

**Gervais School District #1
School Board Regular Session Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 19, 2021**

REGULAR SESSION

Director Martin called the School Board of Gervais School District #1, Marion County, into a Regular Session on Thursday, August 19, 2021, at 6:03 p.m. via ZOOM online. Board members present included: Henry Bustamante, Maria Caballero, Ana Contreras, Maria Contreras and Angie Toran. Others present included Caryn Davis, Dandy Stevens, and Sandra Segura.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Director Bustamante called the School Board Meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:03 p.m.

Director Bustamante read a statement in recognition of the Wrestling and Track teams.

All students received a certificate from the school board.

Director Bustamante read the policy BDDH-AR regarding the public forum and explained the process of signing up to speak during the public forum.

2.0 INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2.1 Public Forum Sign-Up:

Lenthal Kaup and Rebecca Zharkoff.

Public Forum Sign-Up included:

None.

2.2 Visitor Guest Book

Andrew Aman, Creighton Helms, Ryan Figura, Bob Martin, and Sylvia Valentine-Garcia.

2.3 Announcements

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Segura said a minor error that needs to be corrected under the action item titled "Adopting the 2021-2022 Budget" it should say \$32,224,148, not \$32,224.148.

Motion:

There was a motion made by Director A. Contreras and seconded by Director Toran that the Gervais School District Board of Directors approve the minutes from the Regular Session on June 17, 2021. The motion passed 5-0.

4.0 PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Kaup stated that he wondered what was being done about a reading program. He said that he learned from one of the presentations done in the past by an administrator that some grade levels were not reading at grade level. He said that he feels this is an important subject that students will use everywhere they go after graduation. And that is why he is concerned that the district is not preparing students in that area.

Ms. Stevens said that a part that was missed was to ask the individuals joining online if they wish to speak during this time.

Director Bustamante asked individuals if anyone wished to speak during this time.

Melissa (parent) said that this is her first time joining an online board meeting and is attending to listen in since there is so much that is being mandated that she disagrees with.

Director Bustamante said that if you wish to share any concerns to send them to the Superintendent.

Rebecca Zharkoff asked if the district knows the number of vaccinated staff and if the district anticipates staff leaving due to the new vaccine requirement. She said that she understood that this would be discussed later in the agenda and wondered.

5.0 REPORTS

Administrators Reports

Ms. Stevens said she did not require the administrators to do a verbal report tonight, but each of them will give a report at the next month's meeting. She said that there is no student report either since students are not back in school yet. However, she said that the middle school administrator is present if anybody wishes to ask any questions.

Director Bustamante noted that he saw that the middle school now has wrestling as a sports option for students and is glad to see that get started at the middle school level.

Mr. Martin said that he has been in conversation with the superintendent about this, and he feels that it's important to start at the middle school level to start building a strong athletic program. Mr. Martin also shared that student counts as of now are at 220 at the middle school.

High School Language Arts Class

Ms. Figura (High School Language Arts Teacher) presented to the board members the following information about a new language arts class, "Language Power, and Social Justice" being offered at the high school level.

- Strengthen students' writing skills
- How to develop a tone in writing
- How to respond when you disagree
- How to express thoughts
- Students have the option to opt-out of the class
- Shared the types of assignments that students will be working on
- Shared the resources that students will be using
- Every 10th grader will be enrolled in this class
- Communication will be sent to parents via a letter along with the syllabus
- An email will be sent to every parent to share every unit that will be taught
- Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday, and open house to answer any questions
- Open to other topics

There was a brief discussion on the current language used on the material and to reconsider better word choice to stay current and get more buy-in from students.

Financial Report

Ms. Davis shared the following about the pension obligation bond and the financials.

- The district closed the bond at a lower rate of 2.5%.
- Work in progress finalizing the 2020-21 fiscal year.
- The ending fund balance is predicted at \$3.7M, where the district is landing or close to that amount.
- Pointed out that in June, the district does not receive a state fund payment, and that is the reason why you need to build a contingency account so when the state does not give us a payment in June, there is still money set aside, Although the district does receive double payment in July. The same thing happened with the Frontier Charter School school for June and July. That is the reason for the big amounts going in and out on the reports.

Ms. Davis asked if there were any questions in regards to her report.

There was a brief discussion regarding details on how a bond process works and how interest builds.

Superintendent Report

Ms. Stevens said that she had nothing to add to her written report, and other items will be discussed during the action items and discussion items later in the agenda.

