

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL, GREENE, NY
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 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, High School/Middle School campus, South Canal Street, Greene, New York.

CALL TO ORDER

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Fish
Mr. Douglas Markham
Mr. Andrew Bringuel, II
Mr. Nicholas Drew
Mrs. Natalie McMahon
Mr. Brian Milk

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

Mr. Seth Barrows

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Timothy Calice, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Bryan Ayres, Intermediate School Principal
Ms. Penny Connolly, High School Principal
Mrs. January Pratt, Primary School Principal

OFFICER(S) PRESENT:

Mrs. Shiela Walker, Clerk of the Board

On motion by Bringuel, seconded by Milk the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:01 PM to discuss the employment of a particular person.

FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Milk, seconded by Markham, President Fish adjourned the Executive Session at 7:18 PM.
Yes - 6, No - 0

**ADJOURNMENT
FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting reconvened at 7:20 PM.

RECONVENE

N/A

**ADDITIONS/
DELETIONS TO
REGULAR AGENDA**

Mr. Calice recognized student Olivia Kennedy as being named NYS Class C Softball Player of the Year. Also, Trent Rapp was named the 2021 MAC MVP for baseball. Mr. Calice thanked the Greene Community Scholarship Fund for their continued efforts on behalf of our students; they presented our 2021 graduates with \$165,110 in scholarships. The Buildings & Grounds staff was thanked for their hard work getting our buildings ready for the fall, what with the capital project going on. Two of our Transportation staff members, Rhonda Bowen and Kim Johndro, have been busy this summer cleaning the inside and outside of every GCS bus. Mr. Calice thanked the teaching staff on providing a wonderful end to the school year. Most of the staff have been in our buildings, working on finding new and better ways to support our students. Several have been reviewing our Blueprint for Excellence. Our staff and administrators continue to work hard to move the district forward to provide a world-class education to our students.

**GOOD NEWS ~
DISTRICT
HIGHLIGHTS**

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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**

ANNUAL REVIEW:

#710024258
#710023705
#710024220
#710023567
#710023819

TRANSFER/INTAKE:

NEW REFERRAL:

504 Accommodation Plan:
#710023891

PRESCHOOL:

#710024118
#710024243

AMENDED/MODIFIED IEP:

#710022813
#710022624
#710022626
#710022442
#710023052
#710024182
#710022713
#710022656
#710024049

RTF:

#710024260

REQUESTED REVIEW:

Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Milk, seconded by McMahon, to approve the minutes of the Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting held on July 14, 2021 as presented.

**APPROVE MINUTES
OF 7/14/21 BOARD
MEETING**

Yes - 6, No - 0

September 1 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 PM
September 6 – Labor Day Holiday
September 7 & 8 – Staff Development Days – No Students
September 9 – First Day of Classes for Students
September 15 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 PM

CALENDAR

Mr. Chris Kirchbaum asked how the Board planned to proceed with discussions regarding masks. President Fish stated that there would be information shared by Mr. Calice later in the meeting as well as the second comment period.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

REPORTS:

Ms. Connolly presented the High School Data report for the end of the 2020-2021 academic year to the Board of Education, including student counts. She thanked all of the staff for their help during an extra trying year. Priorities included keeping the health and instruction of everyone in good shape for the entire year. They succeeded and sports, Footlights, and other extra-curriculars were able to continue as well. Events such as High School and Underclassmen Awards, Regents testing, and Graduation were also held.

**HIGH SCHOOL
END-OF-YEAR**

Mr. Thesier of IBI Group and Messrs. Leach and Christensen of TAMCO updated the Board of Education on the progress of the capital project and also answered Board of Education questions.

**CAPITAL PROJECT
UPDATE**

Mr. Thesier, Architect, reported that the Intermediate School kitchen and café are in great shape. The project to secure the vestibules at both the Intermediate and Primary Schools is experiencing some delays of doors and windows being delivered; however, the frames will be in and temporary doors will be just as secure. Piping is installed at the Intermediate School and unit ventilators will be getting hooked up. At both buildings the chiller and electric gear are installed. The pavement project is progressing well despite the rain.

With respect to the Middle and High Schools, for the most part utilities are in, walls are up, and finishing work is starting. As with the upper campus, the receipt of windows is delayed.

The Bus Garage addition is mostly done. The HVAC will be installed soon. The parking lot and fuel tank projects are going well.

Mr. Leach, Onsite Project Manager, reported that a lot of work has been done and that a health inspection will be on Friday at the Intermediate School and on August 30th at the Middle/High School complex. The kitchen flooring is on site, food service equipment is coming, and the vestibules and main offices have the floors in, and painting is being done. At the current time there are between 50 and 200 people working every day. There are some delays on mechanical equipment, partly due to labor shortages. The Middle/High School cafeteria walls are painted and several other pieces are coming along. IBI and Tamco are having regular project meetings and plan to open school successfully in September.

A few Board members asked questions on such things as air conditioning, the secure doors, and if extra hours would be out of the incidental part of the contract. Mr. Christensen, construction management, stated that everyone is committed to the project deadlines and have agreed to additional hours and labor force, all of which are at no additional cost.

