

**Bainbridge-Guilford Central School
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023**

President Keith Hanvey called the September 21, 2023 Board of Education meeting to order at 6:09 pm in the District Conference Room.

Call to Order

Board Members in attendance were Thomas Akshar, Shelly Bartow, Gordie Daniels, John Gliha, Keith Hanvey, and Marek Rajner.

Board Members In
Attendance

The administrators in attendance were Superintendent, Timothy Ryan and Business Manager, Janice Rideout.

Administrators In
Attendance

On a motion by Tom Akshar, seconded by Shelly Bartow the Board of Education voted to go into Executive Session at 6:10 pm to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Executive Session

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Tom Akshar, seconded by Shelly Bartow the Board of Education voted to return to Open Session at 6:45 pm.

Return to Open Session

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

Keith Hanvey, Board of Education President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

On a motion by Tom Akshar, seconded by Shelly Bartow the Board of Education voted to approve the agenda.

Order of the Agenda
Established

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Gordie Daniels, seconded by Tom Akshar the Board of Education voted to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2023 Board of Education meeting.

Approval of the
September 7, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Yes-6; No-0. Carried

Duane Shoen from Insero & Co. presented the executive summary of the recent audit that was completed at BGCS D.

Duane Shoen,
Insero & Co. Presents

Timothy Ryan presented on the following:

Timothy Ryan Presents

- Mr. Ryan let the Board know that core samples were taken where any paving will take place during the upcoming Capital Improvement Project. A company was hired to come in with sonar technology to make sure that no pipes were hit during the drilling. Unfortunately, a sewer line was still hit. It has since been repaired. The results of the core samples are not in yet.
- Mr. Ryan provided the Board with PDF's that contained some updated information on the electric bus initiative.
- Mr. Ryan met with the alumni association to discuss the B-G Hall of Distinction. They are aiming for summer of 2025 for the first induction.
- We continue to struggle to cover both Greenlawn and the Jr-Sr High School for nursing. We are working hard to make sure both have subs.
- The After School Enrichment Program is up to 170 students for enrollment. This is the highest it has ever been.
- Mr. Ryan discussed the social media lawsuit that we have entered into. There is no risk to the district to do this.
- The Veterans Day breakfast has been planned. We are working on bringing some Veterans over from the Oxford Vets Home as well.

- Shelly Bartow debriefed on the Board retreat. The Board had a discussion on how they can work on the topics that they have chosen to focus on.
- The compliance by staff on the required yearly trainings has been very good.
- Mr. Ryan and the Board had a discussion on how we should handle fingerprinting individuals who are volunteering at the school.

On a motion by Shelly Bartow, seconded by Tom Akshar the Board of Education voted to approve the following Certified Personnel:

Certified Personnel

- The appointments of the Class and Extracurricular Advisors and applicable steps as presented (Attachment A).

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Tom Akshar, seconded by John Gliha the Board of Education voted to approve the following Non-Certified Personnel:

Non-Certified Personnel

- The appointment of Jamie Price to the position of LPN – Long Term Substitute, retroactive to 9/12/23, temporary thru 12/20/23, at a rate of \$20/hour. Background check complete.
- The appointment of Savannah Hard to the position of Teacher's Aide, effective 10/2/23, FT, at a rate of \$15.70/hr. Vice: Kali Conover. Background check complete.
- Bernardina (Dina) Cordes to volunteer in Erin Degan's classroom for the 2023-2024 school year retroactive to 9/18/23 until 9/27/23. Background check complete.
- The appointment of Christina Hubbard to the position of Bus Attendant (Sub), retroactive to 9-7-23. Background check complete.
- The creation of an additional Bus Attendant PT position.
- Change in hours for James Walling from Bus Attendant PT to Bus Attendant FT effective September 6, 2023.
- The creation of an additional Bus Attendant FT position.
- \$5,000 stipend each for Linda Maynard, Stimulus Grant Manager and Janice Rideout, Stimulus Grant Finance Manager to complete the Federal Stimulus Desk Review process retroactive to September 9, 2023 and continuing through January 5, 2024. Appropriate stimulus grant will be amended to include the stipend amount.
- The resignation of Jamie Price from the position of LPN – Long Term Substitute, effective 9/19/23.
- The appointment of Jamie Price to the position of LPN Substitute, effective 9/20/23. Background check complete.

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Gordie Daniels, seconded by Tom Akshar the Board of Education voted to approve the following Sports Personnel:

Sports Personnel

- The appointment of Megan Palmatier to the position of Scorekeeper/Timekeeper, retroactive to 9/12/23.

