

**GALWAY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 17, 2023  
Executive Session 6:00 PM  
Regular Session 6:30 PM**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order by President Jay Anderson at 6:41 PM in the High School Library.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion Karen English, Second Stacey Caruso-Sharpe

To enter Executive Session at 6:00 PM for Specific Personnel Matters.

All voted Aye to approve the Motion. Motion Approved Yes 6 No 0

**REGULAR SESSION**

Motion Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Second Michelle Bombard

To return to regular session at 6:41 PM in the High School Library

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion approved Yes 6 No 0

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – was recited.

**ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA** – were noted

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** – none

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT** – Jay Anderson, Karen English, Michelle Bombard, David Page, Krystal Pashley and Jeremy Sowle.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT** - Stacey Caruso-Sharpe

**PRESENTATIONS** - None**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Donovan provided the Board with the 2023-2024 Enrollment numbers and informed the Board that a fourth Kindergarten class was added due to enrollment.

Mike Miller reviewed the draft Extracurricular and Athletic Handbook and highlighted the changes. The committee consisting of parents, coaches, students and administrators reviewed the handbook before presentation to the Board. If adopted this handbook will be presented to the parents.

**PERSONNEL****1. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English**

To Approve the four year 1.0 FTE probationary appointment of Mary Short as a Kindergarten Special Education Teacher effective September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027 in the tenure area of Special Education at Step 4 Masters of the GTA Salary Schedule.

In order to be eligible for tenure, individuals receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom teacher must receive annual composite or overall APPR ratings of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years. If the individual received a rating of Ineffective in the final year of the probationary period, (he or she) will not be eligible for tenure at that time. The regulations do not require that a teacher have Professional Certification at the time of tenure but the District may make it a requirement.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed Yes 6 No 0

**2. Motion David Page, Second Karen English**

To Approve the four year 1.0 FTE probationary appointment of Emily Costanzo as an Elementary Teacher effective September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027 in the tenure area of Elementary Education at Step 1 Masters of the GTA Salary Schedule plus additional credits.

In order to be eligible for tenure, individuals receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom teacher must receive annual composite or overall APPR ratings of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years. If the individual received a rating of Ineffective in the final year of the probationary period, (he or she) will not be eligible for tenure at that time. The regulations do not require that a teacher have Professional Certification at the time of tenure but the District may make it a requirement.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed Yes 6 No 0

**3. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English**

To Approve the four year 1.0 FTE probationary appointment of Staci Clark as a Biology Jr./Sr. High School Teacher effective September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027 in the tenure area of Secondary Science at Step 2 Masters of the GTA Salary Schedule plus additional credits.

In order to be eligible for tenure, individuals receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom teacher must receive annual composite or overall APPR ratings of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years. If the individual received a rating of Ineffective in the final year of the probationary period, (he or she) will not be eligible for tenure at that time. The regulations do not require that a teacher have Professional Certification at the time of tenure but the District may make it a requirement.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed Yes 6 No 0

**4. Motion David Page, Second Karen English**

Approve the four year probationary appointment of Roger G. Powers III to the 12 month position of Assistant Principal PK-12 effective August 28, 2023 at a salary of \$90,000/year in the tenure area of Administration. Mr. Powers has an anticipated School Building Leader certification September 1, 2023.

In order to be eligible for tenure, individuals receiving a probationary appointment as an administrator must receive annual composite or overall APPR ratings of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years. If the individual received a rating of Ineffective in the final year of the probationary period, (he or she) will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed Yes 6 No 0

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English to accept the following Consent Agenda.**

CONSENT AGENDA	
<b>FINANCIAL REPORTS/BOARD MEETING MINUTES</b>	
<b>July 11, 2023</b>	<b>Board Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>June 2023</b>	<b>District Treasurer’s Report</b>
<b>July 2023</b>	<b>Student Activities Report</b>
<b>CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<b>Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations as presented to the Board prior to the meeting for the following students: 7669; 7594; 6663; 7337; 6796; 7299; 7154; 6835; 7519; 7579; 6460 and 6039</b>	

**RESIGNATIONS/OTHER**

Accept the Resignation of Jessica Dolan from her Teacher position effective July 13, 2023.

