

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL, GREENE, NY
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

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The regular meeting of the Greene Central School Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board President, John Fish, in the Auditorium, Middle School/High School campus, South Canal Street, Greene, New York.

CALL TO ORDER

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

ROLL CALL

Mr. John Fish – President
Mr. Douglas Markham – Vice President
Mr. Seth Barrows
Mr. Andrew Bringuel, II
Mr. Nicholas Drew
Mrs. Natalie McMahon
Mr. Brian Milk

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Bryan Ayres, Intermediate School Principal
Mr. Timothy Calice, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. January Pratt, Primary School Principal
Mr. Mark Wilson, Middle School Principal

OFFICER(S) PRESENT:

Mrs. Shiela Walker, Clerk of the Board

None.

**FIRST EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

MODIFICATION to Education & Personnel:

- Appointment of Sally Kupetz to be effective November 30, 2021
(§ V.3. – Regular)

ADDITION TO Reports (§ II): Budget, Buildings & Grounds, and
Transportation Committees

ADDITIONS to Education & Personnel:

- Appointment of Joan O'Donnell as Substitute Teacher's Aide (in addition to Regular .5 appointment). (§ V.3. – Substitutes)
- Section IV Athletic Merger Applications (§ V.6.)
 - Bowling: Oxford/Greene
 - Wrestling: Oxford/Greene

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS
TO REGULAR AGENDA**

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Mr. Calice congratulated Skyler Nowalk on her recent induction at DCMO BOCES into the National Technical Honor Society. He stated that this is a well-deserved honor for Skyler.

GOOD NEWS ~ DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Calice also congratulated the Boys Varsity Soccer team on winning the Section IV title for the first time in 30 years.

Mr. Calice also extended congratulations to Samantha Olbrys for being recognized as the WICZ Teacher of the Week. The article is on the school's website.

Next, Mr. Calice thanked Mr. Rice and Mr. St. Germain, who took twelve middle school students to participate in the regional Engineering Day. They participated in creating Rube Goldberg Machines. He stated that this kind of event is in direct support of the Middle School's push of incorporating more problem solving and critical thinking opportunities.

Mr. Calice congratulated the Middle School cast and crew for an excellent production of Shrek, Jr. this past weekend. He said they did an amazing job.

The Primary School has started an afternoon Primary Program, which is modeled after Morning Program. Students and staff are meeting one time per month per grade level. It gives students a chance to perform, speak publicly, and get recognition for being a good Primary School Citizen.

Finally, Mr. Calice recognized Mary Gell for her service to the Greene Central School District. Her last day will be on November 23, 2021. He stated that she has been an immense help at the Primary School for many years, and especially this year. Mrs. Gell is donating a "buddy" bench, which will be installed on the playground for students to enjoy. Thank you, Mrs. Gell!

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Bringuel, seconded by Milk, to approve the following placements:

SPECIAL EDUCATION PLACEMENTS

PRESCHOOL:

#710125275
#800000026
#710024263

AMENDED/MODIFIED IEP:

#710024011
#710024157
#710023976
#710023429
#710023567
#710023052
#710022260
#710024197

REQUESTED REVIEW:

#710024180

TRANSFER/INTAKE:

#800000108

504 ACCOMODATION PLAN:

#710024073

Yes – 7, No – 0

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Motion made by McMahon, seconded by Milk, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 27, 2021, as presented.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**APPROVE MINUTES OF
10/27/21 REGULAR
BOARD MEETING**

November 24-26 – Thanksgiving Recess – No School
(Offices Closed Nov. 25 & 26)
December 8 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 PM
December 10 – ½ day for Primary & Intermediate Students –
Parent-Teacher Conferences
December 16 – IS/MS/HS Band Concert – 6:30 PM
December 17 – ½ day for Primary & Intermediate Students –
Parent-Teacher Conferences
December 20 – IS/MS/HS Chorus Concert – 6:30 PM
December 22 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 PM
December 23-31 – Holiday Recess (Offices Closed December 23 & 24
and December 30 & 31)

CALENDAR

President Fish asked that the first Public Comment Period be used for items that are on this evening's Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Student Emily Keen-Stanton stated that she feels that there is injustice at Greene Central School and that many students feel neglected. She asked that GCS help by having such things as programs for procedures, forming special interest groups, promising to care for student's mental health issues, and to stop racism and bullying.

