

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL, GREENE, NY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Greene Central School Board of Education was called to order at 6:02 p.m., by President, Brian Milk, in the Board Conference Room, High School/Middle School complex, South Canal Street, Greene, NY.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Brian Milk, President  
Mrs. Tammie McCauley  
Mr. Seth Barrows  
Mr. Jason Burghardt  
Mr. Nicholas Drew  
Mr. Douglas Markham

**ROLL CALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Scott Youngs, Vice-President

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Gordon Daniels, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. James Walters, High School Principal  
Mr. Timothy Calice, Middle School Principal  
Mrs. January Pratt, Primary School Principal  
Mr. Gerald Abbey, Jr., Interim Facilities Director  
Mr. Dennis Symons, Interim Head Bus Driver

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

- Interim Superintendent Daniels introduced Michelle Hasselbarth, newly appointed Director of Special Programs, and her husband Scott.

**INTRODUCTION**

- Motion made by Burghardt, seconded by Markham, to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. for the following:
  - To review Special Education placements for particular students and to consider them for approval.
  - To discuss the matter leading to the appointment of A particular person.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Yes-6, No-0

- Motion made by Drew, seconded by Markham, to adjourn Executive Session at 6:29 p.m.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Yes-6, No-0

- President Milk reconvened the meeting 6:30 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

- **Delete:** 5. BOARD POLICIES FOR REVIEW  
(Board Policy Committee did not meet to review)  
6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

**ADD/DELETIONS  
TO AGENDA**

**Delete:** Policy Committee

**Add:** New 5. New Elementary Reading Series Discussion

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Burghardt, seconded by Markham, to approve the following placement(s):  
#710123498; #710022363; #710023162; #710123625;

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
PLACEMENTS**

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- #710023620; #710022576; #710023129; #710022352;  
#710123328.  
Yes-6, No-0

**APPROVE MINUTES  
11/1/17 MTG.**

- Motion made by Burghardt, seconded by Drew, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 as presented.  
Yes-6, No-0

**CALENDAR:**

- November 16 – DCMO BOCES School Board Institute –  
@ Oneonta – Topic ESSA - **cancelled**  
- November 16 - Kindergarten Feast 11:00 a.m.  
- November 20 – Grandparents Day at Morning Program– 8:05 a.m.  
- November 22-24 – Thanksgiving Recess  
- November 29 – Board of Education Meeting – 6:00 p.m.  
- December 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Sings Christmas Carols at Morning  
Program – 8:05 a.m.  
- December 1 – After tree lighting Community Christmas Carols –  
2<sup>nd</sup> grade sings @ Zion – 7:00 p.m.  
- December 2 – Legislative Breakfast @ Oneonta – 9:30 a.m.  
- December 14 – MS Band/HS Chorus Holiday Concert – 7:00 p.m.  
- December 19 – Intermediate Concert – 7:00 p.m.  
- December 20 – Board of Education Meeting – 6:00 p.m.  
- December 25 - January 2 – Holiday Recess – No School  
- January 3 – Board of Education Meeting – 6:00 p.m.  
- January 11 – MS Chorus/HS Band Winter Concert – 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:  
DENNIS SYMONS**

- Dennis Symons, Interim Head Bus Driver, announced a bus trip for school employees and family to NYC on December 2, 2017 (Saturday). He asked if there would be any concerns if cars are left in the parking lot for the day. None noted.

**APPROVE LINKS 19  
PLAN**

- Motion made by Burghardt, seconded by Barrows, to approve the LINKS 19 Integrated School Improvement Plan as presented.  
Yes-6, No-0

**REPORTS:  
ENROLLMENT REPORT**

- The Enrollment Report ending October 31, 2017 with a total enrollment of 990 students was noted.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
QUARTERLY REPORT-**

- Timothy Calice, Middle School Principal, highlighted the following Middle School activities during the first quarter of the 2017-2018 school year:

- Staff revisited the LINKS goals – making connections and literacy and brain stormed how to focus on those goals. Catch Phrase – You + Me = We
- Lila Page is printing book covers of books which the staff have read and posting them on their door.
- Harvest Feast and Wellness Fair – planning for next year has begun including new raised beds being built.
- Spanish and French students volunteered at the first annual Latin Fest at the Moore Memorial library.
- Mr. Calice and 6 staff members went to the MS Conference in Saratoga. Brought back many ideas and started implementing them and sharing with other staff members.
- Lion King, Jr. was amazing. 90 students in the production.

