

Galeton Area School District
School Board Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2015

A meeting of the Galeton Area School Board was held September 14, 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.

Board Members and all others present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following School Board Members were also present, as confirmed by roll call: Beth Fuller, Michael Hoza, Julie Lane, Charles Tameris, Rick Yonkin, and James Douglass. Charles Bach was absent and one vacancy exists.

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

President Stover asked for a motion to consider approval of the minutes from the August 3, 2015, Board Meeting. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin, the Board voted 7 to 0 to approve the minutes.

President Stover asked for a motion to consider approval of the General Fund Bills List. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mrs. Lane the Board voted 7 to 0 to approve the bills list (EXHIBIT).

President Stover asked for a motion to consider approval of a letter of resignation from Teri Batterson, Region I Board Member. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mr. Tameris, the Board voted 7 to 0 to approve the resignation.

President Stover recommended the appointment of Dr. Mary Geiter as a Region I Board Member to fill the vacancy from September through November 2015. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mrs. Lane the Board voted 7 to 0 to approve the appointment. President Stover administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Geiter.

Executive Session, RE: legal. The Board adjourned to executive session at 6:34 PM.

President Stover called the meeting back to order.

Superintendent Dr. Brenda Freeman reported on the following:

- **Students of the Month:** **Aiden Hurd**, PreK Student, was selected for always being the first in line to help other students. **Cooper Sunderlin**, 11th grade, was nominated by the English department for representing Galeton to the nth degree. He is a strong athlete and supports and helps his class mates and the entire student body. **Summer Dunlavey**, 8th grade, was nominated for going above and beyond with her time and talents and for donating her time to paint a mural in the cafeteria to support the R.O.A.R. program.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance

Minutes

Bill List

Batterson resignation

Appointment of new
Board Member
Dr. Mary Geiter

Executive Session

Superintendent's
Report

- **District Website:** The new version has been posted, but archived materials are not yet posted. The old software was no longer available, which required new software which includes better security and more features. Mr. Pierce has started school facebook and twitter pages with links to the district website. We are receiving positive parent feedback about this program.
- **Tiger Bully Busters** – A group of 6th grade students have put together skits and how to express opinions and how to deal with bullying. They will not present the skits to students in the elementary.

Principal Clyde Pierce reported on the following:

- **Opening of the School Year:** We had a good start to the year. Teachers received mandated reporter training and are working on benchmarking tests, high school students are working with a new schedule, the R.O.A.R. program was launched with positive behavior support training for all elementary students, high school grade student meetings were held regarding school rules and procedures, and an intervention period was added for high school students to receive help in areas of need or to provide more challenging materials, and to provide a bi-weekly club program. A grab and go breakfast option is being added to encourage high school participation. School facebook and twitter pages were started and will be updated weekly or more.
- **Discipline Report:** We have had 15 write-ups thus far, which is about the same as last year at this time.
- **Athletic Report:** We have 90 students participating fall sports—girls tennis; jr. high, JV, varsity volleyball; jr. high, JV, and varsity soccer. Homecoming will be October 3.
- **Teacher Newsletter:** English is working on CDT testing, study skills, grammar, drama speech, short stories and EPICS. The Travel Club is planning a trip in 2018 to Paris. In PreK, they are learning the school routine, colors and shapes. Friday will be fun days to connect letters to an activity. Student assessments are also being conducted to provide a baseline for the year.

Mr. Hoza inquired about the enrollment. Dr. Freeman reported that the current enrollment is 358, which is up from last year's 343.

Business Manager Penny Crowell reported on the following:

- **August Treasurer's Report** – Current balances are \$335,673 in General Fund and \$403,524 in Fund Balance. The PA State budget has still not been adopted and based on news reports there are no indications that it will be approved soon. Real estate tax revenues are starting to come in and should keep the District cash flow in good shape until December. R. W. Baird, the District's bond finance representatives, has offered free services to develop an RFP for a Tax Revenue Anticipate Note. The firm has offered similar assistance to many area districts. The Administration is working with Baird and legal counsel to release an RFP for a TRAN with an anticipated recommendation to the Board on November 2nd, if the State Budget has not yet been adopted.

