

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

September 8, 2025  
 HS Library

Board Members Present: Sheila Brown, Cindy Hall, Ashley Conley, Phyllis Frantel, Keri Link, John Foust, Tessah Ciardi, Scott Lambert and Jessica Wickham

Student Ex-Officio Board Members Present: Lilly Burnett and Ella Yerkes

Administrators Present: Christopher Brown, Christopher Wickham, Sharene Benedict, Karissa Schutt, John Hicks, Erica Hasselstrom, Staci Thibodeau, Bryan Lamb, Kayla Osika, Clay Cole, Eric Pasho, Kevin Cousin and Scott Robinson

Administrators Excused: Paul Lahue, Jenn Taft and Courtney Venci

Sheila Brown called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.  
 There was a moment of silence for the Mumby family.

**PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

No comments.

Motion by Keri Link, seconded by Tessah Ciardi to approve the following resolution.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Yes 9 No 0 MC

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the August 11, 2025 Regular Meeting were accepted as submitted.

**ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

*Due to end of year audit Treasurer reports will be attached to the October agenda.*

**ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS:**

**Dr. Christopher Brown** shared with the Board the school year is off to a good start, including transportation. Students are adjusting well to not having their phones in school, with only a few infractions. He met with each class during Wildcat Day to talk about school culture and the important role students play and about expectations around cell phones and internet-enabled devices. The senior class held a beautiful Senior Sunrise event.

Dr. Brown encouraged anyone with concerns to reach out and talk directly with him, rather than rely on social media. Congratulations were given to Brianna DeCann, School Counselor, on receiving tenure.

Dr. Brown highlighted how fortunate the district is to have strong student board members.

Motion by Ashley Conley, seconded by Jessica Wickham to approve the following resolutions.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following appointments are pending clearance of NYS fingerprinting requirements:

**Substitutes:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby re-appoint the submitted list of Substitutes at the approved rates.

**Substitute Teacher:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint **Linda Stell** as Substitute Teacher for the 2025-26 school year.

**Substitute Teaching Assistant:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint **Leah Aaron and Linda Stell** as Substitute Teaching Assistant for the 2025-26 school year.

**Rescind Appointment-Matthew Montgomery:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby rescind **Matthew Montgomery** appointments: Substitute Teacher, Substitute Teacher Aide and Substitute Teaching Assistant.

*Appointment was approved August 11 board meeting.*

**Rescind Appointment-Becky Treese:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby rescind **Becky Treese** Bus Monitor appointment effective August 25, 2025.

*Appointment was approved August 11 board meeting.*

**Rescind Bus Driver Appointment-Michael Schriver:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby rescind **Michael Schriver** appointment as Bus Driver.

*Appointment was approved August 11 board meeting.*

**Appoint Substitute Bus Drivers:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint **Michael Schriver and Joseph Goodwin** as Substitute Bus Drivers for the 2025-26 school year.

**Appoint Bus Monitor-James Kuczma:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **James Kuczma** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Bus Monitor, at an hourly rate per contract, effective August 27, 2025 with a probationary period from August 27, 2025 to August 27, 2026.

**Appoint Bus Monitor-Amanda Collins:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Amanda Collins** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Bus Monitor, at an hourly rate per contract, effective September 8, 2025 with a probationary period from September 8, 2025 to September 8, 2026.

**Appoint Bus Driver-Kevin Neale:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Kevin Neale** a full time permanent Civil Service appointment as Bus Driver, at the rate per MW Bus Drivers' Association Agreement, effective August 27, 2025 with a probationary period August 27, 2025 to August 27, 2026.

**Appoint Automotive Mechanic-James Andrews:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **James Andrews** a full time permanent Civil Service appointment as Automotive Mechanic, at the rate per MW Bus Drivers' Association Agreement, effective September 22, 2025 with a probationary period September 22, 2025 to August 22, 2026.

**Resignation Thomas Read:** 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 from **Thomas Read**, as Cleaner, effective August 22, 2025.

**Appoint Cleaner-Michael Rossi:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Michael Rossi** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Cleaner, at an

hourly rate per contract, effective August 26, 2025 with a probationary period from August 26, 2025 to August 26, 2026.

**Appoint Custodian-Joseph Brown:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Joseph Brown** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Custodian, at an hourly rate per contract, effective October 6, 2025 with a probationary period from October 6, 2025 to October 6, 2026.

**Appoint Custodian-Curtis Apple:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Curtis Apple** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Custodian, at an hourly rate per contract, effective September 8, 2025 with a probationary period from September 8, 2025 to September 8, 2026.

**Appoint Teacher Aide-Erica Stabins:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Erica Stabins** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Teacher Aide, at an hourly rate per contract, effective August 27, 2025 with a probationary period from August 27, 2025 to August 27, 2026.

**Appoint Teacher Aide-Lydia Stoops:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Lydia Stoops** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Teacher Aide, at an hourly rate per contract, effective August 27, 2025 with a probationary period from August 27, 2025 to August 27, 2026.

**Appoint Teacher Aide-Darlene Taylor:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Darlene Taylor** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Teacher Aide, at an hourly rate per contract, effective September 8, 2025 with a probationary period from September 8, 2025 to September 8, 2026.

**Appoint Teacher Aide-Amy Gorja:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant **Amy Gorja** a full time probationary Civil Service appointment as Teacher Aide, at an hourly rate per contract, effective August 27, 2025 with a probationary period from August 27, 2025 to August 27, 2026.