- Jeans for Troops – Staff members paid to wear jeans on November 8<sup>th</sup> raising \$265 for the GI Go Fund to support Veterans.
  - Greene Day Activity – November 9<sup>th</sup> the middle school spent the entire day with a flexible schedule to focus on a variety of activities. FBI Special Agent Jennelle Bringuel spoke about internet and phone safety as well as the dangers of sexting and other messages. Other activities included, Lion King life lessons, math lessons, DEAR, owed work time, food box decoration and Arts in Education photography. The day culminated with the Lion King, Jr. dress rehearsal performance.
  - Food Drive preparations have begun.
  - Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, the entire staff and student body 6-12 have been encouraged to wear purple to support pancreatic cancer.
  - Birthday announcements and balloon display started.
  - Mean Greene Challenge focusing on literacy and vocabulary done weekly by Deb Krupp and Jessica Fish.
  - Jen Griffin's class will have the holiday feast on December 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Two staff members have had baby boys – Mrs. Roth and Mrs. Aldrich.
- Mr. Calice stated that he is extremely proud of the connections the middle school staff are making with students and is extremely proud to be associated with the middle school.

**ELEMENTARY READING  
SERIES - JOURNEYS**

- January Pratt, Primary School Principal, updated the Board on the new Houghton Mifflin reading series purchased for elementary grades K-5. Training from Houghton Mifflin on how to effectively use the many accompanying materials was also provided. In addition to training, in August each grade level at the elementary level had time to work collaboratively on how to implement and pace the new series. Several elementary teachers introduced how their grade level is using the new series.
- Mary Gell, representing the Kindergarten, stated that their Portion of the series is based on phonics. She explained that each lesson is divided into 5 daily plans. She stated that it is great that there is continuity between all the grade level teachers as they are all using the same basic lessons and resources.
- Shannon Livingston, representing Grade 1, stated that staff are still going through the accompanying resources as there are numerous. She found the series very helpful as a first year teacher in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. She explained the focus wall which includes vocabulary, grammar and other materials which can be used for that particular lesson. Resources can be displayed on the whiteboard. Each lesson includes codeable readers which emphasize the vocabulary and grammar for that lesson. The codeable readers also include books on various levels, so that all students are able to do the same lesson at the appropriate level.
- Heather Rice, representing Grade 2, stated that she spends about 1 hour and 15 minutes each day on the activities within the reading series. She posts the focus wall in the classroom to help her focus on what to cover for each lesson. Vocabulary cards have activities on the back which tie into other activities.

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ELEMENTARY READING  
SERIES CONT'D.**

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- Board member McCauley asked if the supplies will hold up?
- Mrs. Pratt, Primary School Principal, stated that the consumables are replaced as part of the start-up cost for 4-6 years. She also stated that reading series normally last for 7 years before they are replaced.
- Mary Russ, representing Grade 3, stated that she likes the technology piece of the series. Students can do testing on-line and the program scores the tests as well. This gives students and teachers instant feedback regarding comprehension of the lesson. Holly Mohr has been an important part of helping to implement the technology side of the series. While intermediate staff teach a specific subject, she has found that the series coincides well with her science curriculum. There are grab and go units which allow for making packets for student use. The resources can also be accessed on-line.
- Connie Whittaker, representing Grade 4, stated that many of the units go hand-in-hand with core curriculums through the reading piece. She also stated that the Special Education department appreciates the availability of the different level of readers, which promote student success at their own pace. Student feedback has been good and the skills are developing from lesson to lesson.

Barb Novitski, representing Grade 5, stated that she teaches reading and ELA, but has found that cross-curricular planning is allowing for other departments to tie the series together. There are 5 workbooks which is a lot to work through. She stated that 5<sup>th</sup> graders read the novel "Wonder" and uniquely, this year the movie "Wonder" will be coming out and the entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be going to Regal Theater to see the movie and then ice skating after. She stated that Bryan Ayres, Intermediate School Principal, has been very flexible with how staff are using the series, without overwhelming them. While the series allows for connecting all curriculums together, it also allows for individuality.

