

1 **GILMANTON/GILFORD JOINT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

2 **TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013**

3 **GILMANTON SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

4 Gilford Board Members: Paul Blanford, Sue Allen, Kurt Webber, Rae Mello-Andrews, Karen
5 Thurston, Allan Demko

6 Gilford Administrators Present: Superintendent Kurt Hemmingway, Principal Peter Sawyer,
7 Assistant Principal Anthony Sparazzo, Director of Curriculum, Assessment, & Instruction Scott
8 Laliberte, Assistant Superintendent for Business Scott Isabelle

9 Gilmanton Board Members Present: Renee Kordas, Michael Hatch, Malcom McLeod, Robert
10 Carpenter

11 Administrators Present: Superintendent John Fauci, Principal Carol Locke, Vice Principal Deb
12 Bergeron

13 Others Present: Donna Clairmont, Frank Weeks, other members of the public

14 **CALL TO ORDER**

15 Gilmanton Board Chair Michael Hatch called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. Proof of posting
16 was verified by Superintendent Fauci.

17 **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

18 On a motion made by Sue Allen, seconded by Renee Kordas, the Boards unanimously approved
19 the agenda.

20 **APPROVAL OF JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

21 Superintendent Fauci and Board Chair Michael Hatch applauded Principal Sawyer and the
22 administrative staff for the awards night and graduation.

23 On a motion made by Kurt Webber, seconded by Sue Allen, the Board unanimously voted to
24 accept the meeting minutes.

25 **CORRESPONDENCE**

26 none

27 **UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

28 **High School Update**

29 **2012-2013 Achievements:**

- 30
- The GHS Unified Soccer team won the State Championship.
 - Two NH Scholastic Art gold key portfolios were awarded to GHS students.
- 31

- 32 • “Enrico”, the student directed play, won at Regionals and finished runner up at New
33 England’s.
- 34 • The Alpine Girls Ski Team won the Division III State Championship.
- 35 • The Alpine Boys Ski Team was the Division III runner ups.
- 36 • 37 GHS students were awarded NH Scholastic Art Awards.
- 37 • One National Silver Medal Award to a GHS student. The NH Scholastic medal was
38 awarded to the student at Carnegie Hall.
- 39 • The GHS Volleyball team won the State Championship.
- 40 • GHS earned 2nd place for band and choir at the music competition in Washington, D.C.
- 41 • Michael Czerwinski (class of 2013) published his fantasy novel, *Risen: A Warrior’s Tale*,
42 with Morris Publishing.
- 43 • The boy’s tennis team won the State Championship.
- 44 • 87% of the senior class will be attending college.
- 45 • GHS earned “Most Outstanding High School Literary Art Magazine for 2012”. This is
46 the second year GHS has won this award, which is presented by American Scholastic
47 Press Association.
- 48 • 15 Teen Ink Editor’s Choice Awards were earned by GHS students.
- 49 • GHS earned 4th place out of 55 teams in the First Annual Fishing Derby.
- 50 • The four-year discipline comparison data indicate 50 fewer infractions in 2012-2013 than
51 in 2011-2012.

52 **Gilford Education Endowment Foundation (GEEF) E-Book Grants to GHS**

53 The Gilford Education Endowment Foundation (GEEF) was founded by community members
54 wanting to support high quality academic work. They were responsible for robotics program and
55 the Advanced Placement program. This year, six programs were funded, two involving the high
56 school. The AP chemistry teacher will be attending additional training this summer. The students
57 choose a science experiment, design all the procedures for it, then perform the experiment, which
58 they film and edit. Tablets, such as Nooks and Kindles, have also been donated to the media
59 department). The Bagel and Book club uses these devices for independent reading as well as
60 assigned reading. This is a cost savings because multiple titles can be loaded on each device. Six
61 downloads of the same title can be purchased for one price, so it is like getting six books for the
62 price of one. The tablets have been in circulation throughout the year and students are accessing
63 them throughout the summer for their summer reading enjoyment as well. Donations have also
64 been utilized to purchase several devices. Thus far, none have been lost or damaged. Gilmanon
65 School Board member Malcom McLeod asked if there is a deposit component. Principal Peter
66 Sawyer said that there is not, so the cost of any loss or damage would be part of their end of the
67 year financial obligations.

68 Gilford School Board member Kurt Webber asked how many tablets there are and if students
69 who have their own devices can download onto their personal devices. Superintendent Kurt
70 Hemmingway said there is a combination of 100 Kindles and Nooks. Additionally, students
71 cannot download titles onto their personal devices because the books are downloaded through
72 the school’s account. Principal Peter Sawyer said that many books read in the English
73 department are free, so kids can download those titles for free using their own accounts.