6.0 BOARD FOCUS/MEMBER TOPICS:

There was a brief discussion about advocating for getting local control back and doing a public resolution to make the community/public aware that they are listening and agree with personal choice as a board.

The school board agreed to have Ms. Stevens prepare something and share at the next meeting.

7.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

7.1 Approve

New Hire / Temporary/Rehire:

Ruth Lal-Rider, GES Temporary Teacher
Emelia Bustamante, GES FLC Instructional Assistant
Gerardo Garibay, College and Career College Coordinator
Mary Ludwikoski, GES Child Care Worker
Jennifer Rodriguez, GMS ELL Instructional Assistant
Nicole Starha, GES Instructional Assistant
Andrew Sullivan, GMS Instructional Assistant
Maria Torres-Tapia, GMS Instructional Assistant
Veronica Chacon Ventura, GES Child Care Worker

Extra Duty:

Fenya Aman, GMS Student Council Advisor, GHS Volleyball Assistant Coach
Sheena Bettis, Student Council Advisor
Kyle Buse, GHS Basketball Head Girls Coach
Tim Bowman, GHS Athletic Director, Extra-Curricular Director
Sara Broadhurst, GES Counselor Stipend, TAG Facilitator, GES 504 Facilitator
Amanda Braswell, GMS Yearbook Advisor
Suzanne Bustamante, Special Ed. Stipend
Kristin Camat, GMS Testing Coordinator, Special Ed. Stipend, 504 Facilitator, GHS Soccer Assistant Coach
David Castle, GHS Track Head Coach
Vilma Chan Vasquez, GMS Counselor/Child Development Specialist
Martin M Cortez, GHS Soccer Head Boys Coach
Kevin Davidson, GHS Softball Head Girls Coach
Megan Dilson, FFA Advisor
Claxton Fernandez, Football Assistant Coach
Ricardo Ferreira, Football Assistant Coach
Ryan Figura, Drama Advisor (shared position)
Grant Funderburg, GHS Testing Coordinator, Special Ed. Stipend
Holly Hamlin, National Honor Society Advisor
Deb Holum, Pageant Coordinator
Gerardo Jimenez, GES Counselor/Child Development
Specialist April Joy-Koer, Junior Class Advisor
Courtney Karns, Wellness Champion

Becki Lader, Wellness Champion
Marci Lister, Special Education Stipend
Sean Mensing, GHS Baseball Head Coach
Lindsay McCargar, GHS Softball Assistant Coach
Molly McCargar, GHS Volleyball Head Coach
Becky Miller, Senior Class Advisor (shared position)
Estella Moreno, Sophomore Class Advisor
Michael Mulkerin, GHS Soccer Head Girls Coach
Eric Navarrete, Football Assistant Coach
Juan Navarrete, Football Head Coach
Todd O'Connor, GHS Track Assistant Coach, Basketball (Intramural Girls), Basketball (Intramural Boys),
Andrea Oropeza, GHS Counselor Stipend, GHS 504 Facilitator
Sarah Orschel, Freshman Class Advisor
Annie Owen, GHS Basketball Assistant Girls Coach
Samantha Palmer, Drama Advisor (shared position)
Julie Powers, Senior Class Advisor (shared position)
Ector Quintanilla, Football Assistant Coach
Adelita Ruiz, Aguilas de Oro Advisor
Brad Simmons, GHS Basketball Assistant Boys Coach
Ben Schultz, GHS Basketball Head Boys Coach
Rudy Silva, Soccer (Intramural)
Stephanie So, GES National Honor Society
Abel Valdez, GHS Wrestling Head Coach
Laura Zurita, Counselor Stipend

7.2 Approve

Contract Change / Renewal:

Cindy Everts, from Daycare Worker to Cook
Raul Gomez, from GES Teacher to TOSA ELL
Kate Talbot, from College Career Coordinator to GHS English Language Arts Teacher
Kristen Wells, from 1 FTE Cook to .5 FTE Cook

Recall:

7.3 Approve

Resignation/Retire/Termination/Non-Renewal:

Dawn Zielinski, GES Teacher

Decline:

Reduction in Force:

7.4 Approve

2021-2022 Substitute Teacher Pay Rate

The Gervais School District #1 Board of Directors approves 2021-2022 Substitute Teacher per rate of \$196.00 per day, and after ten consecutive days in a single assignment, the rate would increase to \$217 per day.