**BOARD COMMITTEE  
REPORTS:**

- **Transportation Committee** – Board member Milk reported for the committee on the following from their meeting on November 9, 2017:
  - Looking at purchasing additional diesel buses which are more convenient for long trips.
  - Positive feedback on current bus routes.
  - Moving unloading of away sports trips from in front of the high school to the side of the building in the main parking lot to allow more parking for parent pick-up.
  - "On spot" chains were discussed. More research is needed on whether or not this is a feasible/needed option.
  - Building a pole barn for additional bus parking is part of a five-year plan.
  - Moving propane tanks for easier filling was discussed.
  - Fencing around propane tanks for safety reasons should be done asap.
  - Additional outdoor lighting is needed. Installing through shared services with the Village was discussed.
  - Discussion regarding cleaning of bathroom and offices.
  - Continue buying soap for bus wash from installation company as the service and maintenance which is included is worth the additional cost. The last visit for maintenance

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- required over \$600 worth of parts, plus the technician came from Michigan all at no cost to district.
- Board member McCauley mentioned that an additional Bathroom had been discussed previously.
- Board member Milk stated that it was discussed and looking into possibly putting one upstairs.
- Board member Drew stated that he, Interim Superintendent Daniels and Gerald Abbey met with 2 Highway Supervisors to initiate discussion regarding timing of delays and closings. an additional meeting will be scheduled after Thanksgiving.
- Interim Superintendent Daniels stated that phone numbers for the Supervisors have been added to our global calling network for delays and closings.

- Nothing.

**- The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following Board actions:**

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Markham, to appoint Beth Koerts as a Tutor effective November 16, 2017.

Yes-6, No-0

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Markham, to appoint Vicky Schaefer as a Bus Driver effective November 16, 2017 for a one-year probationary period ending November 15, 2018.

Yes-6, No-0

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Markham, to appoint the following individuals as Modified Boys' Basketball Coaches for the 2017-2018 winter season:

- Rick Tallman – 7<sup>th</sup> Gr. Modified Boys' Basketball
- Dan Wickham – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Modified Boys' Basketball

Yes-6, No-0

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Markham, to appoint the following individuals to the 2017-2018 Substitute Rosters effective November 16, 2017:

- Margaret Buhl – Substitute Teacher K-12 Music, 6-12 English, 6-12 Social Studies
- Shiela Walker – Substitute Typist

Yes-6, No-0

- Upon the recommendation of the Non-Instructional Sick Bank Committee, a motion was made by Drew, seconded by Burghardt to approve the withdrawal of twenty-nine and one-half (29.5) days from the Non-Instructional Sick Bank. Said days to cover November 7, 2017 (1/2 day) through January 2, 2018.

Yes-6, No-0

**TRANSPORTATION:**

**EDUCATION &  
PERSONNEL:  
APPOINTMENT(S):  
BETH KOERTS-TUTOR**

**VICKY SCHAEFER -  
BUS DRIVER**

**COACHING – 7<sup>TH</sup> GR.  
& 8<sup>TH</sup> GR. MOD. BOYS'  
BASKETBALL – RICK  
TALLMAN & DAN  
WICKHAM**

**SUBSTITUTE ROSTERS**

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL  
SICK BANK REQUEST-  
ASHLEY ROTH, AIDE**

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**UNPAID LEAVE**

**REQUEST-KIM  
SANFORD – BUS  
DRIVER**

- Motion made by Drew, seconded by Markham, to approve the request of Kim Sanford for an unpaid leave of absence from her Bus Driver position on November 16, 2017 through November 28, 2017.

Yes-6, No-0

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:**

**OBSOLETE/SURPLUS  
AUDITORIUM  
FURNITURE**

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Barrows, to declare an old grey cubicle from the back of the auditorium as obsolete/surplus and to disposal of the same.

Yes-6, No-0

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- President Milk stated that "Ongoing Discussion Items" will be changed to just "Discussion Items".

**HALLOWEEN DANCE**

- President Milk stated that he attended a Village Board meeting and they complimented the school on the behavior and attendance of the 230 plus students that attended. President Milk and Board member Markham helped chaperone.

**HS/MS POLE BARN**

- Board member Drew announced the continuing clean out has now moved to the pole barn at the MS/HS campus. He thanked Gerald Abbey and his staff for doing a great job on cleaning out previous storage areas.

