

Regular Meeting, Board of Trustees, Gallatin Gateway School District #35

Open Session

DATE: September 10, 2012

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Gallatin Gateway School Multipurpose Room

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Celia O'Connor, Chair (departed at 8:30pm)
Cheryl Deats, Vice Chair
Ann Prescott
Cory Taylor
Wayne Thiem

MEMBERS

ABSENT: None

STAFF

PRESENT: Kim DeBruycker, Superintendent; Carrie Fisher, District Clerk; Cyndie Deurmeier, Teacher; Elizabeth Matthews, Teacher; Kelly Haskins, Teacher; and Mike Coon, Teacher

OTHERS

PRESENT: Donna Shockley, Cindy Nelson, Cheryl Arnaud, Gina Taylor, Alan Anseth, and Meghan Larson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm.

Board Vice Chair Cheryl Deats explained the public comment process to be followed for addressing the Board in accordance with Gallatin Gateway School policy. She stated that prior to a vote the public may comment on agenda items. There will be time for public comment on non-agenda items. Public comment periods are not intended to be a question and answer session.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Cheryl Arnaud noted that she wrote the Board a letter on June 21, 2012 asking for information and received no response until September 5, 2012 after she placed another letter in their mailboxes one week before the August meeting. She explained that it took 77 days for her to receive a response. She further noted that she asked the Board to consider adding Board Communication to the agenda because she doesn't feel there is a satisfactory system in place. She urged the Board to review her case to see if their communication with the public is satisfactory.

Cheryl Arnaud noted that the previous Superintendent's contract included health care insurance, cellphone, and internet service which she feels costs the District a lot of money. She asked the Board to review the current contract to ensure there weren't unintended costs included that could cost the District.

GUESTS

Alan Anseth reviewed the Quality School's grant process with the Board and told them what to expect over the next few months after the submission of the grant, which is due October 1. He noted that he has assisted in the grant process at 13 schools and 12 have received awards; he said he could not promise we would be awarded a grant, but he felt we had a great chance of receiving a grant to complete the heating/ventilation work the building desperately needs. He explained that if GGS is awarded the Quality Schools grant, the work completed in the school would provide the District with state of the art equipment that would in turn provide a money savings to the District in energy costs and repair, thus allowing those savings to go back to the students. Mr. Anseth stated that the Board would know in January if they were awarded the grant and then they

must decide who will do the work, which should be completed by April, allowing work to begin in May. He explained to the Board that the District is currently addressing the heating/ventilation issues, but could apply for a grant again during the next cycle in 2015 to address other issues within the District. He noted that one Montana District wrote a safety grant to install keyless entry doors to their building that are only opened by badges that the staff wears.

Vice Chair Cheryl Deats changed the order of business and began a discussion on the Old Business agenda item "Quality Schools Grant- District Contribution." Trustee Wayne Thiem asked Mr. Anseth to give the Board a rough estimate of what other schools who have received the grant in the past had contributed. Mr. Anseth stated that one school asked for approximately \$548,000 and contributed \$22,000, another school asked for \$530,000 and contributed \$18,000, whereas one school asked for over \$800,000 and contributed \$200,000, but he explained that it all depends on what a District can afford. He stated that the District must decide what they think they can contribute and from what fund(s) the money will come from and then OPI and the Quality Schools Program committee will review the District's budget documents at the state level and determine if that is indeed the amount the district could contribute to the grant as matching funds. Mr. Anseth stated that the preliminary numbers indicate that the District will be asking for about \$701,000 in the grant. Business Manager Ken Mosby provided the Board with the suggestion of contributing \$23,000 towards the grant with monies taken from the following funds: \$3000- General fund, \$9,000- Flexibility fund, and \$11,000- Building Reserve. Superintendent Dr. DeBruycker noted that after further review and discussion with Mr. Mosby she felt the District could contribute more from the building reserve fund and increase the total amount to \$28,546.00. Mr. Anseth stated that if the District did increase the amount to \$28,546 it would show that the District is willing to pay for the design costs associated with the grant, thus covering the costs for one entire component of the grant.