7.5 Approve

2021-2022 Driver's Education Tuition

The Gervais School District #1 Board of Directors approves the 2021-2022 Driver's Education Tuition, at the rate of \$150.00 per student ages 15-17 with permits and \$200.00 for students age 18 or over or those that obtain their license during the class for the 2021-2022 school year. If students qualify for free and reduced lunches, the cost will decrease to \$75 for those ages 15-17 with permits.

7.6 Approve

2021-2022 Milk Products Renewal Award

Gervais School District #1 Board of Directors approves renewal of dairy award for Spring Valley Dairy, as shown in Agenda Item 08-21.7.6.

7.7 Approve

2021-2022 Produce Products Renewal Award

Gervais School District #1 Board of Directors approves renewal of produce award to United Salad (formerly Duck Delivery), as shown in Agenda Item 08-21.7.7.

7.8 Approve

2021-2022

Gervais School District #1 Board of Directors approves out-state travel for Megan Dilson to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 26- 31, 2021.

Motion:

There was a motion made by Director A. Contreras and seconded by Director Toran that the Gervais School District Board of Directors approves the consent items as listed en masse on the agenda. The motion passed 5-0.

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Declare Surplus of Backhoe Construction Tractor

Ms. Stevens shared the background on how the district got the backhoe construction tractor and the current value of it.

Motion:

There was a motion made by Director A Contreras and seconded by Director M. Contreras the Gervais School District #1 Board of Directors approves to declare surplus the backhoe construction tractor. The motion passed 5-0.

8.2 Adoption of After School Russian Curriculum

Ms. Stevens shared that some individuals reviewed the curriculum, and she believes that it was a solid recommendation from people that know about the curriculum and feel comfortable adopting the recommendation. She said that the meetings that she has had with the Russian community have been beneficial in making good grounds for diversifying things, including gaining students back.

Motion:

There was a motion made by Director A. Contreras and seconded by Director Caballero that the Gervais School District#1 Board of Directors approves adoption of the after school Russian curriculum as presented by Ms. Stevens. The motion passed 5-0.

8.3 Correction on Regular Session Date for November

Ms. Stevens said that a correction needs to be made to move the November board meeting from November 30 to November 29.

Motion:

There was a motion made by Director A. Contreras and seconded by Director Toran that the Gervais School District Board of Directors move the meeting from November 30 to November 29. The motion passed 5-0.

9.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 Board & Superintendent's Working Agreement

Ms. Stevens said that she provided two Working agreements; an extended version and a shorter version. She said that she would like to take some time to revise it to something that will work and that can speak to the current board. She added that the current agreement has lots of material. She stated that she would like a couple of board members to work with her to revise the document to bring back to the board in September.

Director A. Contreras and Director Bustamante volunteered to help out.

9.2 Board & Superintendent's Goals

Ms. Stevens made the following comments about the board's goals.

- The number one goal is still in progress and has not been met.
1. Develop and adopt a districtwide equity lens tool to be used in all areas of work throughout the district in order to support all students achieving to their highest academic potential.
 2. Prioritize addressing social and emotional learning and mental health supports for students and staff to foster educational environments where students are surrounded by well-trained staff resulting in students being prepared to learn. Staff will be equipped with the necessary supports and training to create this environment.
 - Ms. Stevens said that for the initial framework, this goal had been met.
 3. Facilitate long-term planning for the district that is responsive to community growth and student learning needs.
 - Ms. Stevens said that the facilities long-term planning had been met, and the district has hired an architect to get to the next steps

Ms. Stevens made the following comments about the superintendent's goals.

Ms. Stevens said that the data is unclear due to the unique circumstances and hopes to get detailed data. She noted that students did the ELPA exam to see if they could exit the program, and we had six students exit. She added that the academic achievement piece has not been met; however, maintaining and expanding CTE opportunities has been met. She said that in regards to the comprehensive counseling department K-12, that has been shared already.

1. With an emphasis in equity, optimize instructional opportunities and supports for students.
 - a. Areas to measure

- i. Academic Achievement
 - ii. Maintaining and expanding CTE opportunities
 - iii. Comprehensive counseling department k-12
- 2. Facilitate long-term planning for the district that is responsive to community growth and student learning needs.
 - a. Areas to measure
 - i. Long-Range Facilities Task Force
 - ii. Strategic Planning Task Force
 - iii. Equity work

Ms. Stevens said that this goal has been met in the long-range facilities task force and is almost done with the strategic planning task force. However, equity work is still in the works.

