

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
GREENE, NY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President, Christopher Cox, in the Board Conference Room, High School/Middle School complex, South Canal Street, Greene, NY.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Christopher Cox, President  
Mr. Richard Boeltz, Vice-President  
Mrs. June Cooper  
Mr. Jim Strenkert  
Mr. Robert Eldred  
Mr. Craig Ketzak  
Mr. Christopher Austin

**ROLL CALL**

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Gary P. Smith, Superintendent  
Mr. Gordon Daniels, High School Principal  
Mrs. Judy Gorton, Middle School Principal  
Mr. Vincent Coletta, Intermediate School Principal  
Mrs. Carole Stanbro, Primary School Principal  
Mrs. Cynthia Ferguson, CSE Chairperson  
Mrs. Nancy Stiles, Business Manager/Treasurer  
Mrs. Helen Hunsinger, Transportation Supervisor  
Mr. John Girton, Technology Coordinator  
Mr. Marvin Ladner, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- Motion made by Strenkert, seconded by Boeltz to adjourn to Executive Session for employment matters related to specific individuals at 7:04 p.m.  
Yes-7, No-0

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

- Motion made by Cooper, seconded by Strenkert, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:27 p.m.  
Yes-7, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

- President Cox reconvened the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:**

- VI. BUSINESS AND FINANCE  
Delete: 1. Treasurer's Report  
2. Revenue & Budget Status Report  
3. Budget Transfers

**ADDITIONS/  
DELETIONS TO  
AGENDA**

- Motion made by Cooper, seconded by Eldred to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 and the Special Meeting held on February 17, 2006 as presented.  
Yes-7, No-0

**MINUTES 2/15/06 &  
2/17/06**

**CALENDAR:**

- March 2- Read Across America Day  
- March 6- 7:00p.m.-Chenango County School Boards Assn. Mtg.-Afton  
- March 6-15 - Elementary Math Testing  
- March 7- Lobby Day in Albany  
- March 7- 7:00p.m.- Music in our Schools - Auditorium

**CALENDAR**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006**

**CALENDAR CONT'D:**

- March 8- 6:00p.m.-Budget Advisory Committee
- March 8- 7:00p.m.-National Junior Honor Society Inductions
- March 13-15 - Middle School Math Testing
- March 14- 7:00p.m.-Modified Sports Awards-Gym
- March 15- 7:00p.m.-Board of Education Mtg.
- March 16- Staff Development Day-No Classes
- March 17 - No Classes
- March 23 - Arts in Education Performance (Carol Ponder):1:00 - Middle/High School
- March 23- 6:30p.m.-Kindergarten Parent Information Night
- March 24 - Arts in Education Performance  
9:30 - Intermediate School  
12:30 - Primary School  
7:00 p.m - High School Auditorium

**PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR:**

- None.

**TRANSPORTATION:  
TRANSPORTATION REQUEST-  
GREENE COMMUNITY  
NURSERY SCHOOL**

- Motion made by Strenkert, seconded by Ketzak, to approve the Transportation Request of Greene Community Nursery School to go to the Discovery Center in Binghamton on March 9, 2006.  
Yes-7, No-0

**REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:  
BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT  
& DISCUSSION**

- Board member/Budget Committee member, June Cooper, reported on the recent budget committee meeting. The committee reviewed the program component of the budget. Mrs. Cooper reviewed the increases within the program budget: Special Education 17.5%; BOCES Occupational Education 33.2%; Computers 44.7%; gas 50%; diesel 27.6%; and employee benefits within the program budget 42.7%. Overall, Mrs. Cooper stated that the program component of the budget increased 9.6%.
- Superintendent, Gary Smith, reviewed with the Board a Press Release, which he has drafted. The press release states that based on the Governor's proposed budget and the District's revenue projections as of March 1, 2006, if we were to go to a contingency budget, the district would have to come up with \$678,102 in reductions. The press release also encourages everyone to express their concerns over the proposed state budget to state legislators.
- Superintendent, Gary Smith, requested direction from the Board as to what they felt would be an acceptable tax levy? Mr. Smith reviewed what cuts in dollar amounts would be required to meet tax levies ranging from 3.5% (contingency) to 10%. Those amounts ranged from cutting \$678,000 to \$318,000. Mr. Smith also indicated that the Administrative staff have been meeting to discuss what cuts could be made.
- Board members discussed various tax levies and what impact they would have ranging from 4.7% to 8%. The board also discussed the need to have another meeting in order to review the budget situation after April 1<sup>st</sup> when we will know

