

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

May 11, 2026

HS Library

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

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

Administrators Present: Christopher Brown, Sharene Benedict, Karissa Schutt, John Hicks, Erica Hasselstrom, Staci Thibodeau, Bryan Lamb, Clay Cole, Kayla Osika, Jenn Taft and Eric Pasho

Excused: Courtney Vencl, Kevin Cousin and Paul Lahue

Public Hearing was held from 6:00pm to 7:10pm.

Sheila Brown called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Public Access to the Board of Education

Phyllis Frantel, Canandaigua: Mrs. Frantel spoke on behalf of Mabel Deal. Mrs. Deal thanks everyone for their hard work.

Motion by Ashley Conley, seconded by Phyllis Frantel to approve the following resolution.

Approval of Agenda

Yes 9 No 0 MC

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Minutes of the April 15, 2026 Regular Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Minutes of the April 22, 2026 Special Meeting were accepted as submitted.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

Administrators' Reports

Dr. Christopher Brown reviewed five-year reserve plan with the Board of Education.

Congratulations to Katherine Green, Staci Thibodeau and Darian Hurwitz, receiving tenure. May 29 and May 30 Pageant of Bands, May 19 School Budget vote Noon to 8pm.

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

Consent Agenda

In an effort to expediate 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.

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 approve **Phoebe Cole** as Substitute Teacher for the 2025-26 school year.

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

Create Bus Monitor position: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve creating one (1) Bus Monitor civil service position effective April 27, 2026.

Amend Appointment Bus Monitor-Hallie Powers: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby amend appointment of **Hallie Powers** a probationary Civil

Service appointment as Bus Monitor, at an hourly rate per contract, effective April 27, 2026 to April 27, 2027.

Resignation-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 accept resignation of **Joseph Brown**, Custodian effective May 29, 2026.

Appoint Provisional Custodial Supervisor-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 appoint **Joseph Brown** a provisional Civil Service Custodial Supervisor position until successful completion of civil service exam at an hourly rate per contract, effective June 1, 2026, with a probationary period starting June 1, 2026 to June 1, 2027.

Resignation-John Peck: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept resignation of **John Peck**, Bus Driver effective August 31, 2026.

Resignation-Laurie Radder: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept resignation of **Laurie Radder**, Computer Tech Specialist effective June 25, 2026.

Resignation-Kelly Lopez: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept resignation for the purpose of retirement **Kelly Lopez**, Teacher Aide effective June 30, 2026.

Field Trip-FFA-Camp Oswegatchie: 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 final proposal of FFA going to Camp Oswegatchie Croghan, NY August 2, 2026 to August 7, 2026.

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.

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 2026 Spring semester:

SUNY Geneseo

Erin Rafalowski

Student Teacher

Gwen Winkler

Duration: May 18, 2026 to June 12, 2026

Resignation-David (Todd) Moore: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept resignation for the purpose of retirement of **David Moore**, Physical Education Teacher effective June 30, 2026.

Resignation-Kristin Hanggi: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept resignation **Kristin Hanggi**, Agriculture Family and Consumer Teacher effective June 26, 2026.

Resignation-Paul Lahue: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept resignation for the purpose of retirement of **Paul Lahue**, Athletic Director effective August 12, 2026.

Termination-Alicia Williamson: Resolved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and upon review of relevant records, the Board terminates the probationary appointment of Alicia Williams effective the close of business on June 30, 2026. The Superintendent or his designee shall notify the employee of this decision.

Long Term Substitute Art Teacher-Deborah Poplasky: 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 **Deborah Poplasky**, as a 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Art Teacher from April 27, 2026 to June 5, 2026 at Step 6, of the current teacher contract.

Probationary Business Administrator Appointment-Robert Berson Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, 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 **Robert Berson**, who holds a permanent School District Administration Certification, to a 1.0FTE Administrative position in the tenure area of School Business Administrator, for a three year probationary appointment commencing on May 12, 2026 and ending on May 11, 2029 salary at \$137,500 per individual employee agreement.

Approve Individual Agreement-Robert Berson: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve Robert Berson's Agreement for the Managerial and Confidential Employee as submitted for the 2025-26 school year.