**APPOINTMENTS**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>RATE OF PAY</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
Grant DesPres	Summer Camp Teacher Aide	\$14.20/hr.	7/1/2023
Regina Culbert	Substitute Summer School Teacher	Per Contract	7/1/2023
Staci Clark	Substitute Summer School Teacher	Per Contract	7/1/2023
Jessica Morris	Summer Camp Teacher Aide	\$14.47/hr.	7/1/2023
Regina Culbert	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Jennifer Gerber	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Jennifer Fischer	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Samuel D'Alessandro	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Kristin McAlonen	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Mary Short	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Emily Costanzo	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Abigail Duffy	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Beth DeLuca	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Mellenie Booth	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Paula Canell	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Ross Hayden	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Jeanine Flinton	Summer Curriculum	\$30/hr.	7/1/2023
Brian Bishop	Substitute Cleaner	\$14.50/hr.	7/24/2023
Samantha Reome	Teacher Aide	\$14.20/hr.	9/1/2023
David Currie	Summer School Bus Driver	Per Contract	7/1/2023
David Nettleton	After School ELA/Math and Homework Lab	\$43/hr.	7/1/2023
David Nettleton	Chaperone - Sports	\$82/night	7/1/2023
David Nettleton	Chaperone - Dances	\$84/night	7/1/2023
Ross Hayden	Volunteer Volleyball Assistant	-	7/1/2023
Neil Lamamre	Volunteer Volleyball Assistant	-	7/1/2023
Emma Smith	Volunteer Volleyball Assistant	-	7/1/2023
Tamara Chaverri	Summer Cook	\$15.46/hr	7/1/2023

The stipend approved at \$5,619 for Geoff Maliszewski appointed as Varsity Cross Country Coach at the July 11, 2023 Board Meeting should be \$5,703.

The stipend approved at \$5,619 for Lynn Prehn appointed as Varsity Golf Coach at the July 11, 2023 Board Meeting should be \$5,703.

The probationary term of Philip Salvino, Bus Monitor, has ended and the position is now permanent effective August 1, 2023.

The probationary term of Kim Tittensor, Bus Monitor, has ended and the position is now permanent effective August 1, 2023.

The probationary term of Dawn Ross, Bus Monitor, has ended and the position is now permanent effective August 7, 2023.

The Board of Education Budget Hearing scheduled for May 2, 2024 will be moved to May 9, 2024 to satisfy the 7-14 day rule prior to the Budget Vote.

Crystal Silsby was appointed a Math Teacher for a four year 1.0 probationary period at the Board Meeting held on June 15, 2023. The probationary effective date should be for three years from September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2026 in place of September 1, 2023-June 30, 2027.

Abigail Duffy was appointed an Elementary Art Teacher at a Step 1 Masters. Her appointment should reflect Step 1 Bachelors.

Barb-Webb Horvath, Alexis VanValkenburg and Lynda DeRidder were appointed Summer Camp Teacher Aides at minimum wage. Their appointment should reflect that their pay is their current pay wage.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Motion David Page, Second Michelle Bombard**

Approve 2023-24 Professional Learning Plan.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

### **2. Motion Jeremy Sowle, Second Krystal Pashley**

Approve 2023-24 Building-Level Emergency Response Plan.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

### **3. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English**

Approve 2023-24 District Wide School Safety Plan.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

### **4. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English**

Re-Adopt the Code of Conduct.

