

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL
GREENE, NEW YORK
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President, Richard Boeltz, in the Board of Education conference room, High School/Middle School complex, 40 South Canal Street, Greene, N.Y.

CALL TO ORDER

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Richard Boeltz, President
Mr. Ethan Day, Vice-President
Mrs. Karen Hendershott
Mr. Timothy Crumb
Mrs. Helen Hunsinger
Mrs. Tammie McCauley
Mr. James Strenkert

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Jonathan Retz, Superintendent
Mr. Mark Rubitski, Business Manager
Mr. James Walters, High School Principal
Mr. Timothy Calice, Middle School Principal
Mr. Bryan Ayres, Intermediate School Principal, Director of PE and Athletics
Mrs. Shelly Richards, Primary School Principal
Mrs. Ramona Luetzger, Director of Special Services
Mr. Jordon Lilley, Transportation & Buildings & Grounds Supervisor

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Strenkert, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 7:04 p.m.:
 - Special Education Placements
 - Negotiations Update
 - Confidential Personnel Matter

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Yes-7, No-0

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to approve the following placement(s):
#710022311; #710022366; #710023156; #710022840;
#710022595; #710022260; #710123077; #710125240;
#710123464; #710022845; #710125130; #710022639;
#710123046; #710023328; #710023114; #710021854;
#710123501; #710021992; #710123249; #710125239;
#710123439; #710123239; #710021857.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
PLACEMENTS**

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE

Yes-7, No-0

- President Boeltz reconvened the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

RECONVENE

5. EDUCATION AND PERSONNEL

Add: 3. Modification to Academic Calendar
4. Suspension of Tenured Employee

Delete: 1. Appointment(s):

- Substitute School Bus Driver – Steven Dutcher

**ADDITIONS/
DELETIONS TO
AGENDA**

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PAGE 2

**APPROVE MINUTES
2/18/15 & 3/3/15
BUS VOTE**

- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by Crumb, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on February 18, 2015 and the Bus Vote held on March 3, 2015 as presented.
Yes-7, No-0

CALENDAR

- March 11 – Budget Committee Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- March 13 – Staff Development Day
- March 13-15 - Footlights Production – *Hello Dolly*
- March 17 – Jr. Honor Society Inductions – 7:00 p.m. – Auditorium
- March 18 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- March 19 – Kindergarten Parent Information Night – 6:30 Primary Gym
- March 21 – All-County Concert in Afton – 3:00 in Afton Gym
- March 25 – Budget Committee Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- March 26 – Music In Our Schools Concert – 7:00 p.m. – Auditorium
- March 30 – April 3 – Spring Recess

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
JORDON LILLEY**

- Jordon Lilley, Transportation and Bldg & Grounds Supervisor, recognized and thanked:
▪ Tammy McCauley – warmers given to the bus drivers;
▪ Primary staff for the goodies brought to the bus garage;
▪ Austin Kenyon, Hawk Badger, Dave Butler, Ronnie Ferguson, Bill McBride, and Greg Cobb for all their help with plowing and clearing the snow.

SUE PROSCIA- SURVEY

- Sue Proscia, bus driver, gave the Board copies of a survey study that she found online that showed it is not cost effective for BOCES to provide non-instructional services, such as bussing.

**JACKIE BARTON-
SUPT. SALARY
INCREASE**

- Jackie Barton stated that she was not in favor of the previous contract extension for the Superintendent and she is not in favor of the proposed salary increase either and asked the Board to not approve the salary increase.

**SHELLY RICHARDS-
SPECTATOR BUS**

- Shelly Richards, Primary School Principal, on behalf of Dedra Ingraham and others thanked the district for offering a spectator bus for the recent basketball playoff game. Students were well behaved and were grateful for having the opportunity to attend the game.

**COLIN EVANS –
SKI CLUB**

- Colin Evans, Ski Club Advisor, thanked the Board for allowing transportation for Ski Club. There were 19 participants this year and they were only cancelled once due to cold temperatures.

**REPORT(S):
JANUARY REGENTS
REPORT**

- Carry over to the next meeting due to Mr. Walters' absence.

**INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL REPORT**

- Bryan Ayres, Intermediate School Principal, highlighted the following in his quarterly report:
▪ Teachers have completed benchmarks for interim assessments and have concluded that the assessments are too difficult. Staff will create new interim assessments that more closely match student needs.
▪ February 26th Active Shooter Training – the presentation made to staff was very good and follow-up discussions will continue with staff.
▪ Odyssey of the Mind – the 2 intermediate teams coached by Diane Evans and Mary McBride will be presenting to students and parents on Friday.

