

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL
GREENE, NEW YORK
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President, Ethan G. Day, in the Board of Education conference room, High School/Middle School complex, 40 South Canal Street, Greene, N.Y.

CALL TO ORDER

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ethan G. Day, President
Mr. Timothy Crumb, Vice-President
Mrs. Helen Hunsinger
Mrs. Karen Hendershott
Mr. Brian Milk
Mrs. Tammie McCauley
Mr. Scott Youngs

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

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

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 6:02 p.m.:
 - To review special education placements for particular students and to consider them for approval.
 - To discuss the employment history of a particular person Under consideration for the granting of tenure.

Yes-7, No-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to adjourn Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Yes-7, No-0

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION

- President Day reconvened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

RECONVENE

- 6. EDUCATION & PERSONNEL

Delete: #3 Modify 2015/2016 Academic Calendar

ADD./DELETIONS TO AGENDA

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Hunsinger, seconded by Hendershott, to approve the following placement(s):
#710023129; #710022125; #710023155; #710022172;
#710022580; #710022108; #710023364; #710022541;
#710022277; #710022406; #710123525; #710022420;
#710123433; #710123583; #710123461; #710022309;
#710123421; #710022301; #710022185; #710023309;
#710023463; #710021959; #710022895; #710022304;
#710123327; #710123542; #710023186; #710123296;
#710123184; #710022186; #710022427; #710022170.

Yes-7, No-0

SPECIAL EDUCATION PLACEMENT

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APPROVE MINUTES 3/16/16 & SPECIAL MEETING 3/30/16

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Crumb, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on March 16, 2016 and the special meeting held on March 30, 2016 as presented.
Yes-7, No-0

CALENDAR

- April 5-7 - ELA Testing Grades 3-8
- April 6 – Blood Drive – Auditorium Lobby 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- April 7 – 8th Gr. Parent Information Night–Auditorium 6:30 p.m.
- April 10 – PTO Chicken Bar-b-que – 11-3 - Ballflats
- April 12 – Special Board of Education Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
- April 13-15 - Math Testing Grades 3-8
- April 15 – Workers’ Compensation Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- April 18 – Board Member Election Petitions Due by 5:00 p.m.
- April 18 – Staff Development Day – No Students
- April 20 – Board of Education Meeting & BOCES Vote – 6:00 p.m.
- April 21 – CCSBA Banquet at the Silo
- April 25-29 – Spring Recess

PUBLIC COMMENT: JONATHAN RETZ

- Jonathan Retz, as a parent and community member, read a statement regarding an incident that occurred earlier in the week regarding an unattended young child near the river’s edge. Students on a UPK bus noticed the child and alerted the Monitor and the Bus Driver who contacted Jordon Lilley and the Greene Police. Mr. Retz thanked everyone involved in the incident from the students who noticed the child to the Monitor, Bus Drivers, Transportation Supervisor, and Chief Jeff Messina for their vigilance and quick response to the incident.

REPORTS:

- Department Chairpersons were present at the meeting to update the Board on their department’s activities – positives and any concerns or items to be worked on.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPT. UPDATE – REBECCA PHILIPPONE

- Mrs. Rebecca Philippone, Foreign Language Department Liaison, stated that the members of her department love the chrome books and prefer them to the iPads. Students are enjoying the chrome books and like that they don’t have to carry textbooks home and can type homework directly onto the chrome book. Some negatives were that they don’t run on a windows platform, scratch/break easily – would prefer a cover instead of a carrying case. Charging outlets within classrooms are limited – need for power cords with multiple outlets. Roll-out of chrome books for seniors should have occurred prior to underclassmen receiving them.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPT. UPDATE – SUNNIE WILLIAMS

- Mrs. Sunnie Williams, PE Department Chair, thanked the Board for the additional PE positions this year. She stated that it has helped out the PE program at all levels. Students in grades 9-12 have been trained in the hands only CPR. Elementary PE teachers have been finding creative ways to incorporate literacy into their program. A concern for the PE department is the need for ongoing maintenance of all PE facilities – weight room, pool, locker rooms and skylights in the roof of the gym.

ENGLISH DEPT. UPDATE – KRIS MCDERMOTT

- Mrs. Kris McDermott, ELA Department Chair, stated that the focus on literacy this year has resulted in many positives. The English Department has been reviewing literacy books and compiling a list and what books are crossovers between different classes. The hope is to eliminate overlap. Having unrestricted

- time limits for the ELA state test has been helpful. Some passages have been eliminated, but they are still very difficult and not on grade level. Approximately 40 students in grades 3-5 have opted out of taking the exam.