Community members were invited to ask questions as well. It asked how much the temporary doors would be costing and Mr. Thesier stated there would be no additional expense.

None

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

Motion made by Drew, seconded by Markham, to accept the named Board Members to sit on various Board Committees.

**BOARD COMMITTEE
ASSIGNMENTS**

The appointment of a Board Member to be the Legislative Advocate for NYSSBA for 2021-2022 was tabled so that more information could be gathered.

OTHER ITEMS

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following Board actions:

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to abolish one (1) full-time 10-month Typist position following the resignation of Michelle Weston.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to abolish one (1) full-time 10-month Typist position following the resignation of Renee LaPorte in order to accept 12-month Typist position.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to create one (1) 12-month Typist position as requested.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the resignation of Cynthia Yager to retire from Teacher's Aide position effective August 31, 2021 with appreciation for service.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the resignation of Rick Smith to retire from LTA position effective July 27, 2021 with appreciation for service.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the resignation of Sarah Carman to resign from Teacher position effective August 31, 2021.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the resignation of Michelle Schieve to resign from Teacher position effective August 31, 2021.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Laurie Ward as a substitute Teacher K-12 effective September 1, 2021.
Yes - 6, No - 0

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to make the following conditional probationary appointment:

Name of Appointee:	Lindsey Babcock
Tenure Area:	Elementary Education
Date of Commencement of Probationary Service:	September 1, 2021
Expiration Date of Appointment:	August 31, 2025
Certification Status:	Early Childhood Education (Birth through Grade 2) and Childhood Education (Grades 1 through 6)

Yes - 6, No - 0

**EDUCATION &
PERSONNEL:**

**ABOLISH
POSITIONS**

**CREATE
POSITION**

**CYNTHIA YAGER -
RESIGNATION TO
RETIRE**

**RICK SMITH -
RESIGNATION TO
RETIRE**

**SARAH CARMAN -
RESIGNATION**

**MICHELLE SCHIEVE -
RESIGNATION**

APPOINTMENTS

**Laurie Ward -
SUBSTITUTE**

**LINDSEY BABCOCK -
ELEMENTARY
TEACHER**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Madelyne Bush to a regular Teacher's Aide position, effective September 1, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending August 31, 2022.

Yes - 6, No - 0

**MADELYNE BUSH -
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Kris McDermott to a regular Teacher's Aide position, effective September 1, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending August 31, 2022.

Yes - 6, No - 0

**KRIS M^CDERMOTT -
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint Mary Ludolph to a regular 12-month Typist position, effective August 23, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending August 22, 2022.

Yes - 6, No - 0

**MARY LUDOLPH -
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Drew, seconded by Bringuel, to appoint the following Fall 2021 Coaches effective August 23rd.

**COACHING
APPOINTMENTS -
FALL 2021 ROSTER**

FIELD HOCKEY:

Varsity Assistant: Kelly Erickson

JV: Jessica Becker

Modified (revised from Modified A): Seranda Barton

Unpaid Volunteers: Matt Carlin, Julia Amell

Yes - 6, No - 0

None

**CAPITAL PROJECT
ACTIONS**

Motion made by Milk, seconded by Bringuel, to approve the 2021-2022 Bus Routes, the Labor Day Committee transportation requests, AppleFest Committee transportation requests, and modification of the Non-Public Transportation roster.

Yes - 6, No - 0

TRANSPORTATION

**BUSINESS &
FINANCE:**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the Tax Warrant for 2021-2022 as presented.

Yes - 6, No - 0

TAX WARRANT

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the Treasurer's Reports for the Activity Fund for June 2021 as presented.

Yes - 6, No - 0

**TREASURER'S
REPORTS - ACTIVITY
FUND**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the Opportunities for Broome & Chenango Contract for 2021-2022 as presented.

Yes - 6, No - 0

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR
BROOME & CHENANGO
CONTRACT**

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the Surplus Request, and disposal of, Primary School library books as presented.
Yes - 6, No – 0

SURPLUS REQUEST

Motion made by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, to accept the Internal Claims Auditor Report for June 2021 as presented.
Yes - 6, No – 0

**INTERNAL CLAIMS
AUDITOR REPORT**

Mr. Calice discussed current protocols for the reopening of school in September. As of August 10th the State government and Department of Health have not been providing any guidance. With the new NYS governor the guidance could change again. A memo from NYSED is forthcoming; they will be providing guidance and will have jurisdiction. We are hoping for it to arrive on August 12th and expect that it will probably follow CDC guidelines, which include the encouragement of 3' physical distancing and masks for everyone in grades K-12. The priority at GCS will be to have students in school every day with extracurriculars being offered.

**DISCUSSION
ITEMS:**

Additionally, from reading the current guidance, we expect that if 3-6' distancing occurs individuals will not be quarantined like last year, if masks have been properly worn. This does not hold true for adults if they are not fully vaccinated.

Vaccines are not required at this time.

Masks will be required at all times on busses, which can run at full capacity.

There are no requirements for masks or distancing when outdoors, including spectators at sporting events. There are currently no limits on the number of spectators.

