GUNNISON WATERSHED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting/Proposed Budget

This meeting was conducted in person and by distance using the video conferencing platform Zoom

May 18, 2026

Crested Butte Community School

Crested Butte, CO

The Gunnison Watershed School District RE1J Board of Education met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 18, 2026.

Regular Meeting Call to Order

Board President, Mrs. Anne Brookhart, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members present:	Mrs. Anne Brookhart	President
	Dr. Jody Coleman	Vice President
	Mrs. Katya Schloesser	Secretary
	Dr. Jennie Reithel	Director
Members absent:	Mr. Mark VanderVeer	Treasurer

Also present: Dr. Leslie Nichols, Superintendent and Mrs. Kim Fuller, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Recording Secretary to the Board.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Nichols led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Amended Agenda

Mrs. Schloesser moved to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Reithel seconded. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 4-0.

Commendations and Celebrations

Commendations were presented at the May 4, 2026 Board meeting.

Public Comment

None at this time.

Consent Grouping:

Minutes: May 4, 2026 Regular Meeting

Finance: April 2026 warrants were approved at the May 4, 2026 Board meeting.

Personnel:

- Grace Gardner - SPED Teacher, GHS
- Catrina Abeyta - Hair Styling Instructor, Pathways
- Gail Sovick - Spanish Teacher, GHS
- Meegan Haley - 6th Grade English Teacher (1 year only), GMS
- Christopher Wiegand - resignation - PE/Health Teacher, CBES
- Marlena Poirier - resignation - Education Assistant, GES
- Laura Perez - resignation - Education Assistant, Lake

Dr. Coleman moved to approve the Consent Grouping as presented. Mrs. Schloesser seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous roll call vote 4-0.

Items for information, discussion, and action

FY27 Proposed Budget Presentation

Mrs. Tia Mills, GWSD Director of Finance, presented an update on the FY27 Proposed Budget to the Board and fielded questions. She stated the biggest concerns for next year are the State of the State budget and our declining enrollment. Mrs. Mills also thanked the union and the leadership team for their work to help the district maintain a balanced budget.

Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Nichols presented an update on the end of year one and a preview of year two for the Strategic Plan. She shared slides with a review of GWSD history on District enrollment. She also presented slides that highlighted the 3 focus areas of the Strategic Plan: 1) Holistic Learner Experience, 2) Caring and Exceptional Staff and 3) Strong Family and Community Partnerships.

Dr. Nichols also shared that Celeste Ackerman, GWSD Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment scored a perfect score to earn 3-year funding for an early literacy grant.

Policy Updates Second Reading

- AD - School District Mission and Vision
- JICJ - Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Technology Devices

Dr. Reithel moved to accept Policy AD as presented. Mrs. Schloesser seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

At this time, there was public comment from Josh Eberly via Zoom regarding cell phones and screen time in the schools. He felt the district was taking a meaningful step in the right direction. After lengthy discussion, Dr. Reithel moved to approve Policy JICJ with updates as presented. Mrs. Schloesser seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous 4-0 vote.

Other Administrative Report Items
None at this time.

Items introduced by Board Members

Dr. Coleman shared how nice the Gunnison High School graduation was and thanked Mrs. Shana Benson for her work in making it special. Dr. Coleman also shared that Dr. Nichols gave a wonderful speech and shared her gratitude for all the work she has done for the District.
Dr. Nichols echoed the sentiments of a fantastic event at GHS graduation.
Mrs. Brookhart shared the Board will participate in an upcoming Board retreat with our incoming Superintendent, Mr. Bill Summers. The retreat will take place on Sunday, May 31, 2026 and Monday, June 1, 2026.

Board Committee Reports

Dr. Reithel shared CBCS SAC committee has had great parental involvement.

Forthcoming Agendas/Meeting Dates and Times

May 29, 2026	Gunnison Last Day of School
May 30, 2026	Crested Butte Graduation, 10:00am, CB
May 31, 2026	Board Planning Retreat, 3:00-7:00pm
June 1, 2026	Board Planning Retreat, 8:30am-4:30pm, RMBL365
June 5, 2026	Crested Butte Last Day of School
June 8, 2026	Regular Meeting/Budget Hearing, 5:30pm, GUN
June 22, 2026	Regular Meeting/Budget Adoption, 5:30pm, GUN

Adjournment

Dr. Coleman moved to adjourn and Dr. Reithel seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm. The motion carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Anne Brookhart
Board President

Vice President
Board ~~Secretary~~