

Galeton Area School District  
School Board Meeting Minutes

**January 12, 2015**

A meeting of the Galeton Area School Board was held January 12, 2015, in the Music Room of the Galeton Area School District.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Bonita Stover at 6:30 PM.

Call to Order

The following School Board Members were also present, as confirmed by roll call: Charles Bach, Beth Fuller, Michael Hoza, Julie Lane, Charles Tameris and Richard Yonkin. Mrs. Teresa Batterson and Mr. James Douglass were absent.

Attendance

Others present included Superintendent Dr. Brenda Freeman, Principal Clyde Pierce, Business Manager/Board Secretary Penny Crowell and interested community members.

President Stover asked for a motion to consider approval of the minutes from the December 4, 2014, Board Reorganization Meeting. On motion of Mrs. Lane and second of Mrs. Fuller, the Board voted 7 to 0 to approve the minutes.

Reorganization  
Meeting Minutes

President Stover asked for a motion to consider approval of the minutes from the December 4, 2014, Regular Board Meeting. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin, the Board voted 7 to 0 to approve the minutes.

Regular Meeting  
Minutes

Mr. Douglass arrived at the meeting.

President Stover asked for a motion to consider approval of the General Fund and School Lunch Fund Bills Lists. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mrs. Lane the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the bills lists (EXHIBIT).

Bills Lists

**Superintendent Dr. Brenda Freeman reported on the following:**

Superintendent's  
Report

- **Students of the Month** – Theme: Student Always Lends a Hand  
Elementary: Logan Hurlburt and Darren Smith – for always going above and beyond and giving a helping hand.  
Secondary: Evan Griffen – for always being positive and having an endless smile
- **PA State Retirement Association** began the Laretta Woodson Award to help showcase our public schools in a positive manner. They honor one educator and one support professional for doing an outstanding job within a district or school each year. Fifth Grade Teacher Denise Valenti and District Maintenance Supervisor Gib Ruef were selected for this award.
- **2013/14 Audit** – The audit was just finished today with a phone conference. The audit package will be provided to board members as soon as it is available. The final close out of the 2013/14 year required use of fund balance in the amount of \$404,006. The Administration is recommending the opt-out resolution again this year to not raise taxes above the index; however, this will probably not be possible in future years if cyber charter school expenses continue at approximately \$500,000 and health insurance and retirement rates also increasing.

**Think Pink** will be held during the girls' basketball games January 13<sup>th</sup>. The program organized by Mr. Tameris and Galeton staff and students recognizes cancer survivors. Dr. Freeman encouraged all to attend.

**Principal Clyde Pierce reported on the following:**

**Angel Tree** – Thank you to area businesses and personnel who participated in this project in December that support area children with winter clothing and boots.

**MTSS/RTii – Multi-Tier Support System/Response to Intervention and PBIS-Positive Behavior Support Program** are being implemented in the District, with K-6 in 2015/16, 7 – 8 in 2016/17 and K-12 in 2017/18. Staff are being trained this spring. It will include a program to promote positive behavior in students and a rewards system. It is being used in one class already and is working well.

**Sports Update** - Jr. High basketball begins mid-February. Spring sports sign-ups are open now, with practice starting the first week of March for baseball, softball, tennis and track (cooperatively at Coudersport).

**Teacher Reports** from elementary and secondary physical education and health classes, music and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade were presented.

**Student Discipline Referral** report was provided to the Board.

Upcoming Events: CDT, diagnostic and benchmarking testing will occur this week, inservice day on January 19<sup>th</sup> will focus on student data.

**Business Manager Penny Crowell reported on the following:**

**Transportation** – Mr. Tameris and I have been working with the Gaines Township Supervisors and PennDOT to add school bus stop signs on Route 6 in the Rexford area. PennDOT has approved the request and the Township will provide and put up the signs.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Citizen Recognition:** *no citizens provided comment*

**Action Items:**

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to approve a resolution naming Business Manager Penny L. Crowell as the District authorized representative to Berkheimer, collector of local taxes. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin, the board voted 8 to 0 to approve the motion (EXHIBIT).

Principal' Report

Business Manager's Report

Citizen Recognition

EIT Resolution

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to adopt a resolution pursuant to Act 1 of Special Session 2006, Taxpayer Relief Act, indicating that the School Board will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the Galeton Area School District for the 2015-16 fiscal year by more than the index of 2.20% established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the District. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mr. Tameris, the board voted 8 to 0 to approve the motion (EXHIBIT).

Act 1 Opt Out  
Resolution

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to revise the Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball contract with Dustin Smith for the 2014/15 school year. Due to the low student participation numbers, it is recommended that Mr. Smith's contract be revised from JV Coach to Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball Coach in the amount of \$1,690. On motion of Mr. Bach and second of Mr. Tameris, the board voted 8 to 0 to approve the motion.

JV Coach Contract  
Revision

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to approve a Family Medical Leave Act request from Norma Cornell, PreK Teacher Aide, retroactive to January 6, 2015, for approximately nine to twelve weeks. The return date will be approved by the Superintendent in accordance with Board Policy 535 Family and Medical Leaves. On motion of Mr. Bach and second of Mr. Yonkin, the board voted 8 to 0 to approve the motion.

FMLA Request

President Stover made the following announcements:

Next Board Work Session:

February 2, 2015, 6:30 PM, Galeton Area SD Music Room

Next Board Meeting:

February 9, 2015, 6:30 PM, Galeton Area SD Music Room

Announcements

Being that there was no other business before the Board, President Stover asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin, the meeting was adjourned by a vote of 8 to 0.

Adjournment

Approved as read February 9, 2015.

Respectfully submitted by:

Penny L. Crowell  
Board Secretary