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Shelly Bartow, seconded by Gordie Daniels the Board of Education voted to approve the following After School Enrichment Personnel:

After School Enrichment Personnel

- LTA's to be paid 1/1400th of the Step 1 salary while working in the capacity of a teacher under the supervision of appointed Certified Teachers in the After School Enrichment Program.
- The appointment of Brandi Clark, LTA to work in the capacity of a Teacher in the After School Enrichment Program effective 9-25-23.
- The appointment of Christine Oliver to the position of After School Enrichment Program substitute teacher, effective 9-21-23.
- The appointment of Kimberly Morris-Schinn to the position of After School Enrichment Program substitute teacher, effective 9-21-23.

- The creation of two (2) School Monitor positions for the After School Enrichment Program.
- The change in appointment for Carrie Decker from School Monitor (Sub) to School Monitor for the After School Enrichment Program, effective Friday, September 22, 2023.

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Tom Akshar, seconded by John Gliha the Board of Education voted to approve the following Business Items:

- 403(b) Adoption Agreement to permit ROTH contributions retroactive to September 1, 2023.
- June 30, 2023 Audited Financial Statements of the district and Extraclassroom Activities as presented by Insero & Co. CPA's, LLP.

Roth Contributions
Agreement
Audited Financial
Statements

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

On a motion by Shelly Bartow, seconded by Tom Akshar the Board of Education voted to approve the following New Business Items:

- Superintendent to sign the MOA between the Bainbridge-Guilford Central School District, Nicole Seymour, and the BGTA regarding accrued sick days.
- The appointment of Collin Dicks at the 2023-2024 Board of Education Student Member.
- The resolution authorizing commencement of the social media litigation as presented (Attachment B).
- The resolution approving the adjusted settlement offer for claims against JUUL Labs, Inc. (Attachment C).

MOA with N. Seymour

C. Dicks Student BOE
Member
Social Media Litigation
JUUL Labs Settlement

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

The following planning items were discussed:

Planning

Board Events

- September 28th & 29th – Governance and Finance Training – SUNY Oneonta *See Flyer*
- October 5th – Board of Education Meeting @ Guilford. Arrive at 5:30 pm for BoardDocs training.
- October 19th – Board of Education Meeting – Guilford @ 6:00 pm.

School Events

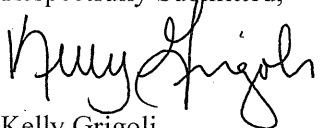
- September 28th – Guilford Open House 6:00p-7:00p
- October 4th – Jr.-Sr. High School Open House (6:30-7:30) and 8th Grade Spaghetti Dinner (5:00-7:00)
- October 6th – Staff Development Day
- October 9th – NO SCHOOL – Columbus and Indigenous People Day

On a motion by Tom Akshar, seconded by Shelly Bartow the Board of Education voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Adjournment

Yes-6; No-0. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Grigoli
District Clerk/District Secretary

2023-2024 Advisors

Attachment A

CLASS ADVISORS

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>ADVISOR</u>	<u>Cat</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>AMT</u>
7	Ann Messenger	3	2	\$576
8	Aaron Waymire	2	6	\$1338
9	Taylor Palmatier	3	1	\$503
10	Sarah Nezelek	2	2	\$965
11	Amy LaFever	1	6	\$2716
12	John Grigoli	1	6	\$2716

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

	<u>Cat</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>AMT</u>
AFTERPROM COORDINATOR Amy LaFever	3	6	\$872
Ag Club (FFA) Emily Anderson	1	6	\$2716
Ag In the Classroom Emily Anderson	n/a	n/a	\$2,000/year
BAND – Marching - Paul Jenkins	2	6	\$1338
Pep Band – Paul Jenkins			
Pep Band Assistant – Molly O'Hara	n/a	n/a	\$500/year
COLOR GUARD – Heather Pratt	2	3	\$1058
HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB – Matt Downey	1	5	\$2560
HONOR SOCIETY			
Jr. High School – Kier Palmer	3	6	\$872
Sr. High School – Vanessa Ziegler	2	4	\$1151
LIFE BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL V. Ziegler, A. Hosier, J. Northrup, S. Phillips	n/a	n/a	\$500/each
MUSIC SUPERVISOR – Matt Downey	1	6	\$2716
ODYSSEY OF THE MIND COORDINATOR Leslie Cuozzo	1	2	\$2092
SPANISH CLUB			
Kier Palmer	3	6	\$872/2
Heather Pratt	3	6	\$872/2
STUDENT COUNCIL			
Sr. High School – Emily Hall	1	3	\$2248
Jr. High School – Nicole Rowley	2	5	\$1244/2
Heather Pratt	2	5	\$1244/2
YEARBOOK –			
ELEMENTARY – Jennine Brewer	2	6	\$1338
HIGH SCHOOL – Tracy Kutz	1	6	\$2716
YES! LEADS – Joanne Moxley	1	6	\$2716