Ted Bowen said that he was kind of disappointed that when students were expressing concerns this afternoon that no teachers came outside. He stated that, instead, they pulled their blinds down and turned lights out. He is upset due to these actions.

Student Justina Parsons mentioned feedback regarding a thought exchange. She stated that students had created a chat and were trying to stop the walkout, but they were receiving racist thoughts through the chat. She also stated that other students were coming towards them and screaming expletives at them.

None.

REPORTS

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**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

Mr. Milk updated the Board of Education on the Transportation Committee meeting that was held on November 15th at the Bus Garage. Committee members were able to view the new office space and second bathroom. He stated that both gas and diesel is now available on-site.

The committee discussed vehicle needs for the upcoming year and would like to have an upcoming vote to purchase two (2) full-size busses as well as one (1) suburban. All vehicles would have cameras and the suburban would be yellow, not black, for lights.

Next, Mr. Barrows updated the Board on the kick-off Budget Committee meeting, which was held at 6:00 PM tonight. They set the 2022-2023 Budget Calendar and reviewed a rough draft of the budget guidelines.

He stated that the Committee continues to welcome input on what is needed for support and guidance using Federal funds.

Finally, Mr. Fish spoke to the Board regarding the Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting, which was held on November 16th. Phases 1 and 2 of the capital project are trying to be finished. There will be work done by the construction crew over Thanksgiving break, including the cafeteria floor in the Middle/High School. The Buildings & Conditions Survey is needed every five (5) years and helps with our next capital project. The Committee will be seeking feedback from Administrators, Staff, and other stakeholder groups.

None.

OTHER ITEMS

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following Board actions:

**EDUCATION &
PERSONNEL:**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to create two (2) Teacher's Aide positions based on IEPs as requested.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**CREATE POSITIONS –
TWO (2) TEACHER'S
AIDES**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the resignation of Rhonda Bowen from Bus Monitor position effective November 30, 2021.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**RHONDA BOWEN -
RESIGNATION**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the resignation of Jamie Leach from Teacher's Aide position effective November 12, 2021.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**JAMIE LEACH -
RESIGNATION**

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Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Jamie Leach as a substitute Teacher's Aide effective November 18, 2021.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**JAMIE LEACH -
SUBSTITUTE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Jennifer Banks to a regular Bus Driver position, effective November 12, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending November 11, 2022.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**JENNIFER BANKS –
BUS DRIVER**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Carla Brown to a regular Bus Monitor position, effective November 18, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending November 17, 2022.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**CARLA BROWN –
BUS MONITOR**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to move Erin Fink from a .5 probationary Teacher's Aide position to a regular probationary Teacher's Aide position, effective November 18, 2021. (Original one-year probationary period ends September 15, 2022.)
Yes – 7, No – 0

**ERIN FINK –
MOVE FROM .5
PROBATIONARY
TEACHER'S AIDE TO
FULL-TIME
PROBATIONARY
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Erica Flowers to a regular Teacher's Aide position, effective November 29, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending November 28, 2022.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**ERICA FLOWERS –
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Sally Kupetz to a regular Teacher's Aide position, effective November 29, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending November 28, 2022.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**SALLY KUPETZ –
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Megan Matts to a regular Teacher's Aide position, effective November 22, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending November 21, 2022.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**MEGAN MATTS –
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Joan O'Donnell to a regular .5 Teacher's Aide position, effective December 1, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending November 30, 2022.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**JOAN O'DONNELL –
.5 TEACHER'S AIDE**

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Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint the following Winter 2021-2022 Coach, effective November 15th (Winter 2 season).