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**5. Motion Jeremy Sowle, Second David Page**

To Approve the Extracurricular/Athletic Handbook for the 2023-24 school year.  
All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**6. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English**

To Approve the Resolution to Establish the School Tax Warrant for the 2023-24 school year.  
All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**7. Motion Karen English, Second Michelle Bombard**

To Approve the Field Trip Request for the Galway Varsity Cross Country Team to West Point Military Academy and Red Raider Run at Bear Mt. State Park for September 8, 2023.  
All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**8. Motion Karen English, Second Michelle Bombard**

Accept a donation from 1989 Galway Alum Jim Boycan of a signed and framed declaration by Joseph Henry while he was at The Smithsonian in 1862.  
All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**9. Motion Karen English, Second Michelle Bombard**

Approve a Resolution Declaring Fixed Assets as Surplus/Obsolete.  
All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**10. Complaint Sustained 3 Compliant Dismissed 3**

Complaint about curricula or instructional materials "The 57 Bus"  
**This was tabled for further discussion to August 21, 2023**

**11. Complaint Sustained 3 Compliant Dismissed 3**

Complaint about curricula or instructional materials "Ink Knows No Borders"  
**This was tabled for further discussion to August 21, 2023**

A Motion was made by Michelle Bombard and seconded by Karen English to discuss the above books with the public.

Public Comment on "The 57 Bus" and "Ink Knows No Borders"

- Emma OBern sent an email to the Board of Education regarding this and read the letter to the Board that was sent. She is concerned that a small section of the community is trying to control the whole school community and is angry about that. This book was well researched by the committee and she is against book banning.
- Christine Gauss mentioned to the Board that it would be helpful to parents if they were aware of how the books are selected for the students to read.

AT THIS TIME DR. DONOVAN AND MR. MILLER EXPLAINED THE CURRENT PROCESS FOR BOOK SELECTION

- Dray McElhinney is a junior at GSCD who felt connected to a character in the book and felt represented.
- Daniel Fantauzzi came to hear what the Board of Education had to say about the books individually and feels it is important to have dialogue with the community.
- Amy McElhinney feels the curriculum needs to be inclusive to everyone and applauds the teachers who chose the books. She also feels that Galway needs outside views for perspective and feels that banning books does not make the school a safe space.
- Renee Thorpe understands the impact a small community has on children but by not allowing the children to read what represents them is a disservice. The idea that someone else with different religious backgrounds will dictate what all kids do is inappropriate and feels that equality/diversity needs to be addressed.
- Neil Evans attended a previous Board Meeting when he heard about these concerns and proceeded to read both books to understand the issues and to become educated on them. He feels that every parent wants to shelter their children and if this book is about the language then don't ride the bus, walk the halls, watch movies, music, etc. The content in this book is relatable to what is going on in this world currently and feels the decision by the Board will be one of the most important decisions they will make.

Board Member Comments on "The 57 Bus" and "Ink Knows No Borders" and voting

- Karen English reiterated that there is a policy for choosing the curriculum and parents know what their children read and have the option to choose another and believes in giving the children different perspectives. VOTE TO DISMISS BOTH COMPLAINTS
- Michelle Bombard read both books and reviewed the complaints filed and feels that this teach our students what impact words can mean and do. VOTE TO DISMISS BOTH COMPLAINTS
- Jeremy Sowle feels that opinions start at home with parents in trying to do what is best for the children. VOTE TO SUSTAIN BOTH COMPLAINTS
- Krystal Pashley read both books and feels that "The 57 Bus" was well written but feels the topics would be beneficial at an older age. She feels it is hard to ban a book but does not agree and feels these books should not be summer reading because their should be teacher support. VOTE TO SUSTAIN BOTH COMPLAINTS
- David Page agrees that as an adult "The 57 Bus" is a good book with great view points. However for a 10th grader it basically condones the language used and feels it is more appropriate for older readers and not summer reading. VOTE TO SUSTAIN BOTH COMPLAINTS
- Jay Anderson was not pleased with the language but they both had good perspectives. VOTE TO DISMISS BOTH COMPLAINTS

**12. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second Karen English**

Approve the following Co-Curricular Department Heads:

Melanie McDonald English

Beth DeLuca Social Studies

Brenda Peconie Spanish

Lynn Prehn Math

Jeanine Flinton Science

Maureen Mierzwa Art

Beth Brewster SPED

Amy Derwin CTE

Paula Canell PE/Health

Carla Gload Grade 6

Kathy Morck Co-Guidance

Shannon Britten Co-Guidance

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**13. Motion Michelle Bombard, Second David Page**

Approve the following Co-Curricular Grade Level Leaders:

Danielle McGee PK

Nicole Best K

Katie DiBlasi 1

Allison Reynolds 2

Christine Adams 3

Sara Immel 4

Jennifer Lembo 5

Nikki Funk SPED

Paula Canell PE/Health

Jennifer Yerdon RTI

All voted aye to approve the Motion. Motion passed. Yes 6 No 0

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- The Board would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for coming to the meeting and for all the public comments.