74 Other GEEF Project-nature trail was mapped with Google Earth.

75 **Common Core Standards- Teacher Development Charts at GHS**

76 Director of Curriculum, Assessment, & Instruction Scott Laliberte thanked Principal Carol
77 Locke and Vice Principal Deb Bergeron for allowing him to participate and sit in on Gilmanton's
78 curriculum management workshop day. At the high school, they are focusing on the assessment
79 end of things. Teachers have examined their assessment activities and found where they
80 currently exist and align with the common core. They will next look at the gaps and realign
81 pieces to where they should be. They have an idea of what needs to be worked on and need to
82 examine the K-12 progression because the Common Core expects students to enter grade 6 with
83 a much different skill set than they currently do. Each year, students entering grade 9 will have a
84 slightly different skill set than the previous year.

85 **Affordable Health Care Act Presentation**

86 Scott Isabelle, Assistant Superintendent for Business, introduced representatives from Local
87 Government Center (LGC) to speak to some of the changes that will occur with the Healthcare
88 Reform Update. Many of the new provisions will occur in 2014. In October of this year,
89 employers will distribute a notice of exchange, which is where qualified individuals will be able
90 to purchase private health insurance plans. New Hampshire has previously opted to not set up
91 exchanges, but the state has recently agreed to reconsider and has partnered with the Federal
92 Government to create an exchange. Individuals who qualify for coverage from the exchange may
93 also qualify for financial assistance in the form of subsidies. Employer provided coverage will
94 continue. On January 1, 2014 large employers, which are classified as having 50 full time
95 employees (FTEs), could be subject to penalties if it doesn't offer coverage to employees or if
96 the cost of premiums is unaffordable. These penalties will only be triggered if one FTE
97 purchases coverage on the exchange AND qualifies for premium subsidies. Gilmanton School
98 Board member, Renee Kordas, asked who defines the qualifications for coverage on the
99 exchange. LGC representatives explained a FTE as someone who works 30 hours or more.
100 Superintendent Fauci stated that many school employees work 180-185 days and asked if para-
101 educators qualify as FTEs since they do not work throughout the summer. The representative
102 stated that the law provides a measurement method for determining the correct employment
103 status.

104 **Penalties:**

105 The Failure to Offer Penalty is \$2,000 per year per full time employee minus 30 employees. For
106 instance, if a school has 200 FTEs, and offers benefits to 90%, rather than the required 95%, the
107 school would have a \$340,000 penalty, which amounts to \$2,000 for 170 employees. The penalty
108 does not take into account what the district has already covered toward the cost of insurance.

109 The Penalty for Not Offering Affordable Coverage, which assumes coverage is offered to 95%
110 of employees, is \$3,000 per year. The cost of premiums cannot exceed 9.5% of the employee's
111 household income. The IRS will provide a safe harbor, so the calculation of "affordable" may be
112 based on either 9.5% of either the employee's W-2, rate of pay, or the federal poverty line. This
113 only applies to individual employees who apply on the exchange and who qualify for subsidies.
114 The school is not penalized for all employees as they are with the Failure to Pay Penalty.

115 Anthem is the only member currently on the exchange, and benefits are not as good as with plans
116 currently offered through the school, as they require higher co-pays and more contribution by
117 individual subscribers.

118 Sue Allen asked if schools can fight these regulations. The LGC representatives clarified that
119 employees will not qualify on the exchange if affordable coverage is offered through their
120 employer. Sue Allen noted that faculty currently has the opportunity to opt out of the insurance
121 offered through the school and seek coverage elsewhere, and asked what safeguards schools
122 have. The LGC representatives recommended that employers ensure that employees who opt out
123 confirm coverage elsewhere before opting out. They did state that there is nothing that prohibits
124 buyouts, but buyouts do not support having employer coverage. It is not clear what the future of
125 buyouts will be.

126 Some of the negative ramifications of these new provisions include:

- 127 • Many employers are reducing employee hours so there are fewer full time
128 employees, and therefore, less financial obligation.
- 129 • A temporary fee will be assessed to all policy holders to pay for plans offered on
130 the exchange (\$5.25 per person on a plan)
- 131 • Employee offered coverage must be offered to employees and their dependents,
132 up to age 26, but not to spouses.

133 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

134 none

135 **ACTION ITEMS**

136 none

137 **NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA**

138 The next joint school board meeting will take place on October 7, 2013 at 6 PM

139 **ADJOURNMENT**

140 On a motion made by Malcom McLeod, seconded by Allan Demko, the Joint Boards voted to
141 adjourn the meeting at 7:04 P.M.