- Mrs. Alisha Eggleston, Math Department Chair, thanked the Board for the additional math position. In-service this year has been focused on Google classroom which is a great way to communicate with students and keep them up-to-date on classroom assignments. Teachers and students have enjoyed using the chrome books and the google aps. A concern was expressed regarding the need for some extra chrome books in classrooms for students who did not sign off to have one of their own. She also thanked the Board for allowing them to grade state assessments in-house and would like representatives from all buildings involved in the grading. It is a good tool for comprehension of what material is being tested at the various levels. Using appropriate content area staff to teach AIS, the need for teacher recommendations to weigh more heavily than state assessments regarding which students receive AIS, and the need for math AIS at the primary level are ongoing concerns of the department.

**MATH DEPT. UPDATE
– ALISHA EGGLESTON**

- Mr. Shawn French, AIS Liaison, stated that the district's focus on literacy has been a good accomplishment. Each building has worked hard on that goal through presenters and staff development opportunities. Consistency and accountability in the AIS program continues to be a concern. As a result of not replacing specific AIS/Literacy teachers the district had before retirements, situations have occurred where some AIS is being taught by teachers outside of their curricular area.

**AIS LIAISON
UPDATE – SHAWN
FRENCH**

- Mr. Colin Evans, Special Education Department Chair, reported that the special education department continues to go through changes, but that transitions are going well. He also agreed with the need for consistency of AIS services and support in transitioning to self-contained classrooms.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
UPDATE – COLIN
EVANS**

- Mr. Ethan Leet, Science Department Chair, reported that STEM night was a big success with over 400 people attending. There were many cross-curricular activities. Younger students were excited to be able to do projects with their parents and the older students enjoyed working with the younger students. NYS Standards for Science will be coming out soon and the Department will need time to adjust their current curriculum to meet the new standards.

**SCIENCE DEPT.
UPDATE – MR. LEET**

- Board member Crumb, reported that the district is working with BOCES to proactively test water at all district buildings. District personnel will be trained to do water testing.

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS:
BUILDINGS &
GROUNDS**

- Board member Hunsinger, reported that the committee met to discuss the personnel recommended for appointment tonight.

**RECRUITMENT &
TENURE**

- None.

TRANSPORTATION:

EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:

- **The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following board action:**

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**TRIP REQUEST –
AMERICAN LEGION
TRIP REQUEST**

- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by Hunsinger, to approve the Trip Request of the American Legion Post #692 to take five (5) junior girls and a chaperone to a Girls' Leadership Day in Albany on May 11, 2016 or May 17, 2016 using school transportation.
Yes-7, No-0

TENURE RECOMMENDATION(S):

**KATHLEEN DUTCHER
SCIENCE**

- Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to move the following appointment of Tenure:
Name of Appointee Kathleen Dutcher
Tenure Area Science
Date of Commencement
Of Service on Tenure May 14, 2016
Certification Status General Science Initial (5-9) & Biology Initial (5-9 & 7-12)
Yes-7, No-0

**MODIFY SUBSTITUTE
ROSTERS**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, to modify the following previously appointed substitutes for the 2015-2016 school year effective April 7, 2016:
• Geoffrey Johnson – Add K-5 Substitute Teacher (currently LTA Substitute)
• Janet Stanton – Add K-5 Substitute Teacher (currently LTA Substitute)
• Melissa Price – Remove as a Substitute Teacher
Yes-7, No-0

RESIGNATION(S):

**GARY CHURCH-SMITH
BUS DRIVER**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Crumb, to accept the resignation of Gary Church-Smith, Bus Driver, effective March 31, 2016 with appreciation.
Yes-7, No-0

**APPOINTMENT(S):
SUBSTITUTE ROSTER**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Youngs, to appoint Hayley Kosiner to the Substitute Roster for the 2015-2016 school year, as a Substitute Teacher and LTA, UPK-12, effective April 7, 2016.
Yes-7, No-0

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
SICK BANK – ANDREW
BARANYK, BUS DRIVER**

- Upon the recommendation of the Non-Instructional Sick Bank Committee, a motion was made by Milk, seconded by McCauley, to approve the request of Andrew Baranyk, Bus Driver, for the withdrawal of twenty (20) days from the Non-Instructional Sick Bank to cover April 6, 2016 through May 11, 2016.
Yes-7, No-0

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:
REVENUE & BUDGET
STATUS REPORTS**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to accept the Budget Status Reports for February 2016 for the General Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Federal Grants & Capital budgets as presented.
Yes-7, No-0

**GENERAL FUND
BUDGET TRANSFERS**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hendershott, to approve the General Fund budgetary transfers as of April 1, 2016 in the amount of \$83,100 as presented.
Yes-7, No-0

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**DONATION OF
BICYCLES - KAY
BORNE**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to accept the generous donation from Kay Borne of six (6) bicycles and helmets (3 boys and 3 girls) with appreciation. The bicycles will be given to students at the intermediate school as part of a reading incentive program.

Yes-7, No-0

**CHARITABLE
DONATION – CHEN.
FORKS CSD.**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Hendershott, to accept the generous donation from the Chenango Forks School District of portable fencing for our softball and baseball fields.