Citizen Recognition: There was no citizen recognition.

Principal's Report

Business Manager's Report

Citizen Recognition

Action Items:

President Stover asked for a motion to employ Tiffany Novinger as Teacher's Aide effective September 15, 2015. Ms. Novinger will be employed at an annual salary of \$18,500, to be pro-rated for the 2015/16 school year, plus benefits as defined by the Support Staff conditions of employment. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mrs. Lane, the Board voted 7 to 1 to 0, with Mr. Tameris abstaining, to approve the employment.

T. Novinger
Employment

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to employ Jeannine Louca as Long-Term Substitute Teacher's Aide effective September 15, 2015, through November 25, 2015. Ms. Louca will be employed at \$100 per day plus individual benefits. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the employment.

J. Louca Employment

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to employ Sarah Blass Cafeteria Monitor retroactive to August 25, 2015. Ms. Blass will be employed at \$7.50 per hour as defined by the Support Staff Conditions of Employment. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the employment.

S. Blass Employment

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation to add the following persons to the day-to-day substitute employees' list for the 2015/16 school year: Lanae Gurnsey, emergency certified teacher and teacher's aide, secretary, custodian and cafeteria; Rachel Selley, teacher's aide, secretary, custodian and cafeteria; and Cassie Emery, teacher's aide, secretary, custodian and cafeteria. On motion of Mr. Douglass and second of Mr. Hoza, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the substitutes.

Additions to the
Substitute List

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation of the second reading revisions to Board Policy #237 Electronic Devices. On motion of Mr. Tameris and second of Mr. Yonkin, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the reading (EXHIBIT).

#237 Electronic Devices
Policy

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation of revisions to Board Policy #610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation due to revisions in the relative state law. On motion of Mrs. Lane and second of Mr. Tameris, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the revisions (EXHIBIT).

#610 Purchases Subject
to Bid/Quotation

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation of the maintain the current language of Board Policy #249 Bullying/Cyberbullying. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mr. Tameris, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the policy (EXHIBIT).

#249
Bullying/Cyberbullying

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation of the second reading of new Board Policy #819 Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mr. Tameris, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the reading (EXHIBIT). Dr. Freeman indicated that the coordinator mentioned in the policy would be the SAP team and Intensive Case Manager.

#819 Suicide
Awareness, Prevention
and Response

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Administration's recommendation for the following feeder routes in the 2015/16 school year:

- Victor Canniere, Supplemental Van Route
99.3 miles/day @ \$.98/mile x 180 days = \$ 17,516.52
- Nicole Mainus, Grandfathered Feeder Route,
12 miles/day @ \$.98/mile = \$11.76/day
- Michelle Petito, Grandfathered Feeder Route,
7.2 miles/day @ \$.98/mile = \$7.06
- Lisa Quinn, Supplemental Route, 452 miles/trip @ \$.575/mile (the current IRS mileage rate) = \$259.90/trip

On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mr. Tameris, the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the feeder routes.

President Stover asked for a motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the dismissal of employee number 2085 from his professional employment with the District for the reasons so stated in the Notice of Dismissal Charges and Right to Hearing dated July 16, 2015, to be effective September 15, 2015. On motion of Mr. Yonkin and second of Mr. Tameris the Board voted 8 to 0 to approve the dismissal.

President Stover made the following announcements:

Next Work Session:

Monday, October 5, 2015 @ 6:30 PM
Galeton Area School District Music Room

Next Board Meeting:

Monday, October 12, 2015, 6:30 PM
Galeton Area School District Music Room

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 Dr. Geiter, the meeting was adjourned by a vote of 8 to 0.

Approved as read October 5, 2015.
Respectfully submitted by:

Penny L. Crowell
Board Secretary

2015/16 Feeder Routes

Employee Dismissal

Announcements

Adjournment