- whether or not the state has passed a budget and more specifically the amount of state aid the district will receive. The board requested that a prioritized list of possible cuts be drafted so that the district is prepared and any individuals whose position is going to be cut can be notified as soon as possible.
- Mr. Kevin McCauley, a community member and parent from the Budget Committee, stated that the budget increases are caused by uncontrollable costs and that any cuts will be made within the district's buildings, not from BOCES or other outside programs which are mandated.
- Superintendent, Gary Smith, thanked the members of the Budget Committee for their difficult but diligent work on the budget to-date.
- Board member, Christopher Austin, asked if the district should implement a hiring freeze?
- Superintendent, Gary Smith, stated that current positions which are being filled are within the current budget parameters.

- By consensus of the Board, a Special Board Meeting will be scheduled for April 3, 2006 for the purpose of discussing the budget.

**SPECIAL BOARD MTG.  
DATE 4/3/06**

- Superintendent, Gary Smith, reviewed with the Board a recent meeting he had with Mayor John Bennett and Mr. Jack Cook regarding the ballflats. The Village and Town are currently trying to secure a grant to fund a river walk project and are interested in the school's continued maintenance of the ballflats until such time as the property is turned over to the Village and Town. Board member, Robert Eldred, suggested that Mr. Smith speak with the Greene Community Picnic Association regarding a donation for help in maintaining the ballflats and possibly hiring students to help during the summer with maintenance.

**VILLAGE, TOWN &  
SCHOOL MEETING**

- The Board reviewed a section of the Policy Manual which had been reviewed and suggested updates made by the school attorneys, Hogan, Sarzynski Lynch, Surowka & DeWind.

**POLICY MANUAL UPDATE**

- Motion made by Eldred, seconded by Ketzak, to update the following policies as advised by the school attorneys:

**Delete Policies:**

#5110; #5120; #5130; #5131; #5140; #5250;  
#5310; #5320; #5330; #5420; #5430; #5510;  
#5550; #5630; #5631; #5632; #5651; #5660;  
#5670; #5671; #5673; #5680; #5690; #5710;  
#5720; #5721;

**Revised/New Policies:**

- First reading of Revised Policy #5240  
*Accepting Gifts* with changes to the first Sentence "The Board **may** accept gifts **which**, in the view of the Board, add to the overall welfare of the District."

**REVISED POLICY #5240**

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REVISED POLICY #5520

- First reading of Revised Policy #5520  
*Extraclassroom Activity Funds* as presented.

REVISED POLICY #5530

- First reading of Revised Policy #5530  
*Petty Cash Fund* as presented.

REVISED POLICY #5620

- First reading of Revised Policy #5620  
*Fixed Asset Policy* as presented.  
Yes-7, No-0

2<sup>nd</sup> READING/ADOPTION OF  
POLICY #3310

- Motion made by Eldred, seconded by Ketzak  
to approve the second reading and adoption of  
Revised Policy #3310 *Public Access to Records*  
with the change in the first paragraph (remove  
the duplicate "by name or") as presented.  
Yes-7, No-0

FIRST READING OF POLICY  
#5731 AND #5732

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Ketzak, to  
approve the first reading of Policy #5731 *Policy  
on Cell Phone Use* and Policy #5732 *Credit Card  
Policy* as read.  
Yes-7, No-0

ATHLETIC POLICY  
DISCUSSION

- Board member, Christopher Austin, had requested  
that the Board discuss the current Athletic  
Policy. Mr. Austin asked how the athletic teams  
looked for the spring sports as far as numbers  
and possible cuts? Mr. Jeff Paske, Athletic  
Coordinator, stated that no 8<sup>th</sup> grade students had  
signed up for JV or Varsity teams or requested  
accelerated placement testing at this time. Mr.  
Paske stated that baseball would need to make  
cuts as there are 40 athletes signed up and JV  
only takes between 13-15 players and Varsity 12-  
14 players for a total of 25-29 athletes.

- Regarding coach evaluations, Superintendent  
Gary Smith stated that we do not currently have  
an athletic director, nor are we looking to add  
one at this point, that would allow for coaching  
evaluations to be done.

