

MINUTES OF THE GIBBON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
August 13, 2026
1030 Court Street, Gibbon NE
High School Media Center

Present:

Brian Kroll	Mike Bennett	Scott Baker
Jodi Bendfeldt	Kim Wadkins	Brandon Kee

Dr. Vern Fisher, Superintendent
Josh Miller, Secondary Principal
Tina Godfrey, Elementary Principal
Jeff Montgomery, Assistant HS Principal/AD

Call to Order

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Brian Kroll called the regular meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Reports

Volleyball hosted a youth camp in July with over 30 campers with the older girls coaching. FBLA had a busy summer attending the National Conference with 5 students, earning the Gold Seal of Merit Award and the Gold Level Chapter Award. Ivy Noller also represented Nebraska at the 2026 Certiport Microsoft Office Specialist US National Championship in Nashville. Five high school girls basketball players reached individual accomplishments with different levels of shots made over the summer.

Dr Fisher shared on the Rule 10 Compliance visit in September, the upcoming NASB area meeting, school improvement efforts including his Welcome Back and PD activities this past week. Two presentations are scheduled for this next quarter, Mike Donahue-Power in the Hallways and Jay Martin-Digital Citizenship.

The Operations Team will attend professional development this fall at the Heartland School Safety and Security Summit as well as Threat Assessment Training. Dr Fisher will review the I Love You Guys Protocol with staff the week of August 17th. Gibbon is once again on the Alicap Safety Honor Roll.

Tina Godfrey shared that a Gibbon will be included in a grant program to get reimbursement for both reduced and free lunches this year.

Discussion Items

The football game with Ravenna on Sept 4th is scheduled for 3:00 pm. School will have an early out that day.

Following the student fee fund discussion last month, a new “student fee fund” will be created. Administration recommended the sub rates for 2026-2027 as follows:

Local sub: \$155/day

State permit or Certificated Teacher sub: \$160/day

Retiree of the school district: \$190/day

Superintendent Fisher read Operating Principle 7:Meeting Format.

Annual appointments were presented to the board including Dr Fisher as Federal Programs representative, Inland Truck Parts as the mechanic to conduct bus inspections, KSB Law as legal counsel and Exchange Bank as the depository institution.

Cornerstone Bank presented a proposal to serve as the district's financial institution offering a rate of 3.04% APY on all interest bearing accounts compared to the .3% on current holdings at Exchange Bank and CD rates higher than current rates offered by Exchange Bank.

At the time of the meeting, Branch president Tom Murphy stated that current interest rates were increased from .3% at Exchange Bank to 3.0% to closely match the offer at Cornerstone Bank.

Discussion was held on moving funds to Cornerstone Bank as well as giving Exchange Bank time to prepare a proposal to present before a decision was made. Discussion between administration and the board focused on the partnership and the communication piece that would need to be the center of the relationship, which hasn't been the case since Dr Fisher's tenure at GPS. The decision of the board was to table this item until the next meeting to allow Exchange Bank to present a proposal.

A timeline for the Budget process, previously presented to the Board, was once again discussed as well as a reminder that the September board meeting had been changed to September 15, 2026.

Patron Participation

One patron gave input on the district's decision of a financial institution and Exchange Bank. Representatives from Exchange Bank also voiced their support for the district to remain at Exchange Bank.

Moved by Bendfeldt, seconded by Wadkins to approve the Consent Agenda Action Items as Presented.

Voting for: Kroll, Bendfeldt, Wadkins, Kee, Bennett, Baker.

Motion carried 6-0.

Moved by Baker seconded by Kee, to appoint Dr Vern Fisher as the designated representative of Federal Programs.

Voting for: Wadkins, Baker, Kroll, Bendfeldt, Bennett, Kee

Motion carried 6-0

Moved by Kee, seconded by Bennett to appoint Inland Truck Parts and Service as the designation of vehicle mechanic to conduct annual bus inspections.

Voting for: Wadkins, Kroll, Bendfeldt, Bennett, Baker, Kee

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Wadkins seconded by Bendfeldt, to designate KSB Law firm as the legal counsel for Gibbon Public Schools.

Voting for: Kroll Bendfeldt, Baker, Bennett, Kee, Wadkins

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Bendfeldt, seconded by Kee to approve proposed substitute pay rates as recommended by the administration

Voting for : Wadkins, Bendfeldt, Baker, Kroll, Bennett, Kee

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Jodi, seconded by Bennett to approve opening a new deposit account, thus creating the "student fee fund".

Voting for: Baker, Kroll, Bennett, Kee, Bendfeldt, Wadkins

Motion carried 6-0

Motion made by Wadkins, seconded by Bennett to move into closed session for the protection of the public interest or for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.

Voting for: Kroll, Bennett, Kee, Bendfeldt, Wadkins

Motion carried 6-0

The board moved into closed session at 8:04 pm for the protection of the public interest or for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.

The board returned to open session at 8:17 pm following a closed session for the protection of the public interest or for the protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual in compliance with the law.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 p.m.