OFFICIAL MINUTES
GENESEE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING & WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026 – 5:30 P.M.
MEDIA LAB ROOM

The regular meeting was livestreamed on the school's website: www.genvalley.org

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Heath Gordon, President presiding.

Roll Call was taken by District Clerk:
Member Present: Heath Gordon, President, Michelle Kelley, Vice-President, Max Gilluly, Jamie Willson, Shawn Grusendorf, James Cartwright and Jeremy Marsh
District Personnel: Dr. Paige Kinnaird, Superintendent; Sara Donlon, 7-12 Principal, Sarah Taylor, PK-6 Principal, Erin Ostrander, Business Official/Deputy District Clerk, Pam Winterhalter, District Clerk
Staff Members: Meredith Preston, Caroline Mapes

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Persons to Address the Board:
- No person(s) to address the board

APPROVE AGENDA: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Michelle Kelley, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School to adopt the Board of Education Agenda of the October 13, 2026 Board of Education Meeting, as submitted.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

***Dr. Kinnaird had technical difficulties - her presentation & Administrative Data Reports were delayed until after Personnel Items before Information/Discussion*

APPROVE MINUTES: Motion made by Max Gilluly, seconded by Jeremy Marsh - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves the Board of Education minutes of the regular meeting dated September 8, 2026, as submitted.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:
- ***Budget, Personnel & Negotiations Committee:*** Per Jamie – Erin will be providing everyone a draft Budget Calendar tonight, and we have four agreements (contracts) that are up for renewal this year: Admin., Business Admin., CSEA and Confidential & Managerial. The committee will keep the rest of the board updated**.**
- ***The Athletic Committee (GV only):*** Per Max – Continuing to work on the hiring process, they would like to highlight coaches on our social media, making sure we communicate with Belfast on things and that we are following the same procedures.

~ Buddy & Paige recently met and discussed the structure and process for each of our Board Committees and how they should be run. Once the layout is completed it will be presented to the rest of the Board.

~ ***Health & Safety Committee:*** Meeting was cancelled.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER INFORMATION

- ***By Dr. Kinnaird –*** Our Student Board member was unable to come tonight. Morgan informed Dr. Kinnaird that her course load is a lot this year, so she has decided to step down from being the student board member. Dr. Kinnaird will work with Mrs. Donlon and Mrs. Preston to find a replacement for Morgan.
- One item Morgan wanted to share with the board tonight is that some of our GV students expressed interest at a recent Student Council meeting in reaching out to students in Belfast to see if they would be interested in working on a combined Prom.

FINANCIAL REPORTS/BUSINESS OFFICE:

- Business Office/District Treasurer's Report by Ms. Ostrander: During the work session tonight a draft Budget Calendar will be shared, more state aid plans have been filed, anticipating a very challenging budget year.
- We have two grants that have ended. The Junior Firefighter grant ended at the end of August, and the BJA grant, that we contracted with Peaceful Schools and Psychologists, ended at the end of September. We are working with the grant writer to complete the final reports for both grants.

APPROVE BOCES RENTAL AGREEMENT: Motion made by Jamie Willson, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves the BOCES Lease Agreement for Distance Learning Classroom Space for the period of July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0

APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORTS: Motion made by Michelle Kelley, seconded by Max Gilluly - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves the following Treasurer's Reports as submitted: Payroll Account 9/1-9/30/2026; Agency Account 9/1-9/30/26; School Lunch Fund 9/1-9/30/2026; Scholarship Fund 9/1-9/30/2026; Risk Retention (U.I. Reserve) 9/1-9/30/2026; Capital Fund 9/1-9/30/2026; Special Aid Account 9/1-9/30/2026
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA/GENERAL ACTION ITEMS:

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: Motion made by Shawn Grusendorf, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves the consent agenda items as follows:

1. Approve the following additional Athletic Event Worker for the 2026-2027 school year, pay as per GVEA contract: ***Amy Halbert***
2. Approve overnight trip request from Nancy George ~ ***Youth and Government*** (7^{th} & 8^{th} Graders) to travel to Albany, NY on November 22-24, 2026, as submitted
3. Approve ***Tammy Gleason*** as a Substitute After School Monitor for the 2026-2027 school year, rate of pay shall be $30/hour

4. Approve the following ***New Substitutes*** for the 2026-2027 school year, rate of pay shall be as per Board Policy:
   ~ ***Hannah Baker*** as a substitute certified teacher, etc., fingerprint clearance on file
   ~ ***Amanda Hults*** as a substitute teacher aide, etc., pending fingerprint clearance
   ~ ***Madisyn Dannheim*** as a substitute teacher aide, etc. pending fingerprint clearance
5. Approve the following students to work on their observation hours at GVCS:
   ~ ***Hannah Wagner*** to work in the classroom with John Wagner, Donna Faller and April Miller from October 14, 2026 until December 8, 2026
   ~ ***Avery Grusendorf*** to work with Brooke Bradt during the month of October 2026
   ~ ***Nicola Soper*** and ***Elena Roberts*** to work in the classroom with Kaycee Schmidt, Chelsea Dunham and April Miller from October 14, 2026 – December 18, 2026
6. Approve ***Abigail Lloyd*** from Houghton University as a Student Teacher at Genesee Valley Central School, under the supervision of Holly LaBenne from January 6, 2027 to April 30, 2027
7. Approve the ***CSE/CPSE Recommendations,*** dated October 5, 2026, as submitted
8. Approve Out of District Student Attendance for ***Timothy Dougherty*** to attend Genesee Valley Central School for the 2026-2027 school year
9. Approve ***Supplemental Administrative Procedures*** effective September 1, 2026, as submitted
10. Approve ***Lifeguards*** as submitted for the 2026-2027 school year, rate of pay shall be per GVEA contract
11. Approve the following returning substitute for the 2026-2027 school year, rate of pay shall be per Board Policy:
    ~ ***Chelsea George*** as a substitute teacher, teacher aide, etc., fingerprint clearance on file

VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS:

APPROVE LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Jamie Willson, seconded by Max Gilluly - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves ***Michelle Zlomek*** to a non-probationary position of Long-Term Substitute Reading Intervention Teacher, effective September 18, 2026 until on or about October 16, 2026. The rate of pay shall be 1/200th of Step 10 as per GVEA contract.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AIDE: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Jamie Willson, seconded by Michelle Kelley - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves ***Jacquiline Page*** as a non-probationary position of Long-Term Substitute Teacher Aide, effective October 14, 2026 until on or about March 1, 2027. The rate of pay shall be per CSEA contract. *(Coverage for Katelyn Sands)*
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent - Motion made by Max Gilluly, seconded by Michelle Kelley - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves leave of absence request for ***Jody Clancy*** from her position of Food Service Helper, for the period of September 21, 2026 until December 30, 2026.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent - Motion made by James Cartwright, seconded by Jeremy Marsh - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves leave of absence request for ***Tracy George*** from her position of Teacher Aide, for the period of October 9, 2026 until on or about January 4, 2027.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent - Motion made by Jeremy Marsh, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves leave of absence request for ***Deanna Hillman*** from her position of Elementary Teacher, for the period of on or about November 16, 2026 until on or about March 10, 2027.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent - Motion made by Jamie Willson, seconded by Michelle Kelley - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School approves leave of absence request for ***Caroline Mapes*** from her position of Family & Consumer Science Teacher, for the period of on or about March 12, 2027 until on or about June 15, 2027.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE SCIENCE TEACHER: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Michelle Kelley, seconded by Jeremy Marsh - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School hereby approves ***Donna Slawson,*** to move to a non-probationary position of Long-Term Substitute Science Teacher effective on or about September 18, 2026, until on or about November 29, 2026. *(Coverage for Karen Bentley)*
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPROVE LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Jamie Willson, seconded by Michelle Kelley - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School hereby approves ***Nathan Slawson,*** to move to a non-probationary position of Long-Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher effective September 18, 2026, until on or about November 29, 2026. The rate of pay shall be 1/200th of Step 1, per the GVEA contract. *(Coverage for Donna Slawson)*
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent - Motion made by Shawn Grusendorf, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School accepts the resignation from ***Meredith Preston***, as a Teacher Assistant, effective October 13, 2026 to accept the position of Elementary Teacher.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPOINT FULL TIME ELEMENTARY TEACHER: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Jeremy Marsh, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School hereby appoints ***Meredith Preston***, who holds an Initial New York State Teaching Certificate in Elementary, to a full time probationary position of Elementary Teacher effective on or about October 14, 2026 in the Elementary tenure area. There is a probationary period of four (4) years to commence on October 14, 2026 and conclude on October 13, 2030. The base salary for the 2026-2027 school year shall be Step 1, with benefits in accordance with the GVEA contract. *(Replaces Katelyn Bailey)*
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

APPOINT LONG-TERM FOOD SERVICE HELPER: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent – Motion made by Shawn Grusendorf, seconded by Jamie Willson - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School hereby appoints ***Katri Adams-White,*** as a Long-Term Food Service Helper, effective October 14, 2026 until on or about December 22, 2026. The rate of pay shall be per the CSEA contract. *(Coverage for Jody Clancy)*
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION: Acting on the recommendation of the Superintendent - Motion made by Max Gilluly, seconded by Michelle Kelley - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School accepts the resignation from ***Kanta Ueno***, as Modified Baseball Coach for Genesee Valley/Belfast, effective September 29, 2026.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

**Moved from the beginning of the meeting - Presentation by Dr. Kinnaird & Principals Reports*

Presentation to the Board:

- School Board Recognition week October 12-16, 2026 – Dr. Kinnaird presented a short video that Jeff Babbitt created. He asked a few students "What does the school board do at meetings?" As a thank you, the board members were each given a gift from Dr. Kinnaird, and everyone enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by our cafeteria staff.
- Dr. Kinnaird provided an update on New York Inspires – the work being done at the state level will involve reexamining current educational practices and exploring new approaches to how education is delivered across New York State. The Board of Regents has voted to decouple Regents exams from graduation requirements. Beginning in January of 2028, students will earn a New York State Diploma without being required to meet Regents exam passing requirements. Regents exams will not be eliminated; however, the state plans to introduce new assessments that will replace the existing Regent exams. The federal Every Student Succeeds Act requires high-stakes assessments in Math, Science, and English. New York State is also developing new exams for Social Studies. More information to come on that.
- An Assessment Audit will be an area of focus moving forward and will be discussed at the October 28 department meeting. The audit will examine all assessments administered to students, ranging from classroom assessments and i-Ready to state assessments. At the state level, five key areas that will be focused on in the next couple of years are: assessment audit, project-based learning, portrait of a graduate, communicating with families and stakeholders, and communicating with faculty and staff about all the changes that are happening in education.
- IXL has been delivered – during the MTSS meetings the teams will be looking at the data and determining which students need additional assistance.
- Tracking Attendance at 5 weeks – need to communicate with families the importance of students being in school.
- APPR scores are due to the State this Friday.
- Beyond the Bell is the new After School Program – we still don't have a contract number from New York State, so unfortunately we don't have a start date yet. Our new Director Hannah Baker has been preparing for the program to start.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA REPORTS:

- **MS/HS by Sara Donlon –** It's been busy the first 6 weeks of school, some new things – backpack policy with kids using lockers, we had our first advisement day, new ineligibility list which is completely based on percentage grades instead of the learning behavior rubric that we used in previous years, picture day, spirit week, pep rally with some different games held at GV on the October 2, (the JV & Varsity teams went to Belfast first then back for our pep rally), that evening we had games, food trucks, the dance was on the October 3 (which was well attended) with a Wall of Fame Induction ceremony that morning, our new Spanish and Social Studies teachers officially started on October 5. On October 9 we had the county wide professional development day – MS/HS teacher went to Cuba/Rushford, other area elementary teachers came to GV, all our fall fire drills are completed, a couple committee meetings were held - Portrait of a graduate, building level safety meeting, and also had a department coordinator's meeting last week. We still need to complete 2 lockdown drills this fall and parents will be notified. Book studies have started.

- **Elementary by Sarah Taylor –** First round of RTI meetings will be this Friday for K-2 and on Monday for Grades 3-6, first behavioral round meetings (meet about student that may be struggling with behaviors in the classroom on October 21, this week is National School Lunch week – Amy has put together some fun things for the kids in the cafeteria, Fall festival coming up on October 24 with Trunk or Treat, first character word assembly is on October 28, Halloween spirit week for the elementary the last week of October Eric Jones coming in to a live pumpkin carving on November 6 as a whole group positive behavior reward, Parent-Teacher conferences are coming up in November.

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION:

Upcoming Board Meetings:

- Friday, October 16, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - BOE Building Visitation
- Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. - Athletics Committee Meeting at GV with Belfast
- Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. - Alumni Wall of Fame Committee Meeting
- Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. - Policy Review Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. – Governing Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. – Regular Board of Education Meeting

Informational / Discussion:

- Michelle Kelley talked about the upcoming Annual Business Meeting with NYSSBA. She will be attending virtually next Thursday, and they will be reviewing proposed resolutions. She will update the board after the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by James Cartwright, seconded by Michelle Kelley - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School adjourns the regular meeting at 6:21 p.m.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

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**Brief intermission to have dinner
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WORK SESSION was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Heath Gordon, President presiding.

WORK SESSION AGENDA:

- Board Goals
- Board of Education Self Evaluation Review
- Budget Calendar
- Committee work
- Yearbooks for Board Members
- For the Good of the Order

***Paige & Erin left at 7:20 p.m.*

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Jamie Willson, seconded by James Cartwright - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Genesee Valley Central School adjourns the work session at 8:17 p.m.
VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abs. 0 Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela A. Winterhalter
District Clerk