A motion was made by Trustee Cory Taylor for the District to contribute \$28,546 towards the Quality Schools Grant with funds coming from the following sources: \$3000- general fund, \$9,000- flexibility fund, and \$16,546- building reserve fund. Trustee Wayne Thiem seconded the motion. For: Deats, O'Connor, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem.
Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Cindy Nelson clarified that the District had recently replaced boilers in the school. Donna Shockley asked how many boilers the District would be applying for in the grant and what their expected life span would be. Mr. Anseth noted that the new boilers in the basement would be used as back up, but the grant would allow the District to install a new boiler system that would deal with the entire building rather than having two sets of boilers that work independently and only heat their respective end of the building. He noted that the technology has improved so much that the lifespan on new boilers could be as much as 22 years. Donna Shockley wanted to know who decides if we get the grant. Mr. Anseth stated that it would be the Quality Schools Grant committee reviewing the District's application. Cheryl Arnaud asked Mr. Anseth if the committee would ever come back and say we won't give you the full amount, but we will give you \$400,000. Mr. Anseth noted that the committee did have that ability, but to his knowledge they have never done so and have fully-funded all applications they have awarded. Donna Shockley noted that back in April/May when voters were approving the new building reserve it was estimated that the District may need to contribute as much as \$30,000 to the grant and noted that she felt that providing \$28,546 is a good use of the funds. Cheryl Arnaud asked if the District would have a better chance of winning the grant if it were to contribute more money. Mr. Anseth noted that it would show you really wanted the grant, but it may also show you were not responsible if you did not leave a reserve for emergencies that may come up throughout the year. He felt the amount the District was considering would be both responsible and show the committee they were serious about the grant by paying for the design costs up front.

Chair Celia O'Connor and Superintendent Dr. DeBruycker will complete the Final Environmental Review Form and post it for public review on Sept. 12 on the school website, www.gallatingatewayschool.com and post in the School Board Announcement Board in front of the school.

Mr. Mike Coon presented information to the Board regarding the installation of the video surveillance cameras inside and outside of the building. He noted that all of the cameras were located in public areas in order to capture areas such as hallways, playground, and exit/entrances to the building. Mr. Coon explained that there are nine cameras located inside the building to monitor hallways and exits; one camera in the gym to view the exit/entrance door; eight cameras around the perimeter of the building to monitor traffic behind the school and outside entrances. He also explained that the security company the District hired helped with the placement of the cameras to ensure the greatest security of the building and hopefully deter future vandalism to the building. He also noted that the recordings are stored on a DVR for about two weeks and then it records over itself. Mr. Coon informed the Board that the cameras do not have audio capabilities and there is a notice at all entrances

to the building informing individuals that the building is under video surveillance. Mr. Coon noted that a parent had recently expressed concern about the video surveillance system and he noted that the District's attorney, Elizabeth Kaleva, had been contacted and he then handed each Board Trustee a memorandum in reference to the parent's concerns. He noted that it was also her opinion that the Gallatin Gateway School video Surveillance program does not violate federal or state privacy protections, as the cameras are located in areas where individuals do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy and the individuals have also been properly notified of their existence. Trustee Cory Taylor expressed concern about only being able to view two weeks of video as there are times like Christmas vacation where the building may not be occupied for two weeks and by the time vandalism is noticed the video may already be gone. Trustee Ann Prescott stated that it would be great if the Superintendent would keep the Board informed about the follow-up with the concerned parent.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Wayne Thiem to approve the minutes for the August 20, 2012-regular meeting; approve warrants (#31881-#31940 and direct deposit payroll. Voids-none); Expenditure vs. Budget Reports dated September 12, 2012; Cash Reconciliation as of July 31, 2012 dated September 7, 2012; Food Service Inventory and Commodities orders; and Classified and Certified Salaries Summary. Vice Chair Cheryl Deats seconded the motion. For: Deats, O'Connor, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. DeBrycker informed the Board of the following: 1) Example of contracts- certified, classified, and coaching; 2) Final Copy of Handbooks- Bus Rider's Manual, Athletic Handbook, Volunteer Handbook, Parent and Student Handbook, Mentor Handbook, Library Media Manual, and Gifted and Talented Plan; 3) October 8 Special Meeting- policy review at 1pm; 4) October 8- Board Training at regular Board Meeting at 7pm; 5) Rural School Grant (REAP)- \$16, 629; 6) Food Service- new USDA requirements; 7) Training- 6 cent reimbursement; 8) Annual Reporting- CSIP; 9) Patriot Day- Sept. 11- flag lowering proclamation; 10) First Day of School Flag Ceremony- American Legion Post 30; 11) Montana History Teacher of the Year- Letter from Governor; 12) ServSafe Training; 13) Joe Foss Institute Dinner; 14) national Preparedness Month; 15) Bus Safety Month; 16) Air Quality- inside recess; 17) First week assembly; 18) School Board Open House- September 5; 19) Bus Evacuation Drill; 20) MEC- Social Studies Curriculum Review; 21) Booster- Gym Banner Fundraiser; 22) Playground Use; 23) Volleyball Update; 24) Women Superintendent's Meeting- Sept. 23; 25) Consitution Day; 26) American Indian Heritage Day; 27) 4th grade field trip- Lewis and Clark Caverns; 28) 3rd grade field trip- Missouri Headwaters; 29) Mille Fire Camp Field Trip; 30) New Bus; and 31) 4-Rivers MASS Superintendent Meetings- 1st Wed. every month.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the revenues and expenditures from Adult Education courses offered during the 2011-2012 year.

