

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

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

November 16, 2009 – 7:00 p.m. – High School Media Center

Next Regular Board Meeting: December 21, 2009 – 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 27.

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
Beth Wilson
Lynne Wells
LaRae Richardson
Karen Rutherford

Administrators Present:

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

Member Absent:

Sandra Noteboom-Wood

D. Agenda Approval. A motion was made by B. Wilson and supported by B. Kinas to approve the November 16, 2009 GACS Board of Education regular meeting agenda.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

E. Secretary's Report. Recommend approval of:
Minutes of the regular meeting of October 19, 2009.
Minutes of the special meeting of November 3, 2009.

- F. Accounts Payable Report.** Recommend approval of accounts payable in the amount of: \$189,944.10. **Grand Total: \$189,944.10**
- G. Treasurer's Report.** Recommend approval of the Treasurer's Report dated October 30, 2009, showing a balance of \$664,762.56.
- H. Personnel.** We have no personnel recommendations this month.

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

Members:

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

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0

II. REPORTS

- A. Community Input – Agenda Items Only
None

III. BUSINESS ITEMS – DISCUSSION

A. Audit Report

Pete Vaness and Carol Light of Yeo and Yeo presented the 2008-2009 audit report to the board. In addition to the main audit, Yeo and Yeo performed a bond audit and a single audit this year. The bond audit is required by the state after the construction proceeds are spent. The single audit is required after the district receives over \$500,000.00 in federal funds. Mr. Vaness reviewed the main audit and the bond audit with the board, and Ms. Light summarized the single audit and a letter with their findings and recommendations.

B. Energy Conservation Presentation

Tim Kerney, Energy Management Specialist and Tom Diliberti, with Energy Education presented the energy management process via a power point presentation. Mr. Kerney began the presentation with explaining that their primary goals are to maintain comfort and safety in all occupied areas along with eliminating energy waste and saving the district money. Mr. Kerney also explained what activities have been completed or are underway which will result in cost savings. Mr. Diliberti explained how the EnergyCAP software product is used for measurement and verification of energy usage. He presented comparison charts on electric and gas usage along with a chart that showed the

energy savings the district has seen for the months of July, August and September with that grand total being \$14,167.00, which is a 22.3% savings for that period.

C. Jeremy Mansfield - Highlight MS Band Event 10/27/09

Jeremy Mansfield, Middle School Principal, began his power point presentation showing how the Middle School band program has grown and evolved over the last few years. He stated that the band recently took part in the second annual conference on Middle School Band Music at WMU's Miller Auditorium/Dalton Center on October 27, 2009. Mr. Mansfield introduced Ms. Jan Edgerton, director of bands, who explained all of the events that led up to the selection of the G-A Middle School band for this event. Ms. Edgerton also stated that that the band received a plaque for their performance and that this event is featured on the school website.

D. Retention Pond

Tim Vagts informed the board about the results of a meeting that took place on October 26, 2009 in regard to the retention pond at the high school. He stated that the intent is to try and bring it back up to design specifications which would allow the pond to drain dry after a rain event. Mr. Vagts explained the process that would take place achieve this. He also stated that the work would begin sometime during the spring or summer months of 2010, and that a recommendation would be brought back to the board for approval in the next few months.

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS – DECISION

A. *Plan Test* as a graduation requirement.

A motion was made by L. Richardson, supported by K. Rutherford, to approve the *Plan Test* as a graduation requirement. Roll Call Vote.

Members:

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

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0

V. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Participation

Eric Curtiss, GAEA president, announced the creation of G-A Best Buy, which was initiated by teachers at the high school. This is a consignment shop for students, at no cost, who are in need of clothing or shoes and is housed in part of the high school teachers' lounge. Mr. Curtiss asked for some clarification on the Energy Consortium, such as the cost and the name of the plan. Jeff McCubbin asked if all G-A employees were working under a current contract.

B. Board Comments

LaRae Richardson congratulated Ms. Edgerton and the Middle and High School Bands. Karen Rutherford stated that members of the board recently attended the MASB conference and that it is important for board members to stay informed on current issues facing school districts. Bob Kinas stated that he also attended the MASB conference and felt that it was very informative. Mr. Kinas also congratulated Jeff Merasco and students at the Primary building for their participation in the recent Juvenile Diabetes Walkathon.

C. Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Vagts stated that he is very thankful to be here at G-A and feels fortunate to be a part of such a caring staff. He also stated that it has been a pleasure meeting people in both the Galesburg and Augusta communities. Superintendent Vagts announced that he received word from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation on the new Burge/Tindall Scholarship Fund available to Galesburg-Augusta High School seniors, and also the Kathryn Tindall Nature Awareness Fund which G-A Middle School students will benefit from. Mr. Vagts presented each board member with a draft version of a welcome brochure and comment card for school board meetings. Mr. Vagts also announced that there will be a board retreat on Tuesday, November 24, 2009, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the board room.

VI. Following the regular meeting the Board of Education will recess to closed session for the purpose of contract negotiations.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The November 16, 2009 regular meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Curt Case, President

Beth Wilson, Secretary

Brenda Sutherland, Recording Secretary