

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL
GREENE, NEW YORK
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 6:04 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.
- President Day called for a moment of silence in observance of the passing of Marion Moore, a former district employee.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mrs. Karen Hendershott

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
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 Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to adjourn to **EXECUTIVE SESSION** Executive Session for the following at 6:05 p.m.:
 - To discuss the contract and employment status of a particular person.
 - To review special education placements for particular students and to consider them for approval.
 - To discuss a matter leading to the discipline of a particular person.

Yes-6, No-0

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Milk, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:08 p.m.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE

Yes-6, No-0

- President Day reconvened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

RECONVENE

- 7. EDUCATION & PERSONNEL

**ADD./DELETIONS
TO AGENDA**

Add: 1. Appointment(s) - Coaches
Varsity Softball Coach – Rick Condon
Modified 7/8 Softball Coach – James Carter

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to approve the following placement(s):
#710023378; #710023461; #710023154; #710022209.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
PLACEMENT**

Yes-6, No-0

**APPROVE MINUTES
1/20/16**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Milk, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on January 20, 2016, as presented.
- Yes-6, No-0

CALENDAR

- February 5 – Health Insurance Consortium – 6:30 p.m.
- February 10 – Budget Cmte. Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- February 12 – Board of Education Training Retreat/NYSSBA - 5:00 p.m.
- February 15-16 Presidents' Day Recess
- February 17 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- February 23 – Bus & Proposition Vote 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
- February 24 – Budget Cmte. Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- February 26 – CCSBA Meet/Greet @ BG Jr./Sr. H.S. – 6:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
KEIRSTEN FRAIR**

- Keirsten Frair, a student, asked if repairs to the pool in June would interfere with the JRC summer program which employs several students as lifeguards.

- Superintendent Retz stated that the pool repairs will be done early in the project and not interfere with the JRC program.

MIKE PLATTA

- Mike Platta, Aquatics Director, stated that he could not attend the previous board meeting where pool issues were discussed and voiced his concern with the letter that was posted on the website and pool area which was unsigned and led many to believe that it was written by him. He asked who wrote the letter.

- President Day stated that the letter was actually an email from Mark Rubitski sent to board members informing them of the pool heating issue. He suggested that it be posted for informational purposes.

MARY JANE ALGER

- Mary Jane Alger stated that concerns with the temperature of the pool date back many years. She asked where the \$25,000 figure came from for replacement of the heating system.

**SUPERINTENDENT
RETZ**

- Superintendent Retz stated that two years ago they received an estimate for \$18,000 and the \$25,000 figure is an estimate of what the repairs would be today.

ALAN LORD

- Alan Lord thanked the district for making the temporary repairs and questioned rumors that the pool equipment had not been maintained for the past three years and why it took so long (3 months into the swim teams' season) for repairs to be made.

**SUPERINTENDENT
RETZ**

- Superintendent Retz stated that when they became aware of the temperature problem, the district called to schedule a technician to come and look at the system.

PRESIDENT DAY

- President Day stated that he regrets that the issue was not addressed sooner and hopes that the temporary fix will hold until a new system can be installed.

COLIN EVANS

- Colin Evans stated that maintenance is intended to prolong the longevity of equipment and that the district should not wait for capital projects to make needed repairs.

1. Superintendent Search:

**ONGOING DISCUSSION
ITEMS:
SUPERINTENDENT
SEARCH**

- President Day introduced Allen Buyck, Interim District Superintendent, DCMO BOCES, to discuss the district's upcoming Superintendent's search.
- Allen Buyck began the discussion by informing the Board of their options in searching for a new Superintendent:
 - Appoint an internal candidate;
 - Conduct a search on their own;
 - Hire a search consultant;
 - Utilize the BOCES District Superintendent Consulting Service to perform the search at no cost to the district except printing the brochure, postage and the cost of any newspaper advertising.
- Mr. Buyck outlined what the process would be using the BOCES Superintendent Consulting Service.
 - **Board Resolution** – appoint the District Superintendent as its search consultant.
 - **Consultant Responsibilities** – develop candidate criteria; preparation of brochure and advertising of the position; preliminary screening; preliminary interview; assist the Board in developing interview questions and logistics.
 - **Board Responsibilities** – what characteristics in a Superintendent are critical; what focus groups will be involved in the process; salary range; residency requirement; select finalists.
 - **Time Line** – not a quick process about 25 weeks – 6 months.
- A handout describing the search process was handed out to Board members for their review.

