoom Meeting
- Enter Password: **GA2020**

MINUTES

Superintendent: Wendy Maynard-Somers
Board Trustees: Jeff McCubbin, Diana Walker, Stephanie Knoblock, Archie Silkworth, Carolyn Martin, Kim Hubbard, Ben Overgaard

This is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jeff McCubbin, Diana Walker, Stephanie Knoblock, Archie Silkworth, Carolyn Martin, Kim Hubbard, Ben Overgaard. Members Absent: None

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by K. Hubbard and supported by S. Knoblock to approve the agenda as modified adding Closed Session as item X. and moving Adjournment to item XI. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion Carried.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes: July 20, 2020 and July 23, 2020.

B. Approval of Accounts Payable

Accounts payable in the amount of \$183,344.99.

C. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report dated July 31, 2020 with a balance of \$2,706,727.14.

D. Approval of New Hires/Resignations/Retirements ***New Hire Introductions**

New Hires: Christine Walmsley, High School Counselor, Erin Burkett Special Education Teacher

Consultant (.5 FTE G-A/.5 FTE Parchment) Resignation: Laura Ross, High School English Teacher.

Retirement: Pam Triplett, High School Media Clerk.

Motion by K. Hubbard and supported by D. Walker to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call

Vote: Martin-yes, Hubbard-yes, Knoblock-yes, Silkworth-yes, Overgaard-yes, Walker-yes, McCubbin-yes

Motion Carried 7-0.

VI. REPORTS

A. Community Input – Agenda Items Only

Eric Curtiss, High School Teacher/GAEA President, Topics: Reopening Plan, staff safety-air quality, merit pay for teachers.

Vision Statement:

To encourage learning, inspire pride and support all students. WE ARE G-A!

Mission Statement:

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools will empower all students to be productive and responsible citizens.

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, and transgender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic, (collectively "Protected Classes") in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. The District's Compliance Officers shall handle inquiries regarding the Board's nondiscrimination policies and any complaint of discrimination.

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VII. BUSINESS ITEMS – DISCUSSION

A. Monthly Budget Discussion

Phillip Heasley, Business Manager, summarized the budget documents included in the board packet.

B. Reopening Plan

Superintendent Maynard-Somers gave an overview of the GACS reopening plan. She stated that 340 parents responded to the survey with the majority choosing the hybrid model. Principals are working on open house plans for 4th and 8th grade students, keeping social distancing in mind. The Primary is offering the G-A Enhancement Center as an option for students to be at school on their days off. Technology orders are being worked on and the transportation department is working on getting forms out. Superintendent Maynard-Somers stated that the county health department will work closely with the district should any Covid-19 exposure incidents arise. Superintendent Maynard-Somers also informed the Board that the Continuity of Learning Plan for G-A will have to be recertified by the Board each month as a requirement of the Michigan Department of Education.

C. Delaying the Start of the School Year

Superintendent Maynard-Somers expressed to the Board that she highly recommends that the first day of school be delayed until Tuesday, September 8th due to a lengthy list of things that need to be done prior to students returning.

VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS – DECISION

A. Delaying the Start of the School Year

Motion by A. Silkworth and supported by K. Hubbard to delay the start of the school year as recommended to Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Roll Call Vote: Martin-yes, Hubbard-yes, Knoblock-yes, Silkworth-yes, Overgaard-yes, Walker-yes, McCubbin-yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Participation

Theresa Shepherd, High School Special Education Teacher, Topics: air purifiers, first day of school. Penny, Topics: G-A Enhancement Center, 5-day a week model, mask breaks, temperature checks, physical contact with students. Eric Curtiss Topics: physical contact with students, teachers not trained to determine symptoms, moving start date to September 14th. Terri Jordan, Topic: waiver form to not have temperature check. Janan Zimmerman, Eastern Services Area Special Education Director, Topic: fully supports Superintendent's decisions for back to school. Michael Ball, Kindergarten Teacher, Topic: moving start date to September 14th.

B. Board Comments

Board comments were made.

C. Superintendent Update

X. CLOSED SESSION

A. Negotiations

Motion by D. Walker and supported by B. Overgaard to enter closed session at 8:24 p.m. for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations as permitted under 8c of the Open Meetings Act. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0. Motion Carried.

Motion by S. Knoblock and supported by A. Silkworth to resume open session at 9:34 p.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

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Jeff McCubbin, President

Stephanie Knoblock, Secretary

Brenda Sutherland, Recording Secretary

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