**REVIEW BOARD**

**OUTSTANDING ACTION LIST:**

Directed Date:	Task:	Responsibility Of:	Report Back:
3/7/2007	Policy/ Procedure Manual	BOE and Superintendent	Ongoing
1/25/2017	Review of Implementation of Anti-Discrimination & Sexual Harassment Policies	BOE and Superintendent	Nov. 15, 2017

**- Review of Implementation of Anti-Discrimination & Sexual Harassment Policies:**

Board member McCauley previously sent Administrators her list of concerns/questions regarding parents being informed and the district not superseding their authority regarding family values. She stated that she realizes this is a difficult discussion to have, however based on previous discussions, there are parental concerns out there.

- Timothy Calice, Middle School Principal, spoke on behalf of the Administrative team. He addressed the following:

- Staff continue to be trained on how to deal with transgender issues and concerns.
- Administrative handling of situations has not changed. There is no blanket statement of how a situation will be handled as each situation is unique and is handled as such. The Administrator's job is to make sure all students are safe. If a student felt uncomfortable in a particular situation, appropriate accommodations would be made.
- All students are aware that they have the option to use a one stall bathroom or change behind curtains in locker rooms.
- NYS has set a much higher bar than Federal standards. Dignity for All Students sets the standard in NYS for dealing with transgender issues.

- Administrators have not received any phone calls from parents expressing concerns.  
hone calls.
- James Walters, High School Principal, stated that this issue is a progression and doesn't happen overnight. Everyone, including parents, are struggling with how to deal with this issue. When dealing with a transgender student in the past, a partnership was developed between the parents and guidance counselors, accommodations were made to allow the student to feel comfortable, while keeping everyone's safety intact. As the progression continues, the student can become more embolden as to their rights, which makes the situation more challenging.

- Board member McCauley questioned why Attorney's stated that notification to parents would not be made until a student requests a change in bathrooms or name change.

- Mr. Calice stated that what "family" means to some is very different to others. If a student shares information with a counselor and sharing that information with a family that may result in an abusive situation, the counselor has to honor the family while keeping that student safe.

- Board member McCauley asked what is being taught in the curriculum regarding this issue.

- Mr. Calice and Mr. Walters stated that Chris Paske, Health Teacher, is very transparent on what is being taught and if it is a controversial topic, she notifies parents ahead of time. Also, stressing both sides of each topic helps provide a balanced approach.

- Remove this topic from the Outstanding Action List.

- **Interim Superintendent Gordon Daniels reported on the following:**

- Thanked Tim Calice for doing a nice job reporting on Middle School activities for the first quarter.
- Was great to see the enthusiasm for the new elementary reading series. Thanked Bryan Ayres and January Pratt for putting together the report.
- Thanked Jim Walters and Tim Calice for their comments regarding the transgender policy concerns and stated that the district will continue to do the best we can to address all student needs.

- Buildings & Grounds Committee would like to start quarterly meetings beginning in January.

- Policy Committee will need to meet soon to review the two policies removed from the agenda tonight.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:**

**REVIEW COMMITTEE  
SCHEDULE:**

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Committee Name:	Last Meeting:	Next Meeting:
Budget	Oct. 25, 2017	
Building & Grounds	Nov. 1, 2017	Quarterly Report in January
Transportation	Nov. 9, 2017	Quarterly Report in mid-January
Employee	Oct. 18, 2017	
Audit	Sept. 20, 2017	
Curriculum & Technology	June 7, 2017	
Legislative		
Tenure		
Sabbatical		
Policy	Nov. 15, 2017	Meeting soon

**PUBLIC COMMENT:  
MARIE SCOFIELD**

- Marie Scofield, GTA President, commented on the amazing Middle School Footlights performance. She also thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the Middle School Conference. She appreciated the decision to return bus drop-off for sports trips and field trips back to the side of the building.

**PRESIDENT MILK**

- President Milk asked how the new auditorium technology worked for the play.

- Ms. Scofield stated that overall it went very well. Attendance at the performances was outstanding with 690 on Sunday, 600 on Friday evening, and 500 on Saturday evening.

- The Board would like to invite Amanda Boel to attend a meeting to hear from her on how the auditorium functioned and how the new features are progressing.

- Custodial staff was commended for doing a wonderful job cleaning up after each performance.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Motion made by Drew, seconded by Markham, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 7:47 p.m. to discuss a matter relating to the performance of a particular person.  
Yes-6, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Markham, to adjourn Executive Session at 8:11 p.m.  
Yes-6, No-0

**RECONVENE**

- President Milk reconvened the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion made by Burghardt, seconded by Markham, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.  
Yes-6, No-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Marie Utter  
District Clerk