

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL
GREENE, NEW YORK
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 6:00 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
Mrs. Helen Hunsinger
Mrs. Karen Hendershott
Mrs. Tammie McCauley
Mr. Brian Milk
Mr. Scott Youngs

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Timothy Crumb, Vice-President

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

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

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- Department Chairs reviewed their Year-End Reports from the 2014-15 school year with Board members highlighting each departments' accomplishments and areas of concern.

**WORK SESSION:
DEPARTMENT CHAIR
REPORTS**

Physical Education – Sunnie Williams

Accomplishments included:

- Concussion and lifeguard certifications;
- Intermediate and high school PE teachers attended BT BOCES PE leadership conferenes;
- National Archery in School Program training for all PE teachers Which will allow archery to be taught in grades 4-12. Received archery equipment for the middle/high school from the NYS DEC as part of the program;
- FitnessGram software received and training provided through a Microsoft grant;
- OPEN One in a Million new elementary curriculum offering;

Ongoing Issues/Projects:

- Middle/High school locker room coverage with appropriate gender staff;
- Basic CPR as a graduation requirement – will be taught in the classroom followed by individual practice on manikins;
- Need for certified PE substitutes – safety concerns;

ELA – Kris McDermott

Accomplishments included:

- Curriculum alignment with Common Core all levels – work continued over the summer;

Concerns:

- AIS staffing – middle/high school do not have a designated person;
- TC3 College English – with smaller enrollment numbers, top 20 students are not really college ready – need to look at criteria for taking the course;

- Science – Ethan Leet

Accomplishments included:

- STEM night continues to be successful with over 300 community members attending;
- Hosted Robotics competition – 9 schools participated and 100 students;
- Curriculum alignment ongoing;

Concerns:

- How to align curriculum at elementary grade levels;
- Nature trail – revitalize and maintenance – ways to work it into the curriculum;

- AIS – Shawn French

Accomplishments included:

- Assessments developed to help identify students who are ready to exit the AIS program at the high school level;
- Emphasis on writing, close text reading and Common Core standards continues;

Concerns:

- Test taking skills taught are difficult to employ due to the time constraints on the state tests;
- Lack of consistency and accountability due to the number of staff covering AIS classes at the middle/high school;
- Lack of AIS for math at the primary level;
- Limited library services for the Intermediate school did not promote reading;

Math – Alisha Eggleston

Accomplishments included:

- Transitioning to Common Core at all levels continues;
- Addition of new math position is helpful due to the new Algebra and the need to teach both the old and new for testing purposes – also allowed Math AIS to be taught by math teachers;

Concerns:

- Regional grading of 3-8 assessments – would prefer to do grading in-house as it gives staff exposure to the testing questions/content;
- New company making tests – may not release questions;
- Field test causing student anxiety due to material being tested (students may not have been exposed to yet);

Social Students – Jim deHaan

Accomplishments included:

- Aligning curriculum with Common Core standards;

Concerns:

- State slow in releasing information on changes to Social Studies curriculum;
- Fitting the Social Studies curriculum in at the elementary level – time constraints;
- Social Studies specific resources difficult to find at present – developing our own;
- Beneficial to have one dedicated 6th grade Social Studies teacher;

Music & Art – Amanda Boel

Accomplishments included:

- Reinstatement of marching band;
- Southern Tier Concert Band performance;
- Band Day at Syracuse University;

- Concerns:
 - Scheduling concerns with high interest electives being offered one period - opposite band/chorus – deprives students of taking;
 - Auditorium renovations – need to be included in purchasing decisions and training on new equipment;

Mrs. Boel also expressed her appreciation for the willingness of coaches and Mr. Calice to work with her to allow students to participate in the musical as well as remain part of an athletic team;

- Foreign Language – Rebecca Philippone

Accomplishments included:

- Use of iPads and apps which enhanced student learning;
- New textbook at 8th grade with extensive on-line resources;
- Development of a new curriculum guided by 21st century skills and Common Core;

Concerns:

- Changes in middle/high school schedules when teaching both levels is difficult – class time lost for students due to testing and schedule changes – unavoidable due to the need for cross-over staff;
- Restricted access to sites on the internet and time delays to gain permission to access;
- Innovative instructional practices mini-grant notification and deadline for submitting proposals was too short and occurred during the busiest time of the year – lost opportunity;

- Special Education – Colin Evans

Accomplishments included:

- Use of iPads – book shares and audio books;
- Audit Review – some changes needed, but will make things Better;
- Addition of Social Worker position;

Concerns:

- "Borrowing" of aides from special education assignments;
- Time to meet with other staff for transition discussions;

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Youngs, to adjourn to **EXECUTIVE SESSION** Executive Session for the following at 7:20 p.m.:

- Review Special Education Placements for particular students and to consider them for approval.
- To discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Yes-6, No-0

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Milk, seconded by Hendershott, to approve the following placement(s):
#710023438; #710023433; #710023180; #710023442;
#710023156; #710023447; #710022814; #710023296;
#710022495; #710023435; #710022172; #710022541;
#710022794; #710023008; #710023372; #710023328;
#710123352.