- 3. Proactively communicate information regarding Gervais School District operations, events, and accomplishments with all stakeholders and provide opportunities from those groups to participate in decision-making processes.
 - a. Areas to measure
 - i. Types of communication
 - ii. Types of engagement opportunities

Ms. Stevens stated that there is always room for improvement. She said with COVID-19 digital communication improved a lot. The district is communicating more via email and app. She also shared she has good business relationships with the city manager and Representative Teresa Alonso de Leon. She said that regarding engagement opportunities, she had had a lot of surveys done by students, staff, and the community. She has also had parent nights, participated with several organizations, attended Woodburn's Mayor's action committees, attended city council meetings, and advocated for this community in every opportunity she gets. She added that she had been invited to meet with other superintendents, Woodburn's Mayor, and with a representative from Amazon to talk about how Amazon can support our community.

There was a brief discussion about whether the district or City of Gervais has a grant writer and how helpful it would be to have one dedicated to that even if it was a shared individual with the City of Gervais and the district.

9.3 Branding & Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Stevens shared the new logo for the district and explained the meaning of the colors and the design. She said that regarding the Strategic Plan, everything can be found in the core values and feels that all connect. She suggested to the board to adopt this as their own goal as well. She said that regarding the core values, there would be people responsible for reporting to the school board to update what is being done. Another good resource that will be up and running will be K-12 Curriculum resources to keep all informed of what is being taught across the board in each grade level. This source will be on the district website under the tab "Teaching and Learning."

9.4 Safe Routes to Schools

Ms. Stevens said that the City of Gervais received a grant to get students from point A to point B in a safe manner. She said that there would be lighting installed at the middle school and high school when students are crossing and a bike lane created for students who ride their bikes to school. The front of the elementary school K-2 building will be fenced, and will no longer be parking spaces for staff. She said that she is not sure when that work will start, but that will not be costing the district much, just cooperating with them, and they will also be providing an assessment that can be used for the pre-bond planning. She stated that she talked to the city manager about the puddle that occurs by the preschool program and was told that this will be taken to the budget committee next year.

9.5 Pre Bond Planning Committee

Ms. Stevens shared the meeting will be held by ZOOM and led by Rebecca from IBI Group and will be held at 6:00. The meeting will be recorded in case individuals are not able to make it. She said that the committee talked about taking a trip to visit Santiam Canyon and North Marion, schools that passed a bond and had prefab buildings installed. She added that she could arrange separate trips if anybody is interested in visiting.

Ms. Stevens said that Pre-Bond Planning Committee would present a facility needs assessment report to the board members that will include estimated costs and an implementation timeline for approval. She said that this would be on the agenda for next month.

9.6 Update on Back to School

Ms. Stevens shared the following updates/details in regards to coming back to school.

- ✓ Cleaning protocol
- ✓ Eating areas and keeping three feet distance
- ✓ Tracing devices will be worn
- ✓ A digital teacher will be hired to work with those students that their parents do not feel comfortable sending to school
- ✓ A substitute was built in the budget to be shared by the high school and middle school.
- ✓ Vaccine requirement for all school employees including volunteers. Board members are not required to have the vaccine at the moment. The district will arrange another vaccine clinic, so employees and the community have another opportunity to get it. Individuals that submit an exemption will be individually interviewed.
- ✓ Masks are not required during recess
- ✓ The district was able to secure the saliva test and will be overseen by the school nurse and then shared.
- ✓ All staff in-service will no longer be in person due to the requirements. It will be via ZOOM, and food trucks will serve lunch for staff on the football field.

There was a brief discussion on how things will work for students who are part of the Willamette Career Academy since it is hands-on if the governor decides to have students go online.

Ms. Stevens said the academy is small enough to contact trace well, and students would not have to wear the tracing devices that they usually wear here in school.

There was a brief discussion on the amount of time that students have been doing online school and that it feels in a sense that they have lost about one year and a half but what is most important is to make them understand that they are not failures.

The board members said that Gervais School District is community-based and staff care for students.

10.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11.0 ADJOURN

11.1 Adjourn Regular Session

Director Bustamante adjourned the Regular Session at 8:11 p.m.

APPROVED


Board Chairperson


Board Secretary