**COACHING
APPOINTMENT –
WINTER 2021-2022
SEASON**

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Modified 7 Todd St. Germain

Yes – 7, No – 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Mary Ives and Beth Specht as Odyssey of the Mind Coaches.

**ODYSSEY OF THE MIND –
COACHING
APPOINTMENTS**

Yes – 7, No – 0

BUSINESS & FINANCE:

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Milk, to accept the Revenue & Budget Status Reports for October 2021 as presented.

**REVENUE & BUDGET
STATUS REPORTS –
OCTOBER 2021**

Yes – 7, No – 0

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Milk, to accept the Internal Claims Auditor Report for September 2021 as presented.

**INTERNAL CLAIMS
AUDITOR REPORT –
SEPTEMBER 2021**

Yes – 7, No – 0

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Milk, to approve the 2022-23 Budget Calendar as presented.

**2022-2023 BUDGET
CALENDAR**

Yes – 7, No – 0

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Milk, to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between Chenango County Community Mental Hygiene Services and Greene Central School District as presented.

**MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING -
CHEN CTY COMMUNITY
MENTAL HYGIENE SVCS
AND GREENE CSD**

Yes – 7, No – 0

Mr. Fish stated that the Board has been pursuing the idea of having guests sign in at Board of Education meetings. Not only can it be hard to hear those that speak (announcing their names) but it would also give the Board a chance to call on people in order.

**DISCUSSION ITEM –
GUESTS SIGNING IN AT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETINGS**

Further, it is being recommended that the time limit, per person, be changed from five (5) minutes to three (3). Due to the cap of thirty (30) minutes per meeting, this would give a chance for ten (10) people to talk instead of the current six (6).

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Mr. Barrows asked where the sign in sheet would go and who would decide on the speakers. Mr. Fish recommended that the sheet go to the President of the Board, and they will also make the decision on who speaks.

The discussion of the Board of Education procedures policy was brought up. Mr. Bringuel will check the current policy regarding a future motion to update same.

It was noted that President Fish will not be at the December 8, 2021 meeting and, therefore, Vice President Markham will be in charge (and will also initiate the new sign in procedure).

Mr. Calice stated that there was a Town of Greene Board Meeting earlier tonight and that they made an agreement with the Greene Solar Project. The group upped their offer from \$1,250 per megawatt to \$1,800, plus one percent (1%) per year. Further, he said that this moves their offer from \$6,250 a year to \$9,000 the first year and then an increase to \$10,345.27 in the final year. School attorney, James Gregory, is going over the contract one more time, to be sure everything is covered, and the district will be bringing it to the Board of Education at the next meeting. Mr. Calice said that he had discussions with the Town Supervisor, and both agreed that they learned a lot from this process and will be even more prepared for the next pilot that comes our way.

**DISCUSSION ITEM –
 GREENE SOLAR PROJECT**

Directed Date	Task	Responsibility	Report Back
7/10/2019	BOE Training	BOE & Superintendent	Ongoing
9/18/2019	BOE Goals	BOE & Superintendent	Ongoing

**REVIEW BOARD
 OUTSTANDING
 ACTIONS LIST:**

Superintendent Calice reported on the following:

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
 REPORT:**

Mr. Calice discussed the old cafeteria tables that were approved as obsolete at the last Board of Education meeting. He requested for permission to ask local organizations if they could use them. If they can, the district will donate them to our local organizations. If nobody is interested, Mr. Calice recommended that they be put up for sale on the BOCES eBay service with any possible remaining units being disposed of. The Board agreed with this plan.

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Next, Mr. Calice stated that the District continues to work to get our Federal Grant applications completed and that almost every District has had it kick backed. He said that there was a meeting today with Department leaders to look at opportunities and ideas to provide new and additional programs to our students during the school year as well as during the summer months. The District will continue to work on this and will be including community groups, such as the Joint Recreation Commission (JRC), in discussions and planning. Mr. Calice stated that he attended a JRC meeting on Monday and will continue to update the Board on their progress.