- 3rd Grade - presentation on the Iditarod
- 4th Grade – will be going to the Farmers Museum in Cooperstown
- 5th Grade – going to Kopernick Observatory when the weather cooperates – been cancelled twice.
- The temporary teacher for 3rd grade will not create another section, but will provide extra support and allow for more small group instruction within current classrooms.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
REPORT**

- Timothy Calice, Middle School Principal, highlighted the following in his quarterly report:
 - Students have not attended a full week yet in 2015
 - Preparing for state tests ELA – April 14-16; Math – April 22-24
 - Winter Ball was held last Friday and was well attended
 - Spirit week is approaching and ends with a "Spring Fling" on Friday, March 27th, which is an afternoon of fun activities for students
 - Academically, 38% of students received Honor or High Honor Roll distinction at 20 weeks and 25% were on academic status (failing 1 subject)
 - Middle School has been without a secretary since December and he thanked the middle school staff for stepping in and helping out
 - Arts in Education – 7th grade project combining Social Studies and English curriculums on the American Revolution. A slide show showcasing the "Friezes" projects was shared with the Board.

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with section 204a of the Taylor Law, funds are hereby provided to implement the Agreement between the Greene Central School District and the Superintendent of Schools, Jonathan Retz, commencing July 1, 2014 to increase the total salary paid by 2.2%.
Yes-6, No-1 (McCauley)

**AMEND SUPT.
CONTRACT**

EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:

- **The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following board action:**
APPOINTMENT(S):
- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to appoint the following Mentors for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year:
MENTORS
 - Mentor for Christine McCabe – Mrs. Sue Carlin
 - Mentor for Richelle Lawrence – Mrs. Heather Rice

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to appoint Thomas Fargo as a Custodian effective March 5, 2015 for a one-year probationary appointment ending March 4, 2016.

**THOMAS FARGO-
CUSTODIAN**

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to appoint Angela Buck as Substitute Bus Drivers effective March 5, 2015 for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

**SUBSTITUTE BUS
DRIVER**

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to appoint the following individuals as coaches for the Spring 2015 season:
 - Alex Kenyon – Unpaid Volunteer Baseball Coach
 - Chris Rice – Modified Track Coach

SPRING COACHES

Yes-7, No-0

- Based on the needs of the current third grade class, and the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Intermediate School Principal, a motion was made by

**CREATE TEACHER
POSITION**

- Day, seconded by Crumb, to create a temporary teacher position not to exceed June 30, 2015.
Yes-7, No-0

**MODIFY ACADEMIC
CALENDAR**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to change the March 13, 2015 Superintendent's Conference Day to a regular day of student attendance.
Yes-7, No-0

**SUSPENSION OF
TENURED EMPLOYEE-
ED. LAW § 3020-a**

- President Boeltz advised the Board that since it had determined probable cause in relation to the charges against a tenured employee, it could now determine whether the tenured employee should be suspended under the provisions of Education Law § 3020-a. After discussion, and on motion of Hunsinger, seconded by Hendershott, it was
RESOLVED, that the person against whom the Board has found probable cause under the provisions of Education Law § 3020-a be suspended pending a hearing and a final determination thereof in accordance with Education Law § 3020-a.
Yes-7, No-0

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:
BUDGET COMMITTEE
UPDATE:**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, updated the Board on recent Budget Committee work. Items reviewed included: legal; central printing and mailing; property insurance; BOCES administrative costs – up due to the district sending an additional 9 students next year; health services – increase in flu vaccine; district transportation - \$40,000 decrease in fuel costs. The Budget Committee is hoping to complete their review prior to the next board meeting. To date, the budget is down \$353,875.

There is no new information regarding state aid runs and districts have been instructed to use last years' budget numbers with no increase. The district has met the March 1st deadline to file property tax cap levy limit based on estimates at .3%.

**TIME & PLACE FOR
ANNUAL BUDGET
MEETING AND VOTE**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to establish the date, time and place for the annual budget meeting and vote as follows:

Annual Meeting (Budget Hearing):

Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Middle/High School Auditorium, 40 South Canal Street, Greene, NY.

Budget Vote & Board Member Elections:

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., in the lobby of the Auditorium of the Middle/High School building, 40 South Canal Street, Greene, NY.

Board Petitions: Must be submitted by April 20, 2015 by 5:00 p.m. (Boeltz & Strenkert seats open)
Yes-7, No-0

**REVISED DISTRICT
INVESTMENTS POLICY
#5220 – FIRST
READING**

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to accept the first reading of revised Policy #5220-District Investments as read.
Yes-7, No-0

**OBSOLETE/SURPLUS
FOOTBALL UNIFORMS**

- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by Hunsinger, to declare 57 old football jerseys as obsolete/surplus and to dispose of the same.
Yes-7, No-0