- President Cox asked that pursuant to the  
policy, prior to tryouts, each coach determine  
the specific number of players to field their  
team (not a range) and report that number to the  
Superintendent.

AMEND APPOINTMENT-  
KELLY MEAGLEY-TEACHER'S  
AIDE/BUS ATTENDANT

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Strenkert,  
to amend the previous appointment made on  
February 17, 2006 of Mrs. Kelly Meagley as a 1:1  
Teacher's Aide to include bus attendant duties  
based on the specific I.E.P. needs of a  
particular special education student.  
Yes-7, No-0

RESIGNATION -  
MARK OSGOOD, CUSTODIAN

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Strenkert  
to accept the resignation of Mr. Mark Osgood,  
Custodian, effective March 4, 2006 with  
appreciation.  
Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Strenkert, to create two Bus Attendant positions based on the needs of particular special education students' I.E.P.'s for a period of time as required by the students' placement and needs.  
Yes-7, No-0

**CREATE POSITIONS-  
BUS ATTENDANT (2)**

- Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Austin, seconded by Strenkert, to appoint Mrs. Sharon Baldo as a Bus Attendant, effective March 2, 2006 based on the needs of a particular special education student's I.E.P. for a period of time as required by the student's placement and needs.  
Yes-7, No-0

**APPOINTMENTS:  
BUS ATTENDANT-  
SHARON BALDO**

- Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Austin, seconded by Strenkert to appoint the following individuals to the Substitute Rosters for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year effective March 2, 2006:

- Nicole Burrows - Substitute Teacher's Aide;
- Barbara Bush - Substitute Bus Attendant;
- Joseph Stark - Substitute Bus Driver.

Yes-7, No-0

**SUBSTITUTE ROSTERS**

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Cooper, to approve the request of Mrs. Pat Wicks, School Nurse Teacher, for an unpaid leave of absence on March 13, 2006 and April 10, 2006.  
Yes-5, No-2(Ketzak, Strenkert)

**UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE-  
PAT WICKS - NURSE**

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Cooper, to approve the request of Mrs. Nancy Amell, Teacher's Aide, for an unpaid leave of absence on April 12, 2006 and April 13, 2006.  
Yes-5, No-2(Ketzak, Strenkert)

**UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE-  
NANCY AMELL - AIDE**

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Cooper, to approve the request of Mrs. Carol King, Bus Attendant, for an unpaid leave of absence on April 14, 2006 through April 21, 2006.  
Yes-5, No-2(Ketzak, Strenkert)

**UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE-  
CAROL KING-BUS ATTENDANT**

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE:**

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Boeltz, to approve the Facility Use Request of Mother Earth Drum & Singers to use the ballflats June 9, 2006 through June 11, 2006 for a Native American Indian Festival.  
Yes-7, No-0

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE:  
FACILITY REQUEST-  
MOTHER EARTH DRUM  
& SINGERS**

- The Board reviewed the Board Outstanding Actions List.

- Delete Athletic Policy Review

**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS  
LIST**

**PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR:**

- Mrs. Toni Walker, Teacher, requested that the Board look into possible restructuring of current positions in order to keep some staff positions that might otherwise be cut.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:  
TONI WALKER-  
RESTRUCTURING**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**KRIS MCDERMOTT-  
THANK YOU'S**

- Mrs. Kris McDermott, Teacher and Parent, commented on the wonderful Dessert Fair that the chorus club did as a fundraiser recently. Mrs. McDermott also congratulated the Odyssey of the Mind Coaches and students for their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes in the recent competition. Mrs. McDermott stated that she appreciates the amount of time and effort that the coaches put into helping the student teams.

- Mrs. McDermott also announced that the Elementary Math Night will be March 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Intermediate School.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- Motion made by Austin, seconded by Boeltz, to adjourn to Executive Session for matters relating to a particular employee matter at 9:15 p.m.  
Yes-7, N-0

- Motion made by Eldred, seconded by Strenkert, to adjourn Executive Session at 9:28 p.m.  
Yes-7, No-0

**RECONVENE:**

- President Cox reconvened the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion made by Boeltz seconded by Strenkert, to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 p.m.  
Yes-7, No-0

Respectfully submitted

Donna Marie Utter  
District Clerk