**Amend Department Chairpersons:** 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 2025-26 school year:

Department Chairperson	Name	Stipend
Dept. Chairperson for Arts in Education (3-5)	<b>Corrine DeRue</b>	\$915.50
Dept. Chairperson for Arts in Education (UPK-2)	<b>Stephanie Bode</b>	\$915.50
Dept. Chairperson for Arts in Education (6-12)	<b>Elizabeth Prusinowski</b>	\$1831

**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 2025-26 school year:

Activity	Name	Base	Longevity	Stipend
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Musical Director	Jessica Rhodes	\$3906.21	\$0	\$3906.21
Fall Play Director	Jessica Rhodes	\$3124.97	\$0	\$3124.97
Vocal/Instrumental Director	Corrine DeRue	\$1302.07	\$0	\$1302.07
Vocal/Instrumental Director	Polly Simmons	\$1302.07	\$0	\$1302.07
Auditorium Manager	Austin Kephart	\$3003.07	\$0	\$3003.07
MS Vocal and Instrumental Director	Corrine DeRue	\$1562.48	\$0	\$1562.48

**Mentor:** 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 mentors for the 2025-26 school year:

Mentor	Mentee	Year	Stipend
Patricia Smith	Shannon Parson	1	\$600

**Appoint McKinney-Vento Case Managers:** 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 case managers for the 2025-26 school year:

Middlesex Valley	Kerri DePorter	\$43 per hour
Gorham Elementary	Michael Salotto	\$43 per hour
Middle School	Jennifer Twomey	\$43 per hour
High School	Jessica Frank	\$43 per hour

**Approve 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 2025-26 school year:

Name	Level	Stipend
Alicia Williamson	Level I	\$800
Marsha Lazarus	Level II	\$900

**Resignation Claims Auditor-Amy Carroll:** 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 from Amy Carroll, as Claims Auditor, effective September 30, 2025.

**Internal Claims Auditor Appointment:**

Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School does hereby make the following appointment effective October 1, 2025:

Position	Name	Stipend
1.Internal Claims Auditor	Denise Adam	\$4000

**College Student Placement:** 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 for the 2025 fall semester:

Nazareth University  
 Dana Jolly Student Teacher Greg O'Connor  
 Duration: September 2, 2025 to October 17, 2025

Roberts Wesleyan

**Bryan Cavanaugh** Student Intern Emily Joslyn

Duration: September 2, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Hobart William Smith

**Skylar Strong** Student Teacher Joanne Emerson

Duration: September 8, 2025 to December 12, 2025

**Donation:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does accept the donation from **Budding Readers** donating two books to each UPK-First grade student for the 2025-26 school year.

**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 2025-26 school year.

**Field Trip:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby acknowledge the initial proposal of Field Band Championship Competition October 25-26, 2025 in Syracuse, NY.

**Rescind Teacher Aide-Sharon Andrews:** Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby rescind **Sharon Andrews** appointment as Teacher Aide.

*Appointment was approved August 11 board meeting.*

**Probationary Appointment-Teaching Assistant-Sharon Andrews:** Be it resolved, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District, pursuant to section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with part 30-1-.8 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby appoint Sharon Andrews, who holds a Level I Teaching Assistant Certificate, to a Teaching Assistant position in the tenure area of teaching Assistant for a four-year probationary appointment commencing August 27, 2025 to August 26, 2029, salary starting per Teacher Aides, Teaching Assistants and Clerical Employees Association for the 2025-26 school year.

**Long Term Substitute Counselor-Valerie Sawyko:** Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District, pursuant to section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby appoint Valerie Sawyko, as a 1.0FTE Long Term Substitute Counselor from approximately August 17, 2025 to November 2, 2026 at Step 11, of the current teacher contract.

**Long Term Special Education Substitute Teacher-Shannon Parson:** Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District, pursuant to section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby appoint Sharon Parton, as a 1.0FTE Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher from approximately August 26, 2025 to June 30, 2026 at Step 6, of the current teacher contract.

**Tenure Approval-Brianna DeCann:** 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, **Brianna DeCann**, a probationary School Counselor appointed August 24, 2020, be appointed to tenure to the position of School Counselor tenure area. It having been shown that **Brianna DeCann**, holds a valid New York State Permanent Certification in School Counselor in the aforesaid tenure area; and it further having been shown that the probationary period of **Brianna DeCann** to be a Counselor in the district expires on October 27, 2025; the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby grant tenure to and appoint to tenure **Brianna DeCann** effective October 27, 2025 to the position of Counselor.

**Amend Lunch Prices:** 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 lunch prices for the 2025-26 school year:

**Adult**  
**Breakfast     \$3.49**

*This was approved at the July 14 Board meeting.*

**Budget Transfers:** 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 budget transfers.

**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 CSE/CPSE recommendations as submitted and filed in the minute file.  
Yes 9 No 0 MC

**PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE BOARD**

No comments.

**BOARD MEMBER ITEMS:**

Audit Committee Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 28 5pm  
Pumpkin Walk Thursday, Oct. 16 6pm

**Executive Session,** Motion by Jessica Wickham, seconded by Scott Lambert at 6:34pm for the Board to enter into executive session to discuss the potential of a litigation matter.

Motion by Keri Link, seconded by Tessah Ciardi to adjourn the meeting at 7:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Sharene Benedict, District Clerk