

Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools
1076 N. 37th Street, Galesburg, MI 49053 * 269-484-2000

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

January 18, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. – High School Media Center

Next Regular Board Meeting: February 15, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. – High School Media Center

MINUTES

Superintendent: Tim Vagts
Board Trustees: Curt Case, President; Bob Kinas, Vice-President;
Beth Wilson, Secretary; Lynne Wells, Treasurer;
Sandra Noteboom-Wood, Trustee; LaRae Richardson, Trustee;
Karen Rutherford, Trustee

Number of people in audience 17.

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Call Meeting to Order. The meeting was called to order by President Case at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call.

Members Present:

Curt Case
Bob Kinas (arrived at 7:45)
Beth Wilson
Lynne Wells
LaRae Richardson
Karen Rutherford

Administrators Present:

Tim Vagts, Superintendent
Greg Vlietstra, Business & Operations Manager
Chris Hurley, Primary School Principal
Martha Hymer, Intermediate School Principal
Jeremy Mansfield, Middle School Principal
Todd Reynolds, High School Principal

D. Agenda Approval. A motion was made by B. Wilson and supported by L. Richardson to approve the January 18, 2010 GACS Board of Education regular meeting agenda.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

E. Secretary's Report. Recommend approval of:
Revised Minutes of the special meeting of November 30, 2009
Minutes of the regular meeting of December 21, 2009.
Minutes of the special meeting of January 7, 2010

- F. Accounts Payable Report.** Recommend approval of accounts payable in the amount of: 846,849.45 for December 9, 2009 and \$1,514.85 for December 16, 2009 and \$91,513.89 for December 18, 2009. **Grand Total: \$939,878.19**
- G. Treasurer's Report.** Recommend approval of the Treasurer's Report dated December 31, 2009, showing a balance of \$503,934.86.
- H. Personnel.** We have no personnel recommendations this month.

A motion was made by L. Richardson and supported by K. Rutherford to approve agenda items E through H. Roll call vote.

Members:

Richardson	yes
Rutherford	yes
Wilson	yes
Wells	yes
Case	yes

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 Motion carried.

II. REPORT

- A. DECA Presentation**
High School teacher Ms. Pam Hawk, accompanied by two students, presented an update regarding the success and benefits of the DECA program.
- B. Community Input – Agenda Items Only**
None.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS – DISCUSSION

- A. Great Start Readiness Program Participation Resolution**
Superintendent Vagts shared that he is planning on presenting the annual Great Start Readiness Program Participation Resolution to the Board at the February regular meeting. The Board requested that a brief overview be presented at that meeting regarding the Great Start program.
- B. Retention Pond**
Superintendent Vagts and C. Case provided an update regarding the proposal for stormwater basin improvements at the high school site. The work is scheduled to be completed this spring or summer by Bailey Excavating in the amount of \$6,150.
- C. Service Consolidation**
G. Vlietstra provided an overview regarding the statewide initiative encouraging districts to more fully consider consolidating services with other area districts. The district would agree to develop a Service Consolidation Plan with the intent

of reducing school operating costs. The plan will be developed in the coming months in cooperation with KRESA and five other districts in the region that also agreed to the plan. This agreement gives school districts more flexibility regarding how the \$165 per pupil state funding cut is applied. (B. Kinas joined the meeting during the discussion.)

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS – DECISION

A. Retention Pond

A motion was made by L. Richardson supported by B. Wilson to approve the bid from Bailey Excavating for improvements to the retention pond in the amount of \$6,150. Roll call vote.

Members:

- Wells yes
- Wilson yes
- Richardson yes
- Kinas yes
- Rutherford yes
- Case yes

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0

B. MIPHY (Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth)

A motion was made by K. Rutherford supported by L. Richardson to approve participation in the MIPHY program. Roll call vote.

Members:

- Rutherford yes
- Kinas yes
- Richardson yes
- Wells yes
- Wilson yes
- Case yes

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0

C. Service Consolidation

A motion was made by B. Kinas supported by B. Wilson to approve the Service Consolidation Plan Agreement and Service Consolidation Plan Resolution documents for Board signature. Roll call vote.

Members:

Kinas	yes
Richardson	yes
Wells	yes
Wilson	yes
Case	yes
Rutherford	yes

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Participation

Connie Kuhn thanked the Board as part of School Board Appreciation Month. She has also been pleased with the spirit of unity in the district in recent months despite the financial challenges. Eric Curtiss, high school teacher, thanked the School Board as part of School Board Appreciation Month. He was also pleased that the most recent state funding cut of \$127 was temporarily rescinded. The projected state funding cut for the next school year is \$268 per pupil. Ardis Cook appreciated the public discussion taking place at recent board meetings. She also shared that a blood drive would be taking place at the high school gym on Friday, January 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. George Hartman, a parent in the district, had a question about the high school wood shop closing and the reduction of a high school Spanish course.

B. Board Comments

B. Wilson commented that the Athletic Hall of Fame luncheon ceremony was fantastic. K. Rutherford thanked all those who coordinated the Athletic Hall of Fame luncheon. L. Wells shared that the Christmas band concert was very well done. B. Kinas shared the Varsity Boys Basketball won their first game of the year this evening. B. Kinas also thanked Todd Reynolds, High School Principal, and the sports boosters for their work on the Athletic Hall of Fame luncheon. C. Case thanked the Galesburg-Augusta Education Association (GAEA) for the card and apple given to each Board member as well as the overall cooperation so far this school year.

C. Superintendent's Update

1) Superintendent Vagts highlighted two information only handouts provided to the Board: one article on teamwork and trust and the other on unfunded mandates. 2) He also echoed the Athletic Hall of Fame luncheon was a great event. 3) Next, it was shared that *Kalamazoo Gazette* reporter Phyllis Rose will not be attending as many future Board meetings. Mr. Vagts emphasized, however, that the Ms. Rose will still be writing articles and that administrators are encouraged to provide information. 4) Mr. Vagts reminded the Board about the Powell scholarship meeting at 5:00 p.m. on February 1. 5) Finally, he shared that a Board election will be in the coming months for two Board open Board positions.

VI. Following the regular meeting, the Board of Education went into closed session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations. Closed session began at 8:25 p.m. and ended at 9:50 p.m.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The January 18, 2010 regular meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Curt Case, Board President

Beth Wilson, Board Secretary

Greg Vlietstra, Recording Secretary