**DISTRICT
INFORMATION &
TECHNOLOGY UPDATE**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, updated the Board on the district's information technology in the following areas:
 - Fountas & Pinnell Reading App – K-5 teachers have the App and students have been imported into the database to track their assessments;
 - Technology Plan – working with Broome-Tioga BOCES to Complete a technology assessment of our district;
 - I-pads – have installed both free and paid apps on student I-pad carts; counselors/psychologist now have I-pads;
 - Document Cameras – ordered and installed a new type of document camera as a pilot project for teacher use. Teacher satisfied with functionality.
 - Fitness Gram – working with BT BOCES and PE teachers to install program on our network;
 - School Messenger – being used for snow days, delays, and other general district communication; updated staff list in School Messenger;

**BUILDINGS &
GROUNDS AND
TRANSP. UPDATE**

- Mark Rubitski gave an update on transportation and buildings and grounds activities:

Transportation:

- Two bus runs reduced – efficiency and student moving out of district;
- Exploring sharing a special needs run to Pathfinder w/Oxford
- Greene/Oxford joint annual driver training held at Greene
- New propane micro bus w/wheel chair access has arrived
- Busses have performed well with the sub-arctic conditions

Buildings & Grounds:

- Timing system and repairs/upgrades have been completed at pool
- Heating system has been maintained including replacement of heat pumps, an I.C.P. board and filters where needed
- Village electric will help replace non-working parking lot lights
- Non-working Intermediate gym lamps replaced
- HS/MS classrooms waxed and buffed during Christmas break
- Snow removal

- Board member McCauley asked what was being done regarding the diving board at the pool (purchased a few years ago, but does not have the correct mounting hardware) and the need to replace it with an Olympic style that is properly installed.
- Bryan Ayres, Athletic Director, stated that he would look into what needs to be done and obtain some recommendations.

**OUTSTANDING BOARD
ACTIONS LIST**

<u>Bd. Directed</u>	<u>Task To Be Completed</u>	<u>Responsibility Of</u>	<u>Report Back</u>
3/7/07	Policy/Procedure Manual	Board and Superintendent	Ongoing
12/17	iPad Classroom Use Update		Ongoing
1/7	Non-Resident Policy		Summer 2015

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

- **Superintendent, Jonathan Retz, reported on the following:**

1. Active Shooter Presentation – On February 26th ½ day In-Service, Undersheriff Dan Frair did a large group presentation on what staff can do in the case of an active shooter or other immediate dangers until law enforcement can arrive. He also reviewed law enforcement's response to an active shooter through role playing with staff. Feedback from the presentation and drill was positive with a lot of good questions during the

- debriefing session. Undersheriff Frair will be sending more information regarding follow up items.

2. League Meeting – Participation numbers are down and there may be a possibility of merging athletic teams with another district in order to raise participation numbers. Superintendent Retz asked the Board whether this was something worth looking into. There are many questions, but Bryan Ayres, Athletic Director, has been approached by Oxford who would like to discuss the possibility after a MAC league meeting tomorrow – Superintendent Retz will also attend the meeting.

3. Letter Writing Campaign - Letters are at printers and should be back tomorrow to send home with students. Superintendent Retz did a School Messenger call prior to let parents know the letters would be coming home with students. Superintendent Retz also stated that he was going to be meeting with Clifford Crouch tomorrow morning. He asked if the Board is interested in hosting a forum with perhaps some neighboring districts. The forum at SE had about 200 attendees and they did get some press out of the event.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
BETH DANEILS -
STATE GRADING DAY**

- Beth Daniels, Math Teacher, asked why if there was still an issue with the May 4th grading/staff development day did we receive an email this afternoon.

- Superintendent Retz stated that he just discovered that there may be a problem with the grading window and that date. He stated that he will have a firm date by the next board meeting.

**CHRISTINE PASKE-
3RD GRADE CLASS**

- Mrs. Paske asked how a position is able to be created now when last year at this time when concerns were raised with the then 2nd grade numbers, she was told that the budget had already been established. She requested that the district be more proactive instead of reactive and that whatever the changes are with the 3rd grade class that it be communicated to parents before it occurs.

**BRIAN MILK -
3RD GRADE CLASS**

- Brian Milk thanked the Board for creating the additional 3rd grade teaching position. He stated that he hoped the position would continue into the 4th grade.

MARIE SCOFIELD

- Marie Scofield, GTA President, added some clarification to Earlier discussions regarding:

- Diving board – the issues with the diving board not being correct were discussed earlier in the year;
- Scoring dates for the state exam are set early in the year, there have been some changes, but the initial dates are available early on
- Senator Libous will be leading a forum at West Middle School on September 12th at 6:30 for anyone who is interested in attending.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn to Executive Session for negotiations update at 8:53 p.m.
Yes-7, No-0

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to adjourn Executive Session at 10:19 p.m.
Yes-7, No-0

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015**

PAGE 7

- President Boeltz reconvened the meeting at 10:20 p.m.
 - Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.
- Yes-7, No-0

RECONVENE

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marie Utter
District Clerk