

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

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
February 16, 2009 – 7:00 p.m. – High School  
Next Regular Board Meeting: March 16, 2009 – 7:00 p.m. – High School

**Minutes**

Superintendent: Douglas P. Newington  
Board Members: Jerry VanderWeele, President; Curt Case, Vice-President; Chuck Whitman, Secretary; Jeff McCubbin, Treasurer; Bob Kinas, Trustee; Beth Wilson, Trustee; Michael Way, Trustee

Number of people present 33.

**I. ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS:**

- A. Call Meeting to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Board President VanderWeele at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President VanderWeele.
- C. Roll Call.**

**Members Present:**

Jerry VanderWeele  
Curt Case  
Chuck Whitman  
Bob Kinas  
Beth Wilson  
Jeff McCubbin  
Michael Way

**Administrators Present**

Doug Newington, Superintendent  
Todd Reynolds, 8-12 High School Principal  
Chris Hurley, Primary School Principal  
Jeremy Mansfield, Assistant MS Principal

- D. Agenda Approval.** A motion was made by C. Whitman supported by J. McCubbin to approve the amended agenda of the February 16, 2009 regular meeting of the G-A Board of Education.  
Ayes 7. Nays 0. Motion carried.
- E. Secretary's Report.** Recommend approval of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting January 19, 2009 and the February 2, 2009 Special School Board Meeting.
- F. Accounts Payable Report.** Recommend paying of the bills in the amount of \$102,502.93 for February 10, 2009 and \$946,258.34 for February 11, 2009.
- G. Treasurer's Report.** Recommend approval of the Treasurer's Report for January 31, 2009, showing a balance of \$271,945.94
- H. Personnel.** Recommend hiring Jennifer Orr as office aide/special education paraprofessional at the Intermediate, Jennifer Corbeil as Learning Center aide and Timothy Nolan as Middle School special education paraprofessional.

A motion was made by M. Way supported by J. McCubbin to approve Agenda item E. through H.

Roll Call Vote:

**Members:**

Whitman	yes
Way	yes
Case	yes
Wilson	yes
Kinas	yes
McCubbin	yes
VanderWeele	yes

Ayes 7. Nays 0. Motion carried.

**II. REPORTS**

**A. Community Input – agenda items only**  
None

**B. Superintendent Search progress report**  
Jerry VanderWeele stated that the community and staff forums have started today and will continue through Wednesday, February 18.

**C. Carl Newton – Energy project update**  
Carl Newton, who performed and completed an energy audit of the district facilities, presented his findings and recommendations to the board.

**D. High School Report**  
Todd Reynolds, High School Principal presented the high school report to the board. He highlighted where the high school is headed and what concerns the high school is currently facing. Mr. Reynolds also presented comparison charts on the ACT composite over a five year span, a two year ACT comparison by subject, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies three year comparison on MEAP results as well as a chart on where G-A is at compared to the State on college readiness.

**E. Pre-K report**  
Kathleen Kline gave an overview via a power point presentation on where the Pre-K program is at this year compared to the possible numbers and funding for next year. She stated that the word is getting out about the G-A Pre-K program and enrollment numbers are increasing. Ms. Kline also stated that the Familinks program is an integral part of the Pre-K program. The Familinks program identifies students through developmental assessments and home visits, who would benefit from G-A's early childhood opportunities.

**III. BUSINESS ITEMS – DISCUSSION**

**A. Energy Consortium**  
A discussion took place about joining the energy consortium with K/RESA, Schoolcraft, Portage, and Climax-Scotts.

**IV. BUSINESS ITEMS – DECISION**

**A. Operating Millage Renewal**  
A motion was made by J. McCubbin supported by B. Kinas to approve the operating millage ballot language for the May 5, 2009 election.

Roll Call Vote:

**Members:**

Whitman	yes
Way	yes

Case	yes
Wilson	yes
Kinas	yes
McCubbin	yes
VanderWeele	yes

Ayes 7 Nays 0. Motion carried

**B. Energy Consortium**

A motion was made by J. McCubbin supported by B. Kinas to approve joining the Energy Consortium.

Roll Call Vote:

**Members:**

Whitman	yes
Way	yes
Case	no
Wilson	yes
Kinas	yes
McCubbin	yes
VanderWeele	yes

Ayes 6. Nays 1. Motion carried

**V. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Community Input**

Sandy Noteboom-Wood stated that she is running for school board and shared her concerns on why the 2007-08 audit was not completed and submitted on time and asked how the district is operating without state-aid for the past 60 days. Gary Schmidt, a resident across from the high school retention ponds, stated that he is still pumping water through his basement into his back yard which he feels is a result of the ponds not draining properly. He asked if there could be an independent evaluation done on the retention pond. Terri Jordan asked if the district could establish a weighted grading system for students in honors classes. Christy Landers questioned the residency of a school board member.

**B. Board Input**

Jeff McCubbin stated that the first Hall of Fame induction ceremony was exciting to see and noted that it went very well. He also stated that he is glad that the program is in place and looks forward to next years inductees. Chuck Whitman suggested that the board revisit the weighted grading system for honors students and address this at a board meeting in the next few months. Bob Kinas stated that he is pleased to have reached an agreement with the GAEA and feels that the district is now able to move forward with a positive atmosphere. Michael Way stated that the next Community Relations committee meeting will be held on March 4, 2009. He stated that the committee will be working on the finishing touches of the district marketing plan. Beth Wilson stated that she was very impressed with the Hall of Fame induction ceremony and luncheon honoring the inductees.

**C. Superintendent's Input**

None

**VI. ADJOURNMENT** A motion was made by M. Way supported by B. Wilson to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:11 p.m. Ayes 7. Nays 0. Motion carried.

**VII. CLOSED SESSION**

February 16, 2009

Item B. Expulsion was moved to item A and Item A. Negotiations was moved to Item B.

**A.** Expulsion

**B.** Negotiations

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT** A motion was made by C. Case supported by B. Wilson to adjourn closed session at 11:00 p.m. Ayes 7. Nays 0. Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary