

**GILFORD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2022
GILFORD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
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The Gilford School Board held a meeting on February 7, 2022 in the Gilford High School Auditorium. Present were Board members Gretchen Gandini, Jeanin Onos, Kyle Sanborn, Audra Kelly and Karen Thurston. Gilmanon representatives were Johnna McKenna and Michelle Heyman. Administrators present were Superintendent Beitler, Amie Leigh, Danielle Bolduc and Anthony Sperazzo.

Opening

School Board Chair Gretchen Gandini called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Superintendent Beitler confirmed posting of the meeting.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held to discuss the acceptance of grant monies.

Amie Leigh recommended the Robotics grants for acceptance. The Robotics Education Development Program grant via the DOE, was awarded to the Gilford School District for \$5,000.00 for use in the 21-22 school year. These funds will be expended and reported to the NHDOE. The District previously received \$7,500.00.

There was no public comment.

A motion to accept the Robotics Education Development grant was made by Kyle Sanborn and seconded by Gretchen Gandini. It passed unanimously with a 7-0 vote

Approval of Minutes

Jeanin Onos motioned to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2022 meeting. Audra Kelly seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a 6-0-1 vote. Johnna McKenna abstained from the vote.

Jeanin Onos motioned to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2022 meeting. Audra Kelly seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a 5-0-2 vote. Johnna McKenna and Michelle Heyman abstained from the vote.

Public Comment

Chair Gandini opened the public comment session.

Koleen Crawford suggested removing the mask mandate and focus on learning.

Kristen Marshall suggested removing the mask mandate as well, especially in PE classes.

There being no further comments, Chair Gandini closed public comment.

Student Report

Avery Marshall and Katie Stickland updated the Board on the senior class trip, winter carnival and scheduling classes for next school year. They shared that everyone is very excited for the future.

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Superintendent's Report

Student Learning

Superintendent Beitler informed the Board that the high school guidance office is working on launching a Virtual School Counseling Office. There are some really neat features to the virtual office such as mindfulness activities, math and word games, animal watching, and an exercise room.

Families and Communities

Superintendent Beitler is looking to update the 2021-2022 school year plan to change the isolation and quarantining protocol to the newest information released by NH DHHS. We have adopted this protocol. He included a draft in the Board packet with the new isolation and quarantine protocol highlighted. Based on a call with NH DHHS last week that GHS nurse, Meg Jenkins, attended, our reporting to DHHS will be reduced to once a week. We will no longer report individual cases on a daily basis. We will report weekly on the number of student and staff isolation and quarantine. The toolkit is no longer in use. The new guidance is *Responding to COVID-19 in K-12 Schools and Child Care Facilities*. A copy of the new guidance was provided in the Board packet and he suggested that it be linked to the 2021-2022 school year plan.

The high school has scheduled a Meet the Candidates Night for February 24th at 6:00 PM.

Part of the ESSER III grant requirement is to get input on how to expend the funds. Superintendent Beitler has sent out an email to the school community to ask for input and we have set up a specific ESSER email address to gather the input. He is monitoring that email and saving the input for consideration. He has also visited staff meetings and team leader meetings in the schools. Superintendent Beitler is planning on joining Mr. Nazer on the GHS news to inform students and get their input.

Audra Kelly stated she would like to update the plan to make masks optional and put our trust in parents to make the decision. Kyle Sanborn agreed stating it is time to end the mask mandate.

Audra Kelly motioned to return to the original plan at the opening of school and make masks optional. Kyle Sanborn seconded the motion.

Jeanin Onos stated that she would like to hear from teachers and administrators. Danielle Bolduc replied that a majority of the staff at GES wear masks every day. Staff would get behind targeted masking.

Michelle Heyman asked for clarification on the motion regarding someone returning after testing positive for COVID. Currently, they can return if asymptomatic but must wear a mask for 5 days.

Audra Kelly rescinded her motion. Kyle Sanborn rescinded his second to the motion.

Kyle Sanborn motioned to make masks optional at Gilford Elementary School and follow DHHS guidelines, which state a COVID positive person who returns to school after 5 days would be required to wear a mask for five more days. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote. Karen Thurston was the opposing vote.

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Kyle Sanborn motioned to make masks optional at Gilford Middle School and follow DHHS guidelines, which state a COVID positive person who returns to school after 5 days would be required to wear a mask for five more days. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote. Karen Thurston was the opposing vote.

Kyle Sanborn motioned to make masks optional at Gilford High School and follow DHHS guidelines, which state a COVID positive person who returns to school after 5 days would be required to wear a mask for five more days. The motion passed with a 6-1 vote. Karen Thurston was the opposing vote.

Superintendent Beitler stated that he would update the plan, remove masking, update quarantine and isolation and attach the updated guidance from DHHS.

The Board will continue to review the plan monthly.

Audra Kelly motioned to eliminate the COVID Dashboard. Kyle Sanborn seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion failed with a 2-5 vote. Gretchen Gandini, Karen Thurston and Jeanin Onos opposed the motion.

Resource Management

Deliberative session is scheduled for February 8th at 7:00 pm in the high school auditorium.

Safety and Facilities

Superintendent Beitler stated that a survey has been completed for each of the schools on the School Safety Preparedness Recommendations this past month. There are 59 recommendations from the school safety task force. We have many of the recommendations in place and some we are working on. When we took the surveys, if the recommendation had not yet been implemented, they asked us for a specific date when we anticipated completing the recommendation.

Superintendent Beitler included a copy of the GHS Crisis Response Plan that is part of our EPC plan and will be used district wide. Kelly Caravona, GHS Crisis Counselor, has updated the plan and met with principals and Superintendent Beitler to review the plan.

Principals' Reports

Danielle Bolduc and Anthony Sperazzo submitted their reports as written. Data review was postponed until the March meeting.

Business Administrator Report

Amie Leigh presented her report to the Board.

Amie stated that herself, Ken, Kirk, met with Control Technologies and Energy Efficient Investment Inc., to discuss our HVAC controls and air handler units. We will be talking more with them regarding what improvements we can make to the air quality and control systems at all three schools. We are in the early stages of the conversation and may publicize an RFP to keep in alignment with grant requirements should we decide to move forward with any proposed projects via use of the ESSER III grant.

Discussion ensued regarding using the ESSER grant to pay for the air handler units, timeline and bid process.

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Kyle Sanborn stated he would like to see more of the grant funds spent on learning loss.

January Budget Entries

Amie Leigh shared the January budget entries as follows:

Entry #20 – Grant entry for the Communications Fiber Award Funds Accepted @ January meeting

Entry #21 – Title II Approved Activities Entry

Entry #22 – ESSER II Re-Allocation of Funds to Approved Activities

Entry #23 – ESSER II Re-Allocation of Funds to Approved Activities

Entry #24 – 2022 Robotics Grant approved activity Funds Accepted @ January meeting

On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted to approve the budget entries as presented in the February 4, 2022 memo with a 5-0-2 vote. Michelle Heyman and Johnna McKenna abstained from the vote.

Policies – First Reading:

EBCA – Crisis Prevention & Emergency Response Plans

FAA – Annual Facility Plan

IHBG – Home Education Instruction & Access to Curricular and Co-Curricular Programs

Policies – Second Reading:

JLCJA – Emergency Plan for Sports Related Injuries and Additional Protocols for Athletics Participation – On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

EEAB – Establishment of School Bus Routes - On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

DI-R – Fiscal Accounting and Reporting Regulations - On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

DIE - Audits - On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

DIH – Fraud Prevention and Fiscal Management - On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

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Non-Public Session

At 7:07 p.m., on a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3II (c). A roll call vote was taken as follows: Gretchen Gandini, yes; Jeanin Onos, yes; Audra Kelly, yes; Kyle Sanborn, yes; Karen Thurston, yes; Michelle Heyman, yes; Johnna McKenna, yes.

At 8:15 p.m., the Board came out of non-public session.

On a motion by Jeanin Onos and a second by Kyle Sanborn, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Sanborn
School Board Secretary