Yes-6, No-0

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
PLACEMENTS**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Milk, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:52 p.m.

Yes-6, No-0

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE

- President Day reconvened the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

RECONVENE

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**ADD./DELETIONS
TO AGENDA**

- 1. ROUTINE
Enrollment Report – delete until next meeting

**APPROVE MINUTES
9/16/15**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Youngs, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on September 16, 2015 as presented
Yes-6, No-0

CALENDAR

- October 9 – Staff Development Day – No Classes
- October 12 – Columbus Day – No School
- October 16 & 17 – Homecoming
- October 21 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- October 23 – Early Dismissal Drill
- October 24 – PTO Kids' Day Out
- October 31 – Community Halloween Dance (Grades 6-12) @ MS/HS Gym – 7:00-10:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
HOMECOMING PARADE**

- Kileen McLeary, Student Council member, invited the Board to participate in the homecoming parade at half-time on October 16, 2015. Line-ups will begin at 7:45 p.m. by the tennis courts. She asked that they email Mrs. Frair if they are able to participate.

**MERYT ALMENDINGER
BUS DRIVER NEED**

- Meryt Almendinger, Bus Driver, addressed the Board regarding the need for additional bus drivers. She stated that it is becoming increasingly difficult to double up/combine runs on a daily basis. She suggested hiring someone full time who could drive bus and then be assigned other needed duties.

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

- None.

**TRANSPORTATION:
BUS ROUTE CHANGE**

- Jordon Lilley, Transportation Supervisor, asked the Board their position on adding East Clark Road to a current bus route. Part of the road is private and the remainder is public. The Board was in consensus on addition East Clark Road to a current bus route in that location.

BUS SALE ON EBAY

- Jordon Lilley reported that the district received \$11,600 and \$12,400 for the two buses recently declared surplus and posted on ebay for sale. The buses went to El Salvador.

EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:

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

APPOINTMENT(S)

**SUBSTITUTE ROSTER
ADDITIONS**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by McCauley, to appoint the following individuals to the Substitute Rosters for the 2015-2016 school year:
 - Catherine Lamb – Substitute Bus Monitor
 - Geoffrey Johnson – Substitute Aide UPK-5
 - Kortney Miranda – Substitute Aide UPK-12, Cafeteria Worker
 - Rhonda Bowen – Substitute Bus Monitor
 - Courtney Polhamos – Substitute Custodian
- Yes-6, No-0

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
SICK BANK– REBECCA
BURROWS – AIDE**

- Upon the recommendation of the Non-Instructional Sick Bank Committee, a motion was made by Milk, seconded by Hendershott, to approve the additional withdrawal of fourteen (14) days from the Non-Instructional Sick Bank by Rebecca Burrows, Aide. Said withdrawal to cover the period of September 28, 2015 through October 16, 2015.
Yes-6, No-0

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- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by Hunsinger, to approve the Unpaid Leave of Absence request of Nancy Amell, Aide, December 21st and 22nd, 2015.

Yes-6, No-0

**UNPAID LEAVE OF
ABSENCE – NANCY
AMELL - AIDE**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Youngs, to approve the LINKS¹⁷ Plan as presented and to authorize the Superintendent to sign the same on behalf of the district.

Yes-6, No-0

**APPROVE LINKS 17
PLAN**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Youngs, to approve the 2015-2016 Professional Development Plan as submitted and to authorize the Superintendent to sign the same on behalf of the district.

Yes-6, No-0

**APPROVE
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

- The Superintendent has advised the Board that Shelbe Furman, a long term employee of the District in good standing who had previously suffered a reduction of her position in the District, is in need of medical leave, and at the time of her reduction of her position, she had a bank of 23 sick days outstanding for which she was unpaid, and as she currently remains on the preferred eligible list, and has agreed to return to work in the District in a new capacity, thus not triggering her preferred eligible rights, and therefore does not return to status quo ante, and Whereas, the Board wishes to recognize her dedication and Years of service as a loyal employee, it is hereby RESOLVED that upon the motion of McCauley, seconded by Milk, Shelbe Furman shall be granted up to 23 paid sick days to be deducted from her accruals which were accrued as a LTA as paid leave pursuant to the Board of Education's authority under General Municipal Law Section 92.

Yes-6, No-0

**SHELBE FURMAN-
RELEASE OF
ACCRUED SICK
DAYS**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Hendershott, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the Extracurricular Student Activity Accounts for August 2015 as presented.

Yes-6, No-0

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:
ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Hendershott, to accept the Revenue & Budget Status Reports for August 2015 for the General Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Federal Grants & Capital Budgets as presented.

Yes-6, No-0

**REVENUE & BUDGET
STATUS REPORTS**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Milk, to accept the Audit Committee's September 16, 2015 meeting minutes (attached Exhibit "A") as presented.

