

Special Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 12:00 PM

Gering Public Schools - Central Office
1519 10th St
Gering, NE 69341



Minutes

1. **GPS Board of Education Information**

Absent: Bryan Barrett, **Present:** Matt Kautz, Josh Lacy, John Maser, Greg Trautman, Tracy Wiese.

2. **Opening Procedures**

2.1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by board president, Greg Trautman, at 12:07 p.m.

2.2. Roll Call

2.3. Open Meetings Act

3. **Reports and Discussions**

3.1. Budget Pre-Session - Stacy Rodriguez and Dr. Regan

Dr. Regan and Stacy Rodriguez presented to the board. They went over how the budget process works and that we are currently working on this year's budget. There are key dates that are key to making budget deadlines. They went over the historical evaluations. The highest in our area is residential. Since property values have increased, and property taxes have increased, this means a decrease in state aid. This year we will be down \$700,000 in state aid and \$118,000 in federal funds. We do also have some buildings that have some infrastructure needs, and we are trying to figure out where that fits into our budget. On a good note, our enrollment is increasing! There might be some room for a levy reduction.

4. **Action Items**

4.1. Discuss, consider, and take action regarding the approval of a 3-year contract with Clifton, Larsen, and Ellen, performing the 2025-26 school year audit.

4.2. Affirm, ratify and otherwise approve the Resolution to increase in the district's base growth percentage by up to an additional six percent or other maximum amount as permitted by law.

5. **Public Comment: Policy 204.12**

6. **Adjourn**

The meeting was ajourned at 12:38 p.m.

Create Opportunities

August 14, 2025

FEE Proposal to provide professional
auditing services to the:
GERING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Prepared by:

CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP)

2001 16th Street
Denver, CO 80202

Paul Niedermuller, CPA, Principal

paul.niedermuller@CLAconnect.com

main 303-466-8822

Direct 303-439-6053



[CLAconnect.com](https://www.claconnect.com)

WEALTH ADVISORY

OUTSOURCING

AUDIT, TAX, AND

CONSULTING

DOLLAR COST BID

Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price

a. **Name of Firm:** CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP)
Contact Name: Paul Niedermuller
Title: Principal

b. **Certification**
Signature: 

This fee proposal is a firm and irrevocable offer for 60 days, as well as for the entire period of the engagement if selected to continue as your service provider. Please refer all questions regarding this fee proposal to me by phone at 303-466-8822, or by email at paul.niedermuller@CLAconnect.com. As a principal, I am authorized to make representations and contractually bind the firm.

c. **Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 engagements:** Please see below for our pricing breakout.

Proposed fees

Services	Total
Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price for FY August 31, 2025, Financial Statement Audit, including technology fee. Out of pocket costs will be billed separately.	\$52,500
Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price for FY August 31, 2026, Financial Statement Audit, including technology fee. Out of pocket costs will be billed separately.	\$54,300
Total All-Inclusive Maximum Price for FY August 31, 2027, Financial Statement Audit, including technology fee. Out of pocket costs will be billed separately.	\$56,200

Our world is changing at an unprecedented pace, cybersecurity threats are increasing, and the cost of doing business continues to rise. As a firm, we are committed to delivering value-added services while also protecting the integrity of our technology environment and your sensitive data.

We continue to implement advanced resources and innovative techniques to create efficiencies and drive down the cost of our professional services. As such, we have only applied modest increases to our professional fees each year.

However, like many firms, our technology-driven and other engagement support costs continue to increase disproportionately, and we believe that transparency is paramount in our relationship. Accordingly, include in the fees outlined above is a five percent (5%) fee associated with technology and client support services.

We continue to look for ways to enhance your experience with CLA as we streamline our work to serve you better and keep our prices fair. We appreciate your understanding and value your loyalty as an important part of our CLA family. Please do not hesitate to give us a call if you would like to discuss the fees outlined above.



Additional Charges

We have estimated fees that are competitive with other regional and national firms and provide Gering Public Schools with a level of quality and commitment that will extend for years to come. Assuming no changes in requested services or unplanned hardships during the audit, our fees will not exceed the amounts shown above. Should significant events occur or regulatory requirements change, we would address with you our fee estimates for these new matters affecting the scope of our work prior to the start of any work performed.

CLA does not anticipate charging any additional out-of-pocket expenses. Any out-of-pocket expenses arising from unforeseen circumstances will be discussed and agreed upon in advance and CLA will accept reimbursement for travel, lodging and subsistence at the prevailing Gering Public Schools's rates for its employees.

Rates for Additional Professional Services

It is not our policy or practice to bill our clients every time we receive a phone call. While providing our services to you, we will regularly consult with you regarding accounting, financial reporting, and significant business issues. If a specific project is complex or requires significant time or resources, we will first discuss with you the scope of the project and its fee, to make sure there are no surprises. While it is difficult to establish an exact policy for billing in these situations, we commit to discussing with you in advance of performing our services if we believe the time requirement to provide you the desired assistance is other than routine. We will discuss the scope of the project and our estimate to complete it prior to commencing work. Our standard billing rates are shown below.

Standard billing rates

Our hourly rates for our professionals on standard rate engagements are as follows:

Title	Current Rates
Principals	\$300 - \$400
Directors/ Managers	\$195 - \$300
Senior Associates	\$125 - \$150
Associates	\$80 - \$125

Our last word on fees – we are committed to serving you. Therefore, if fees are a deciding factor in your selection of an accounting firm, we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you the scope of our audit plan.

At CLA, it's more than just getting the job done.

Manner of Payment

Progress payments will be billed based on the hours of work completed during the engagement. Interim billing shall cover a period of not less than a calendar month.

