

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
GREENE, NEW YORK  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 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  
Mr. Timothy Crumb  
Mrs. Helen Hunsinger  
Mrs. Tammie McCauley

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. James Strenkert  
Mrs. Karen Hendershott

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Jonathan Retz, Superintendent  
Mr. Mark Rubitski, Business Manager  
Mrs. Shelly Richards, Primary School Principal

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 7:03 p.m.:
  - Special Education Placements
  - Negotiations Update
  - Confidential Personnel Matter

Yes-5, No-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to approve the following placement(s):  
#710023217; #710023353; #710023354; #710023291.

Yes-5, No-0

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
PLACEMENTS**

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

Yes-5, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE**

- President Boeltz reconvened the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

- 4. EDUCATION AND PERSONNEL  
2. Appointment – Spring Coaches

**ADDITIONS/  
DELETIONS TO  
AGENDA**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on February 4, 2015 as presented.

Yes-5, No-0

**APPROVE MINUTES  
2/4/15**

- February 25 – Budget Committee Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- February 26 – ½ Day for Students
- March 3 – Bus Vote 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. – Auditorium Lobby
- March 4 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- March 11 – Budget Committee Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- March 13 – Staff Development Day

**CALENDAR**

- March 13-15 – Footlights Production – *Hello Dolly*
- March 18 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- March 19 – Kindergarten Parent Information Night – 6:30 – Primary School
- March 25 – Budget Committee Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- March 25 – Robotics Competition
- March 26 – **STEM Family Night 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Intermediate - Changed to April 9, 2015**
- March 30 – April 3 – Spring Recess

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** - None.

**REPORT(S):** - The Enrollment Report for the period ending January 31, 2015  
**ENROLLMENT REPORT** with an ending enrollment of 1074 was noted.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT** - Mrs. Shelly Richards, Primary School Principal, shared a power point presentation with the Board which highlighted activities at the Primary School. Items highlighted were:

1) Arts in Education:

- Theme – dance through cultural celebrations – performances by African dancers (Binghamton HS students); Russian Orthodox dancing – Russian Polka; Chinese New Year – ribbon dancing. Teaching artist, Jo Mish, begins this month and will concentrate on Manipuri dance.
- Kimberly Kalem is doing her Administrative Internship, with Mrs. Richards and Mr. Ayres. Projects during her internship will include updating report cards to reflect Common Core Learning Standards and current assessments; aligning curriculum and updating portfolios to reflect new curriculum.
- Superintendent's Conference Day on January 30<sup>th</sup> was used to continue work on differentiated instruction; training on the Ipads; and how to move forward with RTI K-5.
- Read Across America Day – March 2<sup>nd</sup> - Dr. Seuss events and visit throughout that week.
- Meet the Teacher Night – held February 9<sup>th</sup> for Richelle Lawrence to allow parents and students to meet her and ease fears of a new teacher starting mid-way through school year. Very successful and the transition is going well.
- Data Meetings – Full day meetings were held in September and January and half-day meetings have been scheduled for November, March and June. Meetings are used to discuss student data and placement of students into RTI intervention groups.
- Computer Lab Options – looking at options for next year including the possibility of a typing program which would allow for a more formal writing piece and writing lab scheduling.

**EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:**

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

**TRIP REQUEST -  
FOOTLIGHTS TO NYC**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by McCauley, to approve the trip request of the Music Department to take interested students to NYC to see *The Lion King* on June 20, 2015. Transportation will be provided by Oneonta Bus Lines pending approval by Greene's Transportation Supervisor.  
Yes-5, No-0

**APPOINTMENT(S):  
SPRING COACHES**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Day, to appoint the following individuals to the Spring 2015 Coaching Roster:
  - Mary McBride – Varsity Track Coach (modified from Previous 2/4/15 appointment as modified track coach)
  - Rich Karl – Varsity Tennis

Yes-5, No-0

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

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to accept the Budget Status Reports for January 2015 for the General Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Federal Grants & Capital budgets as presented.

