

GORHAM-MIDDLESEX CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2020  
6:30pm HS Library

Board Members Present: Sheila Brown, Cindy Hall, John Foust, Sue Campbell, Chad Hunt, Phyllis Frantel, Jeff Allen and Cory Clark

Absent: Keri Link

Administrators Present: Dr. Christopher Brown, Zoe Kolczynski and Sharene Benedict

Administrators and Public could watch the meeting on school YouTube channel

Sheila Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Mabel Deal, Stanley:** Thanked everyone for all their hard work during COVID. Wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

**Karen Shoemaker, Stanley:** Mrs. Shoemaker shared we have great teachers and thanked the Board for all they do.

Motion by Jeff Allen, seconded by Sue Campbell to approve the following resolution.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Yes 8 No 0 (absent Keri Link) MC

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the October 13, 2020 Regular Meeting were accepted as submitted.

**ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer reports were accepted as submitted.

**ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS**

**Dr. Christopher Brown:** Dr. Brown shared with the Board that School Paraprofessionals Day Nov. 17. We are planning to have a Whitman All Staff Appreciation Day 4-29-21.

Dr. Brown also shared how well the buildings are doing with wearing masks, socially distanced and even staff is not eating lunch together. He is trying to keep positive moral through the District. Professional Development has wellness built in for staff and students. Dr. Brown has a 1pm meeting Nov. 10, with the four counties Dept. of Health and Superintendents about yellow zone. Dr. Brown presented to the Board on the COVID expenses from last school year to current school year.

*If the school were to go to remote learning the expenses would be less?* In some areas yes. We still need teachers to teach, tech to assist with remote learning, cleaners, bus drivers to transport meals and food service workers to prepare meals. If the District goes remote for 30 days or longer there will be a reduction in workforce.

*This is going to be a difficult budget year. School's expenses on COVID and not knowing what we are going to receive for state aid.* Dr. Brown feels encouraged what he's hearing at the state level. Schools will get some support. It will be a shared pain not what we thought it was going to be. Superintendents are waiting to see what unfolds in the next month.

*Are we receiving aid on unemployment and COVID leaves?* The District will receive 50% reimbursement on unemployment claims. The District is not receiving any reimbursement on COVID leaves. COVID Leaves per State are up to 80 hours. We have staff that requested leaves because their children are on a different school schedule than we are. They can take up to 80 hours and receive 2/3 pay.

If a staff member needs to quarantine for 14 days, 10 days paid (80 hours) and the remaining days are sick time. Mrs. Kolczynski shared we are working with staff because our sub teacher pool is very low and their salaries are budgeted for the school year. Possibly down the road, Federal Cares Act could offset this cost. 80 hours will expire on 12/31/20 with a possibility to extend. There are people that truly need this benefit.

Sheila thanked Dr. Brown for all the communication in a positive manner to Board, staff and community.

The auditorium and gym look to be on target for a Dec. 1 opening. We have 25 to 30 construction workers working Monday through Saturday. Everything is coming along very well. There is progress on the second floor track.

**Zoe Kolczynski:** Mrs. Kolczynski shared with the Board that 95 to 96% of school taxes were collected. The remaining will be added to the property tax bills in January. The District lost \$38,000 in school tax revenue. Town of Gorham had many grievances. Town of Seneca a property was missing their agriculture exemption. There were 37 credit card sales. We will keep giving this as a payment option for next year. The taxpayer pays the credit card fee of 2.65% per transaction.

Motion by Jeff Allen, seconded by Cory Clark to approve the following resolutions.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*In an effort to expedite the business of the Board of Education, but in no way meant to diminish the importance of each item, a Consent Agenda has been developed.*

*The personnel appointments are pending clearance of NYS fingerprinting requirements.*

**Substitute Bus Monitor:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint **Heidi Roberts** as Substitute Bus Monitor for the 2020-21 school year.

**Resignation-Deborah Darling:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept the resignation for the purposes of retirement of **Deborah Darling**, Teacher Aide effective November 30, 2020.

**Resignation-Jennifer Harvey:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept the resignation of **Jennifer Harvey**, Teacher Aide effective October 30, 2020.