Yes-7, No-0

**CHARITABLE
DONATION – GERALD
G. JONES MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Hendershott, to accept the generous donation from the estate of Gerald G. Jones of \$10,000 to continue funding the Jones Memorial Scholarship which is given to a senior at graduation.

Yes-7, No-0

**BUDGET COMMITTEE
UPDATE**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, reported on the latest budget work toward finalizing the 2016-2017 budget. The following information was shared with the Board:
 - On time State budget which was 1.35 billion dollars higher than the Governor's proposed budget, but lower than what the Legislature was proposing resulting in a 5.9% increase for education.
 - Half of the increase went into foundation aid, and the remaining 433 million into gap elimination. The district received 4.75% more in expense driven aid, 2.6% increase in foundation aid, and \$88,000 in Community Schools Aid to help districts in financial need.
 - At the April 20th Board meeting, the committee will have a final budget for Board approval.
 - Summary of financial expenses exceed revenues leaving a shortfall. The tax cap levy of 2.18% has been figured into revenues. Recommended budget reductions of \$168,000 will leave a requirement to balance the budget of approximately \$447,000 from reserves.
- Budget Committee board members Crumb and Hunsinger both commented that this is a responsible budget and that unfunded state mandates continue to hurt the financial standing of districts.
- The consensus of the Board was that they are comfortable with a 2.18% tax levy increase.

**ONGOING
DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **1. Superintendent Search: Adoption of Superintendency Transition Calendar –**
 - Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Hendershott, to adopt the Superintendency Transition Calendar as presented.
- 2. Superintendent Search: Collection of Board Members Surveys** – President Day reminded Board members to return the surveys.
- 3. Superintendent Search: Initial Review of Community & Faculty/Staff Survey Questions** – President Day reminded Board members to start thinking/developing questions.

**OUTSTANDING BOARD
ACTIONS LIST**

Bd. Mtg. Directed	Task To Be Completed	Responsibility Of	Report Back
3/7/07	Policy/Procedure Manual	Board and Superintendent	Ongoing
10/7/15	Dept. Chair Update Work Session	Department Chairs	Feb. 2016
2/3/16	Chrome Book Classroom Use	Board and Superintendent	June 2016
3/16/16	Fall Athletic Report Review	Board and Superintendent	April 2016

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

- Superintendent Retz reported on the following:

- 1. Pool Update** – Contractors have been on-site and the heat exchanger to provide supplemental heat has been ordered. It is hoped to have the water temperature up to a useable level sometime in May. The work currently being done is part of the capital project.
- 2. Graduate** – Jessica St. Germain, High School Guidance Counselor, announced an appeal to State Ed for the one remaining senior from the Class of 2015 that did not graduate was approved. This allows the one remaining senior to official graduate.
- 3. Scrimmages** - Previously, away scrimmages were eliminated for budgetary concerns. Coaches are requesting the ability to travel to play one away scrimmage, outside of their section, for varsity and jv teams. This will put Greene in a more favorable light with school districts that travel to Greene for a scrimmage and would like to Greene to reciprocate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
MARIE SCOFIELD**

- Marie Scofield, GTA President, stated that today was Mr. Mike Platta's last day and while his position is fillable, he will be missed. Ms. Scofield thanked the Board for their continued support of the arts. She stated that we have an amazing program and talented students as demonstrated by the Footlights performance this past weekend. She also commented that the coaches will be glad to have the ability to reciprocate at least once with other districts for scrimmages. She has heard a lot of positive feedback on the professional development opportunities offered this year. They have been worthwhile and educational for staff.

PRESIDENT DAY

- Board President Ethan Day also commented on the flawless performance by the Footlight's performers. Mrs. Boel has built an incredible program.

SCOTT YOUNGS

- Board member Scott Youngs stated that he stopped in to see Mrs. Boel and compliment her on a wonderful performance and how proud we are of the incredibly talented students we have.

BRIAN MILK

- Board member Brian Milk, complimented Mike Utter and Jordon Lilley on their quick response to adjust the temperature in the auditorium.

SUE PROSCIA

- Sue Proscia, President of the Bus Drivers' Group, thanked the Board for adding two substitute bus driver positions to help alleviate some of the pressure the drivers have been under this year. She also requested to speak with the Board in Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by Youngs, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 7:48 p.m.:

- To discuss the collective bargaining negotiations involving the Greene Administrators' Association.
- To discuss two particular matters involving the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Greene Teachers' Association.
- To discuss the employment history of a particular person under consideration for the position of Interim Superintendent of Schools.

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- To discuss the collective bargaining negotiations involving the Bus Drivers' Group.

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Youngs, to adjourn Executive Session at 9:51 p.m.

Yes-7, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

- President Day reconvened the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

RECONVENE

- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by milk, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Yes-7, No-0

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Marie Utter
District Clerk