Yes-5, No-0

**TREASURER' REPORT  
FOR ACTIVITY FUNDS**

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the Extracurricular Accounts for January 2015 as presented.

Yes-5, No-0

**INTERNAL CLAIMS  
AUDIT REPORT**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to accept Internal Claims Audit Report for January 2015 as presented.

Yes-5, No-0

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, updated the Board on the budget line items reviewed by the Budget Committee to-date. Areas reviewed included: operation of plant, maintenance of plant, flexible spending and school capital bonds. The capital bonds line item is down 9.4% due to the district making the last bond payment on our 20 year bonds this year. As expenses go down due to capital bonds, revenue realized in building aid also goes down. Operation of plant line item is down 11.8% mostly due to the cost savings on fuel.

**BOCES BUDGET  
EXPLANATION**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, reviewed information given to the Board regarding the make-up of the BOCES budget. Mr. Rubitski explained that every district using BOCES services pays a portion of that budget based on their RWADA. Greene's RWADA this past year was 8.50% of the total BOCES budget. He explained how the BOCES budget is built based on services needed by the component districts and the BOCES unit cost methodology. BOCES is not allowed to have a fund balance, therefore any monies left over at the end of the year, are refunded proportionately to the component districts.

**B-T-D HEALTH INSUR.  
CONSORTIUM  
UPDATE**

- Mr. Rubitski, updated the Board on a recent Health Insurance Consortium meeting that he attended. Rates for next year were set at 6% baseline plus individual district's modifier. Greene's rate for next year will be 7.8%. Prescription drug costs are up 10% and continue to be the main reason for premium increases. Discussions were also had regarding the Affordable Care Act reporting requirements and possible excise tax in the future.

**SMART SCHOOLS  
BOND ACT**

- Mr. Rubitski reported that the Smart Schools Bond Act has been delayed due to complications. The sense is that districts should not plan on these revenues for the coming budget year.

**RECIPROCAL  
DEPOSITS PROGRAM**

- Mr. Rubitski asked the Board if they wanted to proceed with NBT's reciprocal deposit program. The need to review the District's investment policy and fill out paper work will take some time. The Board indicated that they are in agreement with moving forward.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015  
OUTSTANDING BOARD  
ACTIONS LIST**

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<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		Spring 2015

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

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

**1. Letter to Legislators and Governor** – Superintendent Retz shared with the Board a letter he drafted to go home to parents regarding the importance of a letter-writing campaign to inform Legislators and the Governor of school district's concerns regarding mandate relief, delayed aid runs and adjustments to foundation aid. After Board members sign the letter, it will be sent out to parents/community members asking for their signature of support and return the signed letter to the district. The district will then send out the letters.

**2. Action Plan** – The action plan laid out so far includes:

- Letter writing campaign
- Attending Lobby Day
- Scheduled visits by parents, teachers, PTO members to legislator's home offices
- Possible forum – maybe multiple schools together at one location

**2. Forum** – There will be a forum on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Sherburne-Earlville. Superintendent Retz will disseminate the information for those who are interested in attending.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:  
3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE CLASS  
SIZE**

- Mrs. Shannon Livingston, parent of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student, stated that her daughter's current class size is 25 students. She stated that this is a difficult situation for students and teachers alike, and requested that the Board consider adding an additional section to that grade level to reduce class sizes.

- Mr. Brian Milk, a parent, stated that he would agree with Mrs. Livingston as he also has a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student in that situation.

**RESPONSE**

- Superintendent Retz stated that the current situation is being reviewed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to adjourn to Executive Session for negotiations and a particular personnel matter at 8:27 p.m.

Yes-5, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to adjourn Executive Session at 9:10 p.m.

Yes-5, No-0

**RECONVENE**

- President Boeltz reconvened the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Yes-5, No-0

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marie Utter  
District Clerk