Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School Board of Education

Regular Meeting

08 October 2025

D131

Members present at the start of the meeting were President Jed Barnes, Whitney Talbot, Amanda Larsen, Christopher Ostrander, Brenda Friedel, and Lori Peck.

Vice President Sean Barrows was absent.

Others present were Superintendent Heather Wilcox, District Treasurer Dorothy Iannello, Asst. District Treasurer Amy Marron, District Clerk Donna Dean, and Principal Jeffrey Sabol, and five guests.

ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by President Barnes, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

POSITIVE HIGHLIGHTS

The Superintendent and Principal provided the following Positive Highlights:

- Board Appreciation Week is October 14-18. Mrs. Wilcox thanked the board for their dedication to GMU.
- Homecoming events were well attended – leadership club held dances and student council held events over the weekend.
- Three golfers are heading to the MAC Championship. We wish them the best of luck!
- Mrs. Wilcox attended a NYSCOSS conference where discussions on Regionalization efforts were discussed. The ISAC committee at DCMO BOCES is also working on pieces of regionalization.
- There was great collaboration with teachers on k-5 science.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Sullivan addressed the board of education.

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

District Clerk, Donna Dean informed the board about the upcoming

- Holiday Luncheon: Friday, December 23, 2025, at 12 noon. Flyers will be going out soon.
- Chenango County School Board Association Representative – agreed that President Barnes or Brenda Friedel will attend meetings.
- Water Update - Heather Wilcox
- Bus Routes – Heather Wilcox & Harold Ives

RAIDER REPORT

Student Member Lillian Perrine provided information

from the student body in her Raider Report:
-Paper Towels in bathrooms instead of air dryers.
-Senior parking spots, painted.
-Longer lunch for grades 7-12.
-Farm fresh foods available.
-Different lunches for different grade levels.

Head Bus Driver, Harold Ives reported on the bus's mileage, condition, expenses for parts, and purchase of new buses.

REPORTS

SRO Ray Beach gave a presentation on the use of a handheld metal detecting device.

The was no board discussion.
BP 5689-Use of Metal Detecting Devices

BOARD DISCUSSION

Minutes from the 10 September 2025 special meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Peck, seconded by Friedel. For the motion six, opposed none. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Minutes from the 24 September 2025 regular meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Ostrander, seconded by Larsen. For the motion six, opposed none. Motion carried.

The proposed 08 October 2025 Regular Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted as amended on a motion by Larsen, seconded by Friedel. For the motion six, opposed none. Motion carried.

AGENDA

Board Member Peck made the motion, seconded by Board Member Ostrander, RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept/approve the 08 October 2025 CSE/CPSE Consent Agenda. For the motion six, opposed none. Motion carried.

CSE/CPSE CONSENT AGENDA

Board Member Friedel made the motion, seconded by Board Member Larsen, RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept/approve the 08 October 2025, Financial Consent Agenda. For the motion six, opposed none. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL CONSENT AGENDA

Financial Reports
To accept the financial reports for September 2025.

Surplus
To approve Vehicles 67 as surplus to be disposed of

accordingly.

Donations
To accept multiple donations totaling $250.00 for the GMU Backpack Program.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Board Member Friedel made the motion, seconded by Board Member Peck, RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept/approve the 08 October 2025, Personnel Consent Agenda. For the motion six, opposed none, opposed none. Motion carried.

Resignation
To accept the resignation of Thomas Connell as the internal claims auditor, effective October 1, 2025.

To accept the resignation of Bruce Zimmer as the modified soccer coach, effective September 24, 2025.

To accept the resignation of Bruce Zimmer as a bus driver, effective September 26, 2025.

Fall Coaching Recommendations
To appoint Laura Barnes as the Girls' Modified Soccer Coach for the 2025-2026 fall sports season, effective September 24, 2025 (stipend prorated).

All coaches are pending the following requirements: first aid certification, CPR/AED certification, concussion certification, DASA certification, and fingerprint clearance.

Substitute
To appoint Christine Mack as a certified substitute teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.

To appoint Thomas McDonough as certified long-term substitute social studies teacher, effective October 14, 2025.

NEW ITEMS CONSENT AGENDA

Board Member Larsen made the motion, seconded by Board Member Ostrander, RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept/approve the 08 October 2025 New Items Consent Agenda as amended. For the motion six, opposed none. Motion carried.

Pitney Bowes Lease Agreement
To approve the lease agreement for five years with Pitney Bowes for the postage meter.

Bus Purchase
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District, as follows:

Section 1. The proposition hereinafter set forth is hereby authorized to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters of the District on the 3rd day of February 2026 (the "Vote").

Section 2. The proposition set forth below shall be submitted at the Vote and the District Clerk shall include notice of the proposition in substantially the following form in the notice of the vote:

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Vote to be held on February 3, 2026, the following proposition will be submitted:

PROPOSITION

Purchase of Vehicles

> Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase two (2) 48-70 passenger school bus for the purpose of providing student transportation and ancillary educational purposes, including original equipment and incidental expenses for the foregoing purpose, at a total estimated cost after taking into account state aid not to exceed $362,952.00; and that such sum or so much thereof as the Board may deem appropriate, in its discretion, shall be paid from the Vehicle and Equipment Reserve Fund to the extent that it is funded?

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Bid Refusal
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and following the advice of the District's Architect, RESOLVED, all bids for the 2025 Small Capital Project on October 6, 2025, are hereby rejected. The District will rebid.

Sports Merger
To approve the following sports merger for the 2025-2026 school year:

> Varsity & JV Girls' Basketball – GMU and

Unadilla Valley.
JV & Modified Boys' Basketball – GMU and Unadilla Valley.
Varsity Bowling – GMU and Unadilla Valley.
Varsity Indoor Track – GMU and Unadilla Valley.

First Read Board Policy
First Read for the board policy listed on behalf of the Superintendent and Ferrara Fiorenza PC:

Section 5000-Non-Instructional Business Operations
BP 5689-Use of Metal Detecting Devices

Linda Zaczek addressed the board. — PUBLIC COMMENT

The board convened in executive session at 7:19 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and invited Superintendent present on a motion by Peck, seconded by Friedel and passed unanimously. — EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board reconvened in open session at 7:40 p.m. on a motion by Peck, seconded by Ostrander and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m. on a motion by Ostrander, seconded by Friedel, and passed unanimously. — ADJOURNMENT

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Donna Dean, District Clerk