A motion was made by Trustee Wayne Thiem to hire Mike Coon as Adult Ed Coordinator at \$1550/year and Carrie Fisher as Assistant Adult Ed Coordinator at \$575/year for the 2012-2013 year. Trustee Cory Taylor seconded the motion. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Cindy Nelson stated that she just wanted to Board to know if they were losing money before they hired two people to coordinate the Adult Education program. Cheryl Arnaud clarified that the adult education fund could not pay for anything else, but cost associated with running the adult education program.

Trustee Cory Taylor made a motion to approve the following Final Budget for 2012-2013:

General Fund	\$1,108,538.06
Transportation Fund	\$118,500.00
Bus Depreciation Fund	\$95,395.75
Tuition	\$835.00
Retirement	\$160,000.00
Adult Education	\$25,000.00
Technology	\$19,103.15
Flexibility	\$13,168.50

Debt Service	\$110,865.00
Building Reserve	\$35,000.00

The motion was seconded by Trustee Wayne Thiem. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Trustee Ann Prescott to approve the bus routes for the 2012-2013 school year:

	<u>North</u>	<u>South</u>
Total Miles Roundtrip	26	40
Total Number of Riders	17	52
Number of Days to Operate	180	180
Estimated Rate Per Mile	\$1.57	\$1.57
Estimated Route Reimbursement	\$7,347.60	\$11,869.20

The motion was seconded by Trustee Wayne Thiem. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Wayne Thiem to offer three transportation contracts for the 2012-2013 school year:

Contract #1	11.7 miles	1 student
Contract #2	10.5 miles	2 students
Contract #3	10.9 miles	2 students

The motion was seconded by Trustee Ann Prescott. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cory Taylor made a motion to approve the 2012-2013 Professional Development Plan as presented by the PIR Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ann Prescott. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Ann Prescott to hire the following classified/certified substitutes for 2012-2013 school year pending adequate fingerprint/background check and TB test: Scott Adamek, Eric Barker, Rebecca Bent, Margaret Bowden, Rebecca Buller, Nathan Burke, Amy Burkenpas, Ever Charles, Adam Clearly, Peter Cole, Barbara Cole, Tina Colstad, Jacqueline Cordova, Cynthia Corliss, Sonja Davis, Joanne Fowler, Marie Frid-Heaney, Chantal Hale, Judy Hazelbaker, Sheila Hepp, Margaret Litchy, Elizabeth Meyn, Recharad Meyn, Kathryn Petrick, Carissa Robinson, Stephen Roose, Kerstin Tousignant, Amy Verzuh, Holly Walker, and Shannon Wine. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wayne Thiem. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Wayne Thiem to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cory Taylor. For: Deats, Prescott, Taylor, and Thiem. Opposed: none. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:19pm.

Celia O'Connor, Board Chair

Carrie Fisher, District Clerk