**Amend Department Chairperson:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve the following people as department chairpersons for the 2020-21 school year:

Department Chairperson	Name	Stipend
Dept. Chairperson for Reading	Shawna Crouse	\$1425

**EPC Appointments:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint the following to EPC for the 2020-21 school year:

EPC Committee	Members	Stipend
HS Teacher	Lisa Carey	\$783.54
HS Teacher	Christopher Sohn	\$853.76
MS School	Jacqueline Wickham	\$727.41
Middle School	Kristen Hare	\$710.85
At-Large	Jennifer Twomey	\$927.32
Gorham Intermediate	Alexandra Schenk	\$762.24
Gorham Intermediate	Corrine DeRue	\$831.14

Middlesex Valley Primary	<b>Christopher Clark</b>	\$804.84
Middlesex Valley Primary	<b>Lisa Orlando</b>	\$1285.50

**Coach Appointments:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint the following people:

Team	Coach
Boys Varsity Basketball	<b>Greg O'Connor</b>
Boys JV Basketball	<b>Justin Devlin</b>
Boys Modified Basketball	<b>David Helling</b>
Girls Varsity Basketball	<b>Elizabeth Royston</b>
Girls JV Basketball	<b>Brandon Herod</b>
Girls Modified Basketball	<b>Kristin Hare</b>
Boys Varsity Swimming	<b>Curt Hey</b>
Boys Varsity Swimming Asst	<b>Neal Webster</b>
Boys Modified Swimming	<b>Mike Smith</b>
Varsity Bowling (Co-coach)	<b>Bryan Law</b>
Varsity Bowling (Co-coach)	<b>Matt Silco</b>
Varsity Wrestling	<b>Terry Lucero</b>
Varsity Wrestling Asst	<b>Clayton Mack</b>
Varsity Winter Track	<b>Jody McLaughlin</b>
Varsity Winter Track Asst	<b>Seth Pritchard</b>
Modified Winter Track	<b>Ethan Eschler</b>
Varsity Cheerleading	<b>Wendy Kierst</b>
Modified Cheerleading	<b>Cassandra Gillette</b>

*Appointments are based on current winter sports season. Season may be adjusted. We have not been given guidance on how the sport will look. Some winter sports may not operate; therefore, those appointed coaches may not receive compensation.*

**Activity Advisors:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve the following people as activity advisors for the 2020-21 school year:

Activity Advisor	Name
Ski Club (Elementary)	<b>Bailey Colonna</b>
Ski Club (Elementary)	<b>Ali Schenk</b>
Ski Club (MS)	<b>Jessica Frank</b>
Ski Club (HS)	<b>Kathleen Alvord</b>

**Amend Teaching Assistant-Computer Lab/Library Media Center Assignment Stipends:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Marcus Whitman Central School District does hereby approve the following Teaching Assistants-Computer Lab/Library Media Center Assignments for the 2020-21 school year:

Name	Level
<b>Karen Clark</b>	Level I

**Yearly Building Per Diem Substitute:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint High School yearly building per diem substitute, **Brian Ellis**.

**Volunteers:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve the submitted list of volunteers for the 2020-21 school year.

**Tenure Approval-Jacqueline Wickham:** In compliance with the provisions of 3012 of the education Law and part 30.3 of the rules of the Board of Regents, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Jacqueline Wickham**, a probationary teacher appointed October 26, 2016, be appointed to tenure to the position of English teacher in the English tenure area. It having been shown that **Jacqueline Wickham**, holds a valid New York State Professional Certification in English Language Arts Grades 7-12 to teach in the aforesaid tenure area; and it further having been shown that the probationary period of **Jacqueline Wickham** to teach in the district expires on December 10, 2020; the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant tenure to and appoint to tenure **Jacqueline Wickham** effective December 10, 2020 to the position of English Teacher.

**Tax Roll Correction:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Marcus Whitman Central School District does hereby approve the applications from the following townships for a correction on the tax roll:

Town of Middlesex	Original Bill	Revised Bill	Difference	Reason for the Change
12.01-1-12.2	\$ 310.68	\$ -	\$ (310.68)	Exempt - Clerical Error
<b>Town of Gorham</b>				
141.17-2-7.000	\$ 12,925.52	\$ 12,073.25	\$ (852.27)	Excessive Assessment
127.19-1-9.000	\$ 11,500.46	\$ 10,653.38	\$ (847.08)	Excessive Assessment
154.08-1-24.000	\$ 20,407.72	\$ 19,268.32	\$ (1,139.40)	Excessive Assessment
113.19-1-36.000	\$ 8,054.99	\$ 6,554.43	\$ (1,500.56)	Excessive Assessment
141.13-1-7.000	\$ 7,120.87	\$ 7,080.60	\$ (40.27)	Excessive Assessment
141.13-1-14.000	\$ 9,500.99	\$ 9,445.13	\$ (55.86)	Excessive Assessment
154.12-1-47.000	\$ 11,600.49	\$ 10,393.54	\$ (1,206.95)	Excessive Assessment
154.08-1-1.000	\$ 27,283.04	\$ 22,086.27	\$ (5,196.77)	Excessive Assessment
127.15-1-51.000	\$ 13,760.90	\$ 10,254.38	\$ (3,506.52)	Excessive Assessment
141.17-2-20.000	\$ 6,353.06	\$ 5,976.29	\$ (376.77)	Excessive Assessment
127.19-4-51.121	\$ 6,549.23	\$ 6,015.26	\$ (533.97)	Excessive Assessment
113.11-1-13.210	\$ 18,948.73	\$ 18,773.33	\$ (175.40)	Excessive Assessment
113.15-1-5.000	\$ 7,951.06	\$ 7,535.32	\$ (415.74)	Excessive Assessment
113.15-1-33.000	\$ 7,793.86	\$ 7,015.63	\$ (778.23)	Excessive Assessment
141.07-1-13.100	\$ 13,151.73	\$ 10,523.46	\$ (2,628.27)	Excessive Assessment
127.19-4-54.000	\$ 7,925.07	\$ 7,145.56	\$ (779.51)	Excessive Assessment
113.19-1-37.000	\$ 8,639.64	\$ 7,925.07	\$ (714.57)	Excessive Assessment
154.15-1-6.000	\$ 19,321.59	\$ 18,513.49	\$ (808.10)	Excessive Assessment
113.19-1-28.000	\$ 15,314.74	\$ 13,892.12	\$ (1,422.62)	Excessive Assessment
128.00-1-42.112	\$ 4,634.07	\$ 3,953.30	\$ (680.77)	Excessive Assessment
141.07-1-22.000	\$ 7,769.17	\$ 7,009.14	\$ (760.03)	Excessive Assessment
154.08-1-14.110	\$ 16,950.57	\$ 15,915.11	\$ (1,035.46)	Excessive Assessment
141.17-2-27.000	\$ 9,259.34	\$ 9,055.37	\$ (203.97)	Excessive Assessment
127.19-1-17.000	\$ 11,017.15	\$ 9,614.03	\$ (1,403.12)	Excessive Assessment
113.11-1-4.100	\$ 11,252.30	\$ 10,913.21	\$ (339.09)	Excessive Assessment
<b>Town of Potter</b>				
24.01-1-21	\$ 1,965.67	\$ 1,299.19	\$ (666.48)	Excessive Assessment
<b>Town of Seneca</b>				
131.00-1-17.100	\$ 18,148.47	\$ 8,404.57	\$ (9,743.90)	Ag exemption correction
<b>School Difference</b>	<b>\$ (37,942.32)</b>			
<b>Library</b>	<b>\$ (180.04)</b>			
<b>Total Warrant Change</b>	<b>\$ (38,122.36)</b>			

**Tax Collector’s Report:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept the submitted Tax Collector’s Report and does authorize the Tax Collector to forward the unpaid taxes to Ontario and Yates Counties as per the report.

**Approve CSE & CPSE Recommendations:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve the CPSE/CSE recommendations as submitted and filed in the minute file.

Yes 8 No 0 (absent Keri Link) MC

**Public Access to the Board**

No comments.

**Board Member Items:**

Upcoming Meetings

- 4CSBA General Membership Zoom Meeting Monday, 11/16-Sheila and Sue attending
- 4CSBA Board of Director's Meeting Monday, 11/30 (zoom meeting)
- NYSSBA Convention-Sheila attended the conference. She was able to zoom in on more sessions. Sheila attended pre communications, pre law and went to mental health and COVID-19 sessions. NYSSBA did a great job with the technology piece of over 200 people in zoom sessions.
- Friendship House-Sheila collected gift cards from the Board to give to the Friendship House for families to do their Holiday shopping.

Break 7:30pm

**Executive Session:** Motion by Jeff Allen, seconded by Cindy Hall at 7:40pm for the Board to enter in executive session to discuss employment history of particular employee.

Yes 8 No 0 (absent Keri Link) MC

Motion by Jeff Allen, seconded by Chad Hunt to adjourn the meeting at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharene Benedict  
District Clerk