Tenure Approval-Staci Thibodeau: 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, **Staci Thibodeau**, a probationary Director of Pupil Personnel Services appointed July 1, 2023, be appointed to tenure to the position of Director of Student Support Services tenure area. It having been shown that **Staci Thibodeau**, holds a valid New York State Professional Certification in School District Leader and Initial Certification School Building Leader in the aforesaid tenure area; and it further having been shown that the probationary period of **Staci Thibodeau** to be a Director of Student Support Services in the district expires on June 30, 2026; the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central school District does hereby grant tenure to and appoint to tenure **Staci Thibodeau** effective July 1, 2026 to the position of Director of Student Support Services.

Tenure Approval-Katherine Green: 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, **Katherine Green**, a probationary Teaching Assistant appointed July 1, 2024, be appointed to tenure to the position of Teaching Assistant tenure area. It having been shown that **Katherine Green**, holds a valid New York State Level III Teaching Assistant certification in the aforesaid tenure area; and it further having been shown that the probationary period of **Katherine Green** to be a Teaching Assistant in the district expires on June 30, 2026; the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central school District does hereby grant tenure to and appoint to tenure **Katherine Green** effective July 1, 2026 to the position of Teaching Assistant.

Tenure Approval-Darian Hurwitz: 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, **Darian Hurwitz**, a probationary School Psychologist appointed July 1, 2023, be appointed to tenure to the position of School Psychologist tenure area. It having been shown that **Darian Hurwitz**, holds a valid New York State Professional certification in School Psychologist in the aforesaid tenure area; and it further having been shown that the probationary period of **Darian Hurwitz** to be a School Psychologist in the district expires on June 30, 2026; the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central school District does hereby grant tenure to and appoint to tenure **Darian Hurwitz** effective July 1, 2026 to the position of School Psychologist.

Reasonable Assurance Letters: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby authorize the Superintendent and/or designee to send reasonable assurance letters regarding employment for the 2026-27 school to the following groups:

- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Nurses
- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Substitute Bus Monitors
- Substitute Teacher Aides/Assistants
- Substitute Cleaners
- Tutors
- Food Service

Chairman and Chief Inspector-Lonnie Gunsalus: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint **Lonnie Gunsalus** as Chairman and Chief Inspector for the Annual Meeting of the Voters to be held on May 19, 2026.

Annual Meeting Election Inspectors: 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 as election inspectors for the Annual Meeting of the Voters to be held on May 19, 2026.

LuAnn Oswald (voting machine)	Bonnie Andre (voting machine)
Linda Turner	Sharon Gage
Sue Cooper	Claudia Clark
Beth Tomion	Margaret Murphy
Sabra Dunton	Joanne Burley
Sharene Benedict	

Accept NYSSBA Agreement for Consultant Services: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby accept NYSSBA Agreement for Consultant Services effective May 15, 2026 to June 30, 2028.

Budget Transfers: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve the submitted list of budget transfers.

ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING STUDENT SCHOLARHIPS: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee does hereby accept **Coach Don Ennis Memorial Scholarship, Jackson Mumby Memorial, Class of 1971 Alumni is switched to: Marcus Whitman High School Alumni Fund, Schinsing Family for the Trades, Randall Baker Memorial Scholarship, David Fox Memorial, Jennifer Bay Colf Legacy Scholarship for Nursing Excellence, Conrad C Muehe Memorial Athletic Scholarship.**
These scholarships get audited because funds come to District and District distribute funds to student. Other scholarships not audited because no funds come into District and person sends a check directly to students.

Five-Year Reserve Plan: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve the Five-year Reserve Plan.

Approve CSE and 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.

Re-Organizational Meeting: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does

approve set date for the re-organizational meeting for July 13, 2026 6pm.

Yes 9 No 0 MC

Public Access to the Board

Christopher Brown welcomed new Business Administrator Robert Berson. Congratulations to Paul Lahue on his upcoming retirement.

Board Member Items

Review 2026-27 Board dates

Audit Committee Minutes

Safety Committee Minutes

Important Dates:

Tuesday, May 19 School Budget Vote Board Elections Noon-8pm

Tuesday, May 26 Audit Committee Meeting 5pm

Monday, June 8 Board Meeting 6pm Auditorium

Safety Committee Meeting in June

Break 7:35pm

Executive Session motion by Phyllis Frantel, seconded by Keri Link at 7:50pm for the Board to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of particular person and discuss collective negotiations with Administrator's Association.

8:58pm Christopher Brown and Robert Berson left executive session.

Motion by Keri Link, seconded by Jessica Wickham to adjourn the meeting at 9:48pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sharene Benedict
District Clerk