Yes-6, No-0

**AUDIT COMMITTEE
MEETING 9/16/15**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by McCauley to accept the Audit Report dated June 30, 2015 as presented.

Yes-6, No-0

**EXTERNAL AUDIT
REPORT**

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Youngs, to approve the External Audit Corrective Action Plan dated October 7, 2015.

Yes-6, No-0

**EXTERNAL AUDIT
CORRECTIVE ACTION
PLAN**

**OBSOLETE INTERM.
SCHOOL BOOKS**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Hendershott, to approve declaring 325 Harcourt Science textbooks located at the Intermediate school as obsolete and allow for their disposal.
Yes-6, No-0

**APPROVE REVISED
EMPLOYEE FLEXIBLE
BENEFIT PLAN**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Milk, to approve the revised Flexible Benefit Plan Document dated October 1, 2015.
Yes-6, No-0

**WORKERS' COMP.
SELF-INSURANCE
ALLIANCE – CLERK
SERVICES**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Youngs, to approve the Agreement between the Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Alliance and Greene Central School Board of Education for services of its Clerk for the 2015-2016 school year for a sum not to exceed \$2,200.00, and to authorize the Board President to sign said Agreement on behalf of the district.
Yes-6, No-0

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS
FROM POOL MAINT.
FUND**

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Milk, to authorize the transfer of \$2,000 from the Pool Maintenance Fund to the General Fund to pay for the installation of a diving board.
Yes-6, No-0

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION
ALLIANCE MEETING
UPDATE**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, updated the Board on a recent meeting of the Workers' Compensation Consortium Alliance. The auditors presented the audit for the Alliance and it was a clean audit. The Alliance has a 1.2 million dollar fund balance. There are 12 schools in the Alliance and contributions paid by each district are based on each district's claims.

**YMCA PRICE
INCREASE**

- The YMCA recently notified the district that the amount we pay them to run their swim programs, which started October 5, 2015, has increased from \$437/month to \$587/month. The costs are for lifeguards. The Board asked if the district could receive participation numbers.

SCHOOL CREDIT CARD

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, asked for the Board's approval to apply for a school credit card through NBT. The Board would review the credit limit and give final approval. Having a credit card would give the district more opportunities for purchasing on-line.

**ONGOING
DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 1. Board of Education Goals:

- (1) Cultivate and maintain partnerships with students, parents, staff and the Greene community.
- (2) Support the District's LINKS developed goal of "strengthening literacy across the content areas".
- (3) Research, identify and participate in targeted School Board Professional Development with the intent of strengthening the Board's effectiveness.

Next meeting the Board will work on outlining some specific bullets under each of the goals.

2. Lacrosse Team:

- Jen Trepa and Doug Markham, who currently run a lacrosse club, discussed the possibility of having a school lacrosse team (JV and Modified). An interest survey was done and the results indicated 33 boys JV; 31 girls JV; 18 Modified and 24 5th graders. The

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- interest appears to be there however concerns/questions regarding field space, equipment and insurance still exist. President Day stated that the fact that a lacrosse team was not budgeted for and the possibility of setting a precedent with other possible teams and having enough athletes to field all sports are concerns. Dick's apparently has a start-up program grant which matches 50% for equipment.

The schedule is currently out so a decision needs to be reached the sooner the better. The Board requested more specifics regarding costs associated with a lacrosse program - insurance and specifics as to coverage, equipment needs, and coaching positions. Difficulty filling current coaching positions.

**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
7/15/15	Chrome Book Classroom Use	Board and Superintendent	Jan. 2016
4/28/15	Budget Presentation/BOCES Budget		TBD
10/7/15	Dept. Chair Update Work Session		Jan. 2016

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

- None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
MERYT ALMENDINGER**

- Meryt Almendinger stated again the need for additional Bus Drivers to allow for normal bus routes. She stated that parents can't rely on a definite time for student arrivals as it depends on whether or not a driver is doubling up on runs and might have twice as many stops as normal.

- Marie Scofield, President GTA, thanked the Board for allowing Mrs. Furman to use her accumulated sick days. **MARIE SCOFIELD**

- Board member Youngs asked if the money received from the sale of the buses on ebay could be used to fund a bus driver position? **SCOTT YOUNGS**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Youngs, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 9:13 p.m.:
• To discuss the collective bargaining negotiations involving the Greene Teachers' Association.
• To discuss the collective bargaining negotiations involving the Greene Administrators' Association.
• To discuss a labor relations matter involving the Greene Teachers' Association and a particular employee. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Yes-6, No-0

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Milk, to adjourn Executive Session at 10:03 p.m. **ADJOURN EXECUTIVE**
Yes-6, No-0

- President Day reconvened the meeting at 10:03 p.m. **RECONVENE**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Youngs, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m. **ADJOURNMENT**
Yes-6, No-0

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marie Utter
District Clerk