**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Christine Swierzowski would like to see monitors put in the bathrooms because some children do not feel comfortable because of vaping. She also feels that if people do not want to stand for the pledge of allegiance it is ok but they should still be respected and not laughed at. She has been to many Board meetings and is confused what the policy is about engaging with the audience.
- Daniel Fantauzzi would like meetings aired on the internet and wants to know what is holding this process up?
- Arlene Rhodes thanked the Board for letting the public speak and encouraged the Board to communicate upcoming projects far in advance. Jay Anderson informed the community that the upcoming Capital Project is to expand the building to accommodate more use.
- Tom O'Brien was at the last Town meeting and it was implied the community groups were no longer able to meet at Galway. Board President Jay Anderson said that was false.
- Christine Grauss informed the Board that no one said they wanted to ban the book but is hearing that parents do not like where it is in the curriculum.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Linda M. Dumblewski*  
Linda M. Dumblewski  
District Clerk

# Galway Central School District

5317 Sacandaga Road, Galway, NY 12074  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Resolution to Authorize Disposal of District Property

WHEREAS, by General Municipal Law of New York State, a school district may properly dispose of certain district personal property, better known as capital assets, when such assets are no longer needed for school district purposes, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has adopted Policy # 6900 entitled "Disposal of District Property", and

WHEREAS, said policy directs that administrators and supervisors are to identify obsolete or surplus equipment and supplies that may be judged to be no longer needed for use by the school district, and

WHEREAS, said policy further requires that if such equipment and supplies have a re-sale value beyond a salvage value, that said items are to be sold for the highest possible price, and

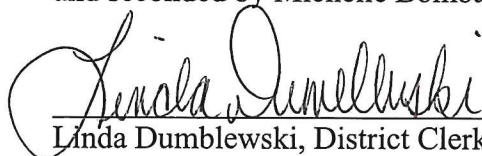
WHEREAS, if such equipment and supplies do not possess a re-sale value, then said items are to be properly disposed of and sold for salvage, if possible,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Galway Central School District does hereby authorize and direct the appropriate disposal of the following items that are deemed to be surplus:

<b>100 Glencoe Life Science Textbooks (K-5)</b>	<b>Total Resale Value: \$0</b>
<b>60 Envision Math Grade 4 Textbooks</b>	<b>Total Resale Value: \$0</b>
<b>25 Ready ELA Workbooks Grade 3</b>	<b>Total Resale Value: \$0</b>
<b>12 Envision Math Teacher Manual</b>	<b>Total Resale Value: \$0</b>

Yes 7      No 0      Abstain      Result MOTION PASSED

The above resolution adopted this 17th day of August, 2023 upon the motion of Karen English and seconded by Michelle Bombard.

  
Linda Dumblewski, District Clerk

(seal)



**Galway Central School District**

**Declaring Supplies & Materials as Surplus/Obsolete**

**(Items with original value of less than \$1,000 unit cost)**

Date Form Submitted to Business Office: 7/27/2023

Administrator's Signature: *[Signature]*

Date Declared Surplus by Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved for Disposal: \_\_\_\_\_ (Business Office)

(Business Office Only)

Quantity	Description	Condition	Resale Value
100	Glencoe Life Science Textbooks	Used	
	Kindergarten CKLA Set	Used	
	Grade 1 CKLA Set	Used	
	Grade 2 CKLA Set	Used	
	Grade 3 CKLA Set	Used	
	Grade 4 CKLA Set	Used	
	Grade 5 CKLA Set	Used	
100	Envision Math Grade 4 <del>Set</del>	Used	
25	Ready ELD Workbooks Grades 3		
12	Envision Math Teacher Manual		