

GORHAM-MIDDLESEX CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING

August 4, 2026
HS Library

Board Members Present: Sheila Brown, Cindy Hall, Scott Lambert, Ashley Conley, Phyllis Frantel, Jessica Wickham, Lisa Grefrath and Tessah Ciardi

Absent: John Foust

Ex-Officio Student Board Members Present: Devyn Bond and Lilly Burnett

Administrators Present: Christopher Brown, Robert Berson, Sharene Benedict, Eric Pasho, Mike Gorton, Staci Thibodeau, Erica Hasselstrom and Bryan Lamb

Administrators excused: Karissa Schutt, Kayla Osika, Clay Cole, Paul Lahue, Kevin Cousin, Courtney VencI and John Hicks

There was a public hearing on Student Code of Conduct, Title I and IDEA 6:00pm to 6:35pm.

Sheila Brown called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

No comments.

Motion by Phyllis Frantel, seconded by Tessah Ciardi to approve the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Yes 8 No 0 (absent: John Foust) MC

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Re-Organizational and Regular Board of Education Meeting dated July 13, 2026 were accepted as submitted.

ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT

No treasurer's report due to audit.

ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS:

Dr. Brown welcomed Kristina Sykes as the District's new Assistant Principal and Michael Gorton as the new Athletic Director. An update was provided on the capital project at Gorham Elementary, including progress on paving and other summer construction activities in other buildings in preparation for the opening of school. The Superintendent shared that the District is continuing its utilization study to assess current and future facility needs. Updates were provided on Band Camp and the many summer professional development opportunities in which faculty and staff have been participating to prepare for the upcoming school year. Board members were given mandated reporter training.

Motion by Tessah Ciardi, seconded by Jessica Wickham to approve the following resolutions:

CONSENT AGENDA

The following appointments are pending clearance of NYS fingerprinting requirements:

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 appoint **Gwendalyn Robinson** as Substitute Teacher Aide for the 2026-27 school year.

Appoint Extended Year Program Staff: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent; the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby appoint **Jade Tandle**, Substitute Teaching Assistant for the 2026 Extended School Year Program.

hereby appoint **Jade Tandle**, Substitute Teaching Assistant for the 2026 Extended School Year Program.

Create Building Maintenance Worker Position: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby create one (1) Building Maintenance Worker position effective July 22, 2026.

Accept Career Leave-Jacqueline Wickham: 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 Career Leave of Jacqueline Wickham, English Teacher for the 2026-27 school year.

Accept Leave of Absence-Michael Gorton: 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 Leave of Absence of Michael Gorton, Counselor for the 2026-27 school year.

Accept Unpaid Leave of Absence-Johanna Eschler: 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 Unpaid Leave of Absence of Johanna Eschler, Art Teacher effective September 1, 2026 to approximately November 30, 2026.

Resignation-Marissa Cornish: 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 of Marissa Cornish, Teacher Aide, effective July 29, 2026.

Yearly Building Per Diem Substitute: 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 Yearly Building Per Diem Substitutes for the 2025-26 school year:

Madeline James	Middlesex Valley Elementary
Felicia Cotroneo	Gorham Elementary
Matthew Bond	Middle School/High School
TBD	Middle School/High School

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 2026-27 school year:

Department Chairperson	Name	Stipend
Dept. Chairperson for Arts in Education (Pre-K-2)	Stephanie Bode	\$ 956.50
Dept. Chairperson for Counselors (6-12)	Kyle Cunningham	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Counselors (Pre-K-5)	Kerri Mitchell-DePorter	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for English Language Arts (6-12)	James Santonastaso	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Fine Arts (K-12)	Katie Stamm	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Foreign Language (6-12)	Caitlin Foley	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Library/Media Specialist	Christine Porschet	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Math (6-12)	Amanda Cooney	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Music (K-12)	Corrine DeRue	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Nurse	Rachael Johnson	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Occupations/Technology (6-12)	Kathleen Alvord	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Reading UPK-8	Shawna Crouse	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Science (6-12)	Patrick Prusinowski	\$ 1,913.00

Dept. Chairperson for Social Studies (6-12)	Jody McLaughlin	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Special Education 6-12	Wendy Warters	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Special Education-Gorham	Patricia Smith	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. Chairperson for Special Education-Valley	Marcy Adams	\$ 1,913.00
Dept. of Chairperson for Physical Education (K-12)	Todd Cunningham	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (1st Grade)	Joanne Emerson	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (2nd Grade)	Kelley Bradshaw	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (3rd Grade)	Bonnie Prendergast	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (4th Grade)	Bailey Linehan	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (5th Grade)	Gwen Winkler	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (6th Grade)	Kellie Fritz	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (7th Grade)	Matt Palmer	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader (8th Grade)	Brian Ayers	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader ECO	Malcolm MacKenzie	\$ 4488.00
Team Leader Kindergarten	Kristie Nielsen	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader UPK	Rachel Flower	\$ 1,913.00
Team Leader Special Areas	Angela Schwert	\$ 1,913.00

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 2026-27 school year:

Activity	Name	Base	Longevity	Stipend
Art Club-HS	Johanna Eschler	\$693.00	\$200.00	\$893.00
Art Club-MS	Ariel Washburn	\$693.00	\$0.00	\$693.00
Auditorium Manager	Austin Kephart	\$3,138.00	\$50.00	\$3,188.00
Chess Club	Chris Sohn	\$619.00	\$200.00	\$819.00
Clay Target	Amy Harter	\$476.00	\$150.00	\$626.00
Clay Target	Carl Ekdahl	\$476.00	\$500.00	\$976.00
Entrepreneur Club	Kathleen Alvord	\$1,769.00	\$950.00	\$2,719.00
Envirothon	Jon Pragle	\$619.00	\$100.00	\$719.00
Fall Play Director	Joelle Davis	\$3,266.00	\$0.00	\$3,266.00
FFA	Mary Coolbaugh	\$3,266.00	\$400.00	\$3,666.00
Freshman Advisor	Chase Boggs	\$495.00	\$0.00	\$495.00
Freshman Advisor	Lori Weissinger	\$495.00	\$0.00	\$495.00
Future Educators	Jessica Frank	\$990.00	\$100.00	\$1,090.00
Honor Society	James Santonastaso	\$1,856.00	\$450.00	\$2,306.00
Honor Society	Amanda Cooney	\$1,856.00	\$0.00	\$1,856.00
Horticulture Club	Mary Coolbaugh	\$866.00	\$400.00	\$1,266.00
Intramurals	Jeff Anthony	\$13.60 per hour	\$1,000.00	TBD per hours worked
Intramurals	Ruth Walters	\$13.60 per hour	\$500.00	TBD per hours worked

Jazz Ensemble - HS	Elizabeth Prusinowski	\$2,721.00	\$300.00	\$3,021.00
Jazz Ensemble 6th	Elizabeth Prusinowski	\$445.00	\$0.00	\$445.00
Jazz Ensemble 7th and 8th	Elizabeth Prusinowski	\$742.00	\$0.00	\$742.00
Junior Advisor	Kristiana Wetterings-Potter	\$928.00	\$0.00	\$928.00
Junior Advisor	Jennifer Mitchell	\$928.00	\$450.00	\$1,378.00
Junior FFA	Brennan Dailey	\$2,721.00	\$0.00	\$2,721.00
Masterminds	Justice Newell	\$619.00	\$100.00	\$719.00
MS Drama Club Advisor & Director of Fall Performance	Jennifer Mitchell	\$2,721.00	\$350.00	\$3,071.00
MS Spring Musical	Jennifer Mitchell	\$2,041.00	\$300.00	\$2,341.00
MS Student Senate	Shauna Turco	\$1,237.00	\$50.00	\$1,287.00
MS Student Senate	Brennan Dailey	\$1,237.00	\$0.00	\$1,237.00
MS Vocal and Instrumental Director	Corrine DeRue	\$2,721.00	\$50.00	\$2,771.00
Musical Director	Joelle Davis	\$4,082.00	\$0.00	\$4,082.00
Prism Club	Bryce Daskiewich	\$680.00	\$50.00	\$730.00
Senior Advisor	Bryce Daskiewich	\$1,237.00	\$50.00	\$1,287.00
Senior Advisor	Tonya Fox	\$1,237.00	\$50.00	\$1,287.00
Ski Club Elementary	Kyle Morsheimer	\$544.00	\$150.00	\$694.00
Ski Club HS	Jessica Frank	\$544.00	\$900.00	\$1,444.00
Ski Club MS	Kathleen Alvord	\$544.00	\$350.00	\$894.00
Sophomore Advisor	Erin Ormsby	\$681.00	\$50.00	\$731.00
Sophomore Advisor	James Santonastaso	\$681.00	\$50.00	\$731.00
Student Council-HS	Caitlin Foley	\$1,237.00	\$150.00	\$1,387.00
Student Council-HS	Madison Kosuda	\$1,237.00	\$200.00	\$1,437.00
Supervisor of 3 - 5PM Structured Secondary Student Period	James Santonastaso	\$45 per hour	\$50.00	TBD per hours worked
Supervisor of 3 - 5PM Structured Secondary Student Period	Jessica Frank	\$45 per hour	\$100.00	TBD per hours worked
Supervisor of 3 - 5PM Structured Secondary Student Period	Tom Barden	\$45 per hour	\$100.00	TBD per hours worked
Supervisor of 3 - 5PM Structured Secondary Student Period	Wendy Ryder	\$45 per hour	\$100.00	TBD per hours worked
Supervisor of 3 - 5PM Structured Secondary Student Period	Lisa Carey	\$45 per hour	\$100.00	TBD per hours worked
Supervisor of 3 - 5PM Structured Secondary Student Period	Tonya McFadden	\$45 per hour	\$0.00	TBD per hours worked
Vocal/Instrumental Director HS	Corrine DeRue	\$2,721.00	\$50.00	\$2,771.00
Wellness Coordinator	Lindsay Macumber	\$1,141.00	\$100.00	\$1,241.00
Wellness Coordinator	Wendy Ryder	\$1,141.00	\$300.00	\$1,441.00
Yearbook Club-HS	Erin Ormsby	\$1,978.50	\$50.00	\$2,028.50
Yearbook Club-HS	Johanna Eschler	\$1,978.50	\$200.00	\$2,178.50
Yearbook Club-MS	Ariel Washburn	\$942.00	\$0.00	\$942.00

Technology Coach Appointments: 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 as Technology Coaches for the 2026-27 school year:

- Emily Joslyn
- Sam Wolf
- Jon Pragle
- Delana Hey
- Maddison Dillon
- Bailey Linehan
- Chris Sohn

Appoint Field Band: 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:

Activity	Name	Base	Longevity	Stipend
Field Band Visual Tech	Max Clovis	\$642	\$0	\$642

Probationary Appointment Director of Athletics - Michael Gorton: 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, does hereby appoint conditioned upon receiving School Building District Leader Certification **Michael Gorton**, to a Director of Athletics position in the tenure area of Director of Athletics, for a four year probationary appointment commencing August 4, 2026 and ending on August 3, 2030, contingent on the Administrator receiving a rating of Effective or Highly Effective on three of the four years preceding the tenure recommendation; pro-rated salary starting at \$90,000 of the current Marcus Whitman Administrators contract.

Probationary Appointment Assistant Principal-Kristina Sykes: 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, does hereby appoint **Kristina Sykes**, who holds an Initial Certificate School Building Leader to an Assistant Principal position in the tenure area of Assistant Principal, for a four year probationary appointment commencing on or before September 8, 2026 and ending on or before September 7, 2030, contingent on the Administrator receiving a rating of Effective or Highly Effective on three of the four years preceding the tenure recommendation; pro-rated salary starting at \$82,000 of the current Marcus Whitman Administrators contract.

Probationary Appointment Special Education Teacher-Janice Crawford: 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, does hereby appoint **Janice Crawford**, who holds an Initial Certificate Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12) to a 1.0FTE Special Education Teacher position in the tenure area of Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions-General Special Education, for a four year probationary appointment commencing September 28, 2026 and ending on September 27, 2030, contingent on the teacher receiving a rating of Effective or Highly Effective on three of the four years preceding the tenure recommendation; salary starting at Step 17 of the current MWTa contract.

Amend Probationary Appointment Elementary Teacher- Kelsey Phillips: 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, does hereby appoint **Kelsey Phillips**, who holds a Professional Certificate Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) to a 1.0FTE Elementary Teacher position in the tenure area of Elementary, for a three year probationary appointment commencing July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2029, contingent on the teacher receiving a rating of Effective or Highly Effective on two of the three years preceding the tenure recommendation; salary starting at Step 6 of the current MWTa contract.

This was approved at the June 8 board meeting.

Amend Authorizations & Designations: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby gives the following authorizations for the 2026-27 school year:

A. petty cash fund in each of the following offices:

Athletic Admission \$200.00 **Michael Gorton**

This was approved at the July 13 board meeting. This had TBD on the July agenda.

Amend Certification of Lead Evaluators:

WHEREAS, the following administrators have completed trainings which meet the requirements of 8 NYCRR 30-2.9 and the WFL BOCES Annual Professional Performance Review Plan (APPR) for certification as a Lead Evaluator of teachers:

Michael Gorton, Director of Athletics

This was approved at the July 13 board meeting. This had TBD on the July agenda.

Rescind Annual Appointment: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School does hereby rescind the following appointment for the 2026-27 school year:

Dignity Act Coordinator-High School **Michael Gorton**

This was approved at the July 13 board meeting.

Approve Ontario County Shared Services Panel-Dr. Christopher Brown: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District does hereby approve Dr. Christopher Brown to serve on the Ontario County Shared Services Panel for the 2026-27 school year.

Accept Organizational Chart: 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 **Organizational Chart**.

Approve Tax Warrant: Be it resolved that whereas the approved tax levy at \$18,767,941 has been aligned against the current assessments and the tax rates are available, the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does approve the tax warrant as submitted.

Approve Changes to Student Code of Conduct: 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 changes to the **Student Code of Conduct**.

Accept Fuel Sharing Inter-Municipal Agreement Between Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES and Gorham-Middlesex CSD: 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 Fuel Sharing Inter-Municipal Agreement between Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES and Gorham-Middlesex Central School District for the 2026-27 school year.

Accept Vehicle Maintenance Services Inter-Municipal Agreement Between Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES and Gorham-Middlesex CSD: 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 Vehicle Maintenance Services Inter-Municipal Agreement between Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES and Gorham-Middlesex Central School District for the 2026-27 school year.

Accept Employee-Employer Support Services Contract (Family Counseling of the Finger Lakes, Inc.): 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

Employee-Employer Support services Contract (Family Counseling of the Finger Lakes, Inc. for the 2026-27 school year.

Accept amendments for the 2025-26 Budget: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, recommends to the Board of education to increase the 2025-2026 by \$81,031 and use of Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve to fund retirees' vacation and sick days payment per the Administrator's contract from the Employees Benefit Liability Reserve, effective June 30, 2026. This would relieve the impact on the General Fund budget for Fiscal year 2025-26.

Accept amendment for the 2026-27 Budget: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, recommends to the Board of education to increase the 2026-2027 Budget by \$123,475 and use of Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve to fund retirees' vacation and sick days payment per the Administrator's contract from the Employees Benefit Liability Reserve, effective June 30, 2026. This would relieve the impact on the General Fund budget for Fiscal year 2026-27.

Accept The Budget Transfers: Be it resolved that upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, recommends to the Board of Education to accept budget transfers for over \$10,000 and that the Budget Transfers over \$10,000.

Approve Section 913 of Education Law -Dr. R.P. Singh:

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District Board of Education (the "Board") to employ only such individuals as are physically and mentally qualified to perform the duties associated with their positions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 913 of the New York State Education Law, in order to safeguard the health of children attending public schools, the Board has the authority to require District employees to submit to a medical examination by a school medical examiner designated by the Board in order to determine whether such employee possesses the physical or mental capacity to perform the duties associated with his position; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent made a recommendation to the Board in executive session at the meeting this evening, August 4, 2026, that a certain District employee be required to undergo an examination and evaluation pursuant to New York State Education Law Section 913; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that Dr. R.P. Singh, of University of Rochester Medical Center, whose office is located at 1111 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620, should act as school medical examiner for the purposes of New York State Education Law Section 913.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Dr. R.P. Singh whose office is located at 1111 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 is hereby designated as school medical examiner for purposes of New York State Education Law Section 913.
2. The Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to order the certain District employee referenced above to report to Dr. Singh for examination at his office located at 1111 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 on such date as Dr. Singh shall designate, provided that the date and time of such examination is scheduled to take place during the employee's regular work day.
3. The Superintendent is further authorized to order said employee to provide properly completed and signed medical authorizations that comply with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) to the Superintendent in sufficient quantity authorizing Dr. Singh to obtain all records of prior medical care, treatment, and evaluation of the designated District employee, including mental health records, from physicians and other medical care providers within the last three (3) years.
4. The Superintendent is further authorized to order the employee to report to such other physicians or agencies as Dr. Singh may direct.

5. The results of Dr. Singh's examination and all further examinations required or requested by Dr. Singh are to be forwarded to the Board.
6. The Superintendent is directed to forward a letter to the employee, together with a certified copy of this resolution, advising the employee of the scheduled date of the examination, directing the employee to report to Dr. Singh's office for the examination and evaluation, and directing the employee to report to such other physicians and agencies as Dr. Singh may direct.
7. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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 8 No 0 (absent: John Foust) MC

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE BOARD

No comments.

BOARD MEMBERS' ITEMS:

Important Dates:

- June Audit Committee Minutes
- New Teacher Luncheon Tuesday, 8/25 at Noon Hotel Canandaigua
- All Staff Conference Day September 1 at 7:30am
- NYSSBA Annual Convention/Education Expo
October 22-24 Buffalo Convention Center
- Board Committees:
Buildings/Grounds (Lisa, Cindy and John)
Policy (Ashley and Tessah)
Safety (Scott)
Audit (Sheila, Jessica and Phyllis)
- Sunshine Fund
- Some board members shared "paws"itives about students, graduates and foreign exchange student.

Executive Session motion by Scott Lambert, seconded by Tessah Ciardi at 7:22pm for the Board to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Motion by Scott Lambert, seconded by Tessah Ciardi to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sharene Benedict
District Clerk