2. Sunday Facility Use – Policy #3260 Review

**SUNDAY FACILITY
USE-POLICY #3260**

- Mark Rubitski reported that there have been cost savings by closing the districts' indoor facilities on Sundays through custodial costs (approximately \$10,000). A review of facility requests, found that there has not been a large number of requests for use on Sundays resulting in a negative impact on the community. The Board agreed that the current policy restricting use of indoor facilities on Sundays should remain unchanged.

- Shelly Richards, Primary School Principal, reported on activities at the primary school.

**REPORTS:
PRIMARY SCHOOL
UPDATE-
MRS. RICHARDS**

 - Trimester report cards and later parent/teacher conferences allowing for more teaching time and a more comprehensive feel for where students are educationally.
 - Continuing with Olweus activities and their super heroes theme and anti-bullying message through morning program with positive recognition of students and staff.
 - Guest reader nights were held on various nights during October with consistent participation.
 - Arts in Education is focusing on "Our Community" through photography and writing. Special areas are tying into the theme as well. Special events – author visits through Skype.
 - Professional Development tied to literacy goals with writing workshops.
 - Field days will follow a new format through a carnival theme.
 - End of the year show will be a culmination of the Arts in Education activities.

- James Walters, High School Principal, reported on activities at the high school.

**HIGH SCHOOL
UPDATE –
JAMES WALTERS**

- Chromebook Update – Initially issued to students in grades 9-11 with the intent on getting laptops for seniors. Due to budget restraints and the one-year warranty, it was decided to give remaining chromebooks to seniors taking college classes and order an additional 40 chromebooks to allow all seniors to have one and still have 12 leftover to use as replacements when needed. The district decided to cover any chromebook damages, which have been minimal with a total of 8 so far. Two would not charge and were replaced under the warranty and 6 had damaged screens which were the result of the power pack being placed in the case against the screen. Mr. Walters has addressed this problem.
- Google Apps for Education Training – Mr. Walters thanked the Board for allowing last Friday to be a full day in-service for middle and high school teachers. The presentation by Carol LaRow was well received by the staff and based on the survey taken by the teachers, they found it very informative and useful. Looking into a possible follow-up during the next in-service day.
- Regents Report – Small number of students to the January regents as it was mostly students that did not pass in August. The January ELA exam usually taken by all juniors, will now only be taken in June. It is hoped that by waiting until the end of the year, the students will have received the full 3 years of content and will help increase their mastery level.
- PSAT Results – 50% of current Juniors took the exam. Class average on the exam was 1064 which is higher than the NYS average of 967 and the national average of 1,008.
- Electives – New electives are being offered next year to with the plan of alternating electives to give students variety and more exposure. Some of the new electives are – Math C++ to JAVA, CAD alternating with Introduction to Animation & Video Game Design, Human Anatomy & Physiology, STEM Physics with Robotics and Web Design Crash Course. Creative scheduling has made these opportunities possible.
- 45 of 90 seniors are taking at least one college course.
- Driver Education Status – Mr. Butler, high school Guidance Counselor is taking the course to teach the driving part of the course, but to do the classroom piece you need to be a certified teacher employed by the district. Possible alternatives and the costs are being investigated.
- Hands Only CPR – Physical Education teachers downloaded information from the American Heart Association website and are teaching the hands on CPR to seniors through their physical education class.

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

- Employee Committee Report – The committee met and reviewed and discussed new appointees.

- Building & Grounds Committee Report – The committee met but had nothing to report on.

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb to extend the Laurel Road bus route approximately two-tenths of a mile effective immediately.

Yes-6, No-0

**TRANSPORTATION:
BUS ROUTE
MODIFICATION**

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

EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to appoint The following individuals as coaches effective February 4, 2016:
 - Modified 7/8 Baseball – Pete Mansheffer
 - Varsity Softball Coach – Rick Condon
 - JV Softball Coach – Mike Platta
 - Modified 7/8 Softball Coach – James Carter

Yes-6, No-0

**APPOINTMENT(S):
COACHING ROSTER**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to appoint Ms. Cherie Bentley as an Odyssey of the Mind Unpaid Volunteer Coach for Mr. T. Sininger's team, effective February 4, 2016.