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

HONOR SOCIETY COMMITTEE - A. Hosier, V. Ziegler, J. Spinella, E. Degan and J. Northrup
STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM - J. Wasiura, J. Moxley, S. Phillips, W. Zakrajsek, E. Hall, G. Winn

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LITIGATION AGAINST SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service has issued an Advisory on Social Media and Youth Mental Health which:

- “calls attention to the growing concerns about the effects of social media on youth mental health;”
- emphasized that “now is the time to act swiftly and decisively to protect children and adolescents from risk of harm;”
- “[t]he onus of mitigating the potential harms of social media should not be placed solely on the shoulders of parents and caregivers;” and
- “[t]echnology companies play a central role and have a fundamental responsibility in designing a safe online environment and in preventing, minimizing, and addressing the risks associated with social media.”

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service has further concluded that:

- “Social media use by youth is nearly universal. Up to 95% of youth ages 13-17 report using a social media platform, with more than a third saying they use social media ‘almost constantly.’”
- “nearly 40% of children ages 8-12 use social media;”
- “in early adolescence ... brain development is especially susceptible to social pressures, peer opinions, and peer comparison;”
- “[s]ocial media may ... perpetuate body dissatisfaction, disordered eating behaviors, social comparison, and low self-esteem, especially among adolescent girls;”
- “[i]n a nationally representative survey of girls aged 11-15, one-third or more say they feel ‘addicted’ to a social media platform;”
- “[o]ver half of teenagers report that it would be hard to give up social media;” and
- [t]here is a consistent relationship between excessive social media use “depression among youth.”

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service has specifically urged that it is “urgent that we take action.”

WHEREAS, it has been reported that students, “[m]ore than ever, were glued to [their cellphones] during class.”

WHEREAS, it has been reported that “a growing number of educators ... find themselves on the front lines of a fight to change how students use social media” and “there was been a push for more schools to ... develop programs to help educate students on the dangers of social media.”

WHEREAS, the Bainbridge-Guilford Central School District (the “School District”) has and continues to experience significant problems with student use of social media, which use, among other things: (i) has created a substantial and ongoing interruption of and disturbance to its educational mission; (ii) has resulted in the diversion of substantial resources in an attempt to abate and prevent such use and its results harms; and (iii) poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of its students; and

WHEREAS, the School District is a leader in education excellence whose faculty and administrators care deeply about the education and well-being of its students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

That the Board of Education authorizes the law firm of Wagstaff & Cartmell, LLP and Ferrara Fiorenza PC to initiate litigation and file suit against any appropriate parties to seek compensation to the School District for damages suffered by the School District and its students as a result of the development, operation, and marketing of social media platforms, and to seek any other appropriate relief. The School District hereby authorizes its Superintendent of Schools or their designee to sign all appropriate documents and fee agreements on behalf of the School District.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2023

Board of Education Representative(s)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF VAPING LITIGATION

WHEREAS, in recent years the use and abuse of e-cigarettes and vaping devices increased dramatically among high school and middle school students, leading to significant risks of addiction and potentially life-threatening respiratory ailments; and

WHEREAS, students attending the Bainbridge-Guilford Central School District (the “School District”) have not been immune to this phenomenon with the School District observing students using e-cigarettes and vaping devices in school and on school grounds; and

WHEREAS, the use of e-cigarettes and vaping devices by students has caused the School District to incur costs in the form of staff time, disciplinary proceedings, and other costs, with the expectation that these costs will only increase unless and until student use of these devices decreases and stops; and

WHEREAS, the School District authorized the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC, and the Frantz Law Group, APLC, to initiate litigation against Altria Group, Inc. and Philip Morris USA, Inc., Altria Client Services LLC, Altria Enterprises LLC, and Altria Group Distribution Company (collectively “Altria”) by board resolution relating to the production, marketing, sale, and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

WHEREAS, a tentative settlement has been reached with Defendant Altria whereby in return for discontinuing the litigation, the School District would receive certain cash payment; and

WHEREAS, the amount that the School District receives will be no less than \$5,167 ; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “Board”) has determined it is necessary, advantageous, desirable, and in the public interest and the best interests of the School District that it settle this litigation against Altria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the School District, as follows:

1. The Board authorizes the partial settlement of the vaping lawsuit against defendant Altria.
2. A Settlement with the substantive terms contained herein is hereby approved in substantially the form reviewed by the Board and together with such minor modifications as are deemed necessary by the School District's attorneys and administrators to protect the best interests of the School District.
3. The Board President, Superintendent and their designee(s) are hereby authorized to finalize, sign and enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the School District and take all actions and execute all documents necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this Resolution.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Dated: _____

District Clerk