Mr. Calice stated that the Department of Health has authority on any possible quarantines and informed the Board that, as far as reopening, this is currently a conversation only and no voting by the Board is necessary.

There was a discussion amongst the Board regarding contact tracing, external gatherings, mask protocol, field trips, and sporting events.

Mr. Calice also reported on the recent ThoughtExchange that was offered to Community and staff members. There were 411 participants with 394 thoughts. The results of the exchange showed the Top 10 thoughts of all participants, regardless of where they fell on the issue of wearing masks. At this time there was a discussion between Board members regarding things such as separation of students after school, pods, cohorts, sports, and the ventilation systems. At one point President Fish had to remind the audience that they please remain quiet while the Board conducted this portion of the meeting. He concluded by stating that guidance is continually changing.

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:**

- It was noted by President Fish that the evaluation of the Superintendent needs to be finished.

- Superintendent Calice reported on the following:

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:**

Staffing – The Administrative team has been working hard to finish staffing requirements, with more expected for the September 1 meeting. For the two (2) LTA positions that just resigned, Mr. Calice is looking at replacing them with two (2) Teacher's Aides. The district is currently looking for an elementary Art Teacher. Mr. Calice is looking at creating a Custodial/Part-Time Bus Driver position. We currently have a fully staffed Transportation Department; however, every district is currently looking for Bus Drivers. A combined position would allow applicants to have an 8-hour per day job with benefits. Lastly, he stated that the district is currently seeking a part-time Cafeteria Worker.

School to Business STEM ECOSYSTEM – Route 12 Corridor – Mr. Calice is participating with a network of local schools, businesses, and political entities to coordinate and work together on educational opportunities for our students. The goal is to get them connected to regional businesses with possible internships and employment implications.

Committee Name:	Last Meeting:	Next Meeting:
Budget	March 17, 2021	
Building & Grounds	May 25, 2021	
Transportation		
Audit	Oct. 7, 2020	
Curriculum & Technology	Aug. 15, 2018	
Policy	June 23, 2021	

**REVIEW
COMMITTEE
SCHEDULE:**

Note – With respect to the Policy Committee, Mr. Bringuel stated that he hopes to have an update, with corrections, at the September 15th Board of Education meeting.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT FROM
THE FLOOR:**

Hannah Storman questioned CDC guidance and acknowledged that the Board is in a rough spot. She feels that the CDC came up with a variant and feels that masks trap bacteria. She feels that the CDC is not science and that it's unlawful to mask another human being.

Chris Kirchbaum is wondering why we are listening to the CDC and NYSED. He wants answers, not a Q&A. He stated that American doctors have filed a suit against the CDC and that the CDC has reversed themselves on guidance in the past. Furthermore, he wonders if we close school will we lose funding and that other Boards of Education do what they want. Lastly, Mr. Kirchbaum stated that he's not going to pay his taxes to teach his kid at home on a tablet.

Michael Leo Brothers stated that he has had chemical warfare training and that the only thing to protect people is an N95 mask due to the micro size of the virus. Referencing Wikipedia, he said that people can't breathe well with masks and they are also breathing in carbon monoxide. He feels that the only effective masking requires a positive pressure system. He discussed a SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) and that he was familiar with these due to his time spent with the Greene Fire Department.

Mike Mullenax stated that he feels that the Board members took their positions to make choices. If they believed in science, he asked why most of the Board members were not masked.

Bridgette Conway stated that she, and others, were in attendance to support you and to give a way out. She wants to partner with teachers that don't want to wear masks. She stated that she has contacted State representatives and even made a woman cry. The lady sympathized but couldn't risk her job by getting involved.

Josephine Roselle stated that she is a community member and also a grandmother. She stated that fewer children have died from COVID than from the flu. She doesn't look at the school as being as super spreader of COVID and wants to see faces of children. She feels that everyone knows mask wearing is wrong and that we are dumbing down children. She feels this is bad for mental health.

President Fish stated that, although the 30 minute limit was done, one more speaker would be allowed.

Elizabeth Stewart has three children in the district and believes masks are useful, especially in light of what the Delta variant is currently causing. She shared several statistics on mask wearing and COVID, including from the American Pediatrics Association. She mentioned the rise in the country of COVID cases and the number of children in Pediatric Intensive Care Units.

Shane Storman asked to speak. He acknowledged that we live in a time of tremendous contradiction and that during the Spanish flu there was no question people were dying. (Final part of comment was missed.)

Erica Bush mentioned the homeless and that COVID is having little impact on those under the age of 50. She stated that the flu has variants. She would like the Board and Superintendent to not mandate masks.

President Fish stated that the time for Public Comment was up.

On motion by Markham, seconded by Bringuel, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:17 PM to discuss the employment of a particular person.

Yes - 6, No - 0

**SECOND
EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

On motion by Drew, seconded by Markham, President Fish
adjourned the Executive Session at 9:49 PM.
Yes - 6, No – 0

**ADJOURNMENT
SECOND
EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

On motion by Drew, seconded by Markham, President Fish
adjourned the meeting at 9:49 PM.
Yes - 6, No – 0

**MEETING
ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully Submitted,

Shiela Walker
Clerk of the Board