Yes-6, No-0

**ODYSSEY OF THE
MIND – VOLUNTEER**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to appoint the following individuals to the Substitute Roster for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year effective February 4, 2016:

- Ms. Molly Cutia – Substitute Teacher UPK-6;
- Ms. Kaitlyn Stanton – Substitute Teacher/LTA UPK-12;
- Mr. Jordan Smith – Substitute Teacher/LTA UPK-12;
- Ms. Karen Lyons – Substitute Cafeteria Worker

Yes-6, No-0

**SUBSTITUTE ROSTER
ADDITIONS**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by McCauley, to approve the first reading, waive the second reading, and adopt revised *Policy #7532 Admission to High School Athletic Events* as read.

Yes-6, No-0

**FIRST READING
REVISED POLICY
#7532 ADMISSION
TO H.S. ATHLETIC
EVENTS**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Youngs, to approve the High School Chorus' Trip Request to attend and perform at the Music in the Parks Festival/Dorney Park in Macungie, PA on Saturday, June 11, 2016. Transportation will be by charter bus pending approval of driver's credentials by Greene's Transportation Supervisor.

Yes-6, No-0

**CHORUS TRIP
REQUEST**

- Upon the recommendation of the Non-Instructional Sick Bank Committee, a motion was made by McCauley, seconded by Milk, to approve the request of Penny Furman, Bus Driver, for the additional withdrawal of twenty-five (25) days covering the period of January 26, 2016 through March 3, 2016.

Yes-6, No-0

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
SICK BANK - PENNY
FURMAN**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Milk, to declare school vehicle #55 (Astro van) as obsolete and to dispose of it at auction.

Yes-6, No-0

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:
OBSOLETE SCHOOL
VEHICLE**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, reported on the budget line items recent reviewed by the Budget Committee. They included:

- Operation of plant – decrease of \$20,000 due to heating, propane and diesel down 30% and entering into a

**BUDGET COMMITTEE
UPDATE**

- maintenance contract with Siemens for our heating control system.
- Maintenance of Plant and District Transport increases are due to contractual increases.
- The budget process is a couple of weeks ahead of last year's with instructional and BOCES services budget line items being the next to be reviewed.
- Board member McCauley asked for a breakdown of the \$40,000 for repairs to the pool for the next meeting.

**OUTSTANDING BOARD
ACTIONS LIST**

<u>Bd. Mtg. 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
10/7/15	Dept. Chair Update Work Session	Department Chairs	Feb. 2016
2/3/16	Chrome Book Classroom Use	Board and Superintendent	June 2016

*Chrome book -- report back -- end of the year June 2016

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

- Superintendent Retz reported on the following:

1. Finger Printing – Notice received from State Ed that there will be a raise in the administrative cost of the process of \$2.30.

2. RTF – The district has exhausted our resources to find placements for several students who are currently being taught by our home instructor at RTF. We are required to provide them with an education where they have equal access to classes. This will require us to establish classrooms at our campus – one at the Intermediate and one at the High school. This will require two teaching positions. There are numerous issues to resolve; classroom space, supervision, busing, utilization of RTF staff, and RTF response time. Office of Mental Health will help with funding, but this may not cover all costs.

- Concerns regarding the impact on other students were voiced. Sarah Wiggins, Director of Special Programs, will be visiting other districts over Spring break to see how they handle program needs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
HEATHER KRIESEL**

- Heather Kriesel, Instrumental Music Instructor, stated that with the push of new electives, she would like to see arts electives as part of STEAM. She also announced:

- 20 students participated in All County between band and chorus.
- Claire Nolan has the lead in the upcoming Footlights musical.
- Pep Band performing at basketball games is completely run by students.
- The marching band will be participating in the Sherburne Pageant of Bands along with the jazz band.
- Music in Our Schools concert will be at the beginning of March and will feature students in grades 2nd through 12th.
- Odyssey of the Mind – 5 teams and the competition is next Saturday at BOCES in Masonville.

- Deb Krupp thanked the Board for the full day in-service allowing **DEB KRUPP** staff to work with Google Aps. She also thanked President Day for the bold move on rearranging the Board room set-up.

- Marie Scofield, GTA President, spoke regarding the following: **MARIE SCOFIELD**

- Liked the new Board room set-up.
- Reminder that Driver's Ed is part of GTA contract.
- Appreciate the Board saving the classroom space and not moving the Board room into that space.
- Appreciate Board member McCauley's request for a breakdown of the pool maintenance costs.
- Pool temperature has been a concern for many years.
- The district needs to be prepared and anticipating needed repairs.

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn **ADJOURNMENT**
the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Yes-6, No-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Marie Utter
District Clerk