Committee Name:	Last Meeting:	Next Meeting:
Audit	Sept. 29, 2021	
Budget	November 17, 2021	December 1, 2021 @ 6:00 PM
Building & Grounds	November 16, 2021	
Curriculum & Technology	Aug. 15, 2018	
Policy	June 23, 2021	
Transportation	November 15, 2021	

**REVIEW
 COMMITTEE
 SCHEDULE**

Gary Quarella stated that he had considerable trouble hearing the conversations being held between Board members during tonight’s meeting, and that he was even seated in the front row.

**PUBLIC COMMENT
 FROM THE FLOOR**

Victoria Pezzino stated that she wanted to reiterate what the students were saying this evening and that she also had a petition that had been signed by both parents and students. The petition had a list of changes that they wanted to submit for the Administration to review. She also said that the parents attending this evening wanted to support all students and thanked the Board for hearing the group. *[At the end of the meeting the petition was handed to the Board Clerk and provided to President Fish.]*

Student Sebastian Quarella mentioned the ThoughtExchange being held during 8th period today and that there shouldn’t be a cut off.

Angelo Mendolia spoke regarding a tech grant and wondered who he could talk to. He believes it would be more beneficial to students if they understood what is available to them today. He stated that he would like to sit with whomever is in charge of this at GCS. Mr. Calice invited Mr. Mendolia to email him.

Student Morgan Quarella stated that she wants to be safe in her own school. She said that she has been called racial slurs at Greene her entire life and that it is not acceptable.

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Greg Goodrich stated that he works for the DOT and plows roads. He feels that GCS busses should pick up kids as milk trucks and the mail man travels a particular road. Said road is in much better shape and with the District buying suburban's he wonders why it can't be made right and to pick up kids that need to be. *[Note that the Board Clerk did not hear mention of a specific road in question.]*

Student Leslie Bowen stated that children should be taught culture at GCS and that, as an example, students draw swastika's when learning about Jewish descent. She feels that students don't take it seriously and that teachers don't say anything, from what she has seen.

Marie Scofield spoke on behalf of the Greene Teacher's Association. She stated that November 16th was NYS School-Related Professionals Day and that the GTA appreciates what all the staff members do for all buildings in the district. Ms. Scofield also mentioned the plans for the Board of Education to have guests sign in at meetings. She is concerned about transparency and doesn't want to shut people off. She does understand the change from five (5) minutes per person, to three (3) minutes, but wonders about the selection process. Finally, she stated that perhaps she didn't exactly understand the plans but felt the need to share her thoughts.

Rachel Parsons stated that she has two students at GCS. She feels that it would be wise to not ignore the issues that students are bringing up. She stated that anti-bullying is pushed at the Primary and Intermediate Schools and that staff needs to step up and that it's not funny when racist comments are being made.

Student Dayani Lora stated that the district should address racial slurs in bathrooms, especially the boys. Also, she said that the N-word was written in there a long time and something needs to be done.

Angelo Mendolia spoke again, addressing both the Board and audience members, and that racism is a serious issue. He mentioned the BOCES alternative school and feels that what he was hearing is a solution.

Student Holly Pierce stated that multiple friends have been told they are going to be beat up or jumped and nothing is being done. She stated that kids also scream racial slurs down the hallway, with nothing being done.

Cheyenne Rich stated that she graduated from GCS in 2018 and noted the "Greene Way" sign hanging in the auditorium. She said that when she was a student at GCS students had to read the signs and go through them. She further stated that students should feel welcome, included, and safe. Additionally, she stated that she hopes things change and feels that things haven't been going well in Greene but that it's not just our school.

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On motion by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session to discuss negotiations of two (2) units and the resignation of a specific employee.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**SECOND EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

On motion by Bringuel, seconded by Markham, it was recommended to adjourn the second Executive Session at 9:05 PM.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**ADJOURNMENT
SECOND EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

On motion by Bringuel, seconded by Markham, President Fish adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.
Yes – 7, No – 0

**MEETING
ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully Submitted,

Shiela Walker
Clerk of the Board