

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
GREENE, NEW YORK  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 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  
Mr. James Strenkert  
Mrs. Karen Hendershott (left @ 7:55 p.m.)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mrs. Tammie McCauley

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Jonathan Retz, Superintendent  
Mr. Mark Rubitski, Business Manager

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Mrs. Donna Utter, District Clerk

- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- Motion made by Strenkert, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 7:01 p.m.:

- Confidential Personnel Matter

Yes-6, No-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Strenkert, to adjourn Executive Session at 7:16 p.m.

Yes-6, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE**

- President Boeltz reconvened the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

- None.

**ADDITIONS/  
DELETIONS TO  
AGENDA**

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on April 1, 2015 as presented.

Yes-5, No-0

**APPROVE MINUTES  
4/1/15**

- April 28 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – *Date Change to Coincide w/BOCES Vote*

**CALENDAR**

- April 30 & May 1 – Screen Free Nights/Wellness Fair

- May 2 – Prom & After-Prom Party

- May 4 – Staff Development Day

- May 6 – Honor Society Inductions/Jr. Awards Assembly – 1:30 p.m.

- May 6 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

- May 12 – Intermediate Concert – 7:00 p.m.

- May 13 – PTO Meet the Candidates Night – 6:30 p.m. – BOE Room

- Debbie Mills, parent of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student, asked the Board to reconsider increasing the number of sections for the incoming 3rd grade for next year. She stated that it is not just about numbers but the needs of the students in that class and what is in the best interest of the students and their success.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:  
DEBBIE MILLS-  
CLASS SIZES**

**MICHELLE EVANS  
CLASS SIZE**

- Michelle Evans, parent of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student, also asked the Board to consider the needs of the students when deciding whether to leave the current 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at 3 sections or hiring another teacher to allow for 4 sections.

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:  
2015-2016 PROPOSED  
SCHOOL BUDGET –**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, reviewed the 2015-2016 proposed budget. He highlighted the following items:

- Budget Goals and Objectives
- Increase in state aid – Greene's portion 1% or \$168,831
- Reductions in state aid over the past 7 years amounting to \$5,460,700
- Review of specific line items with significant changes within the budget were reviewed (Operation of Plant decrease; Employee/Teacher's Retirement decreases; Capital Bonds decrease; Central Data Processing increase; Teaching Regular School and Students w/Disabilities – program changes and contractual responsibilities;
- Administrative needs assessment and 21 items were identified and reviewed for adding back into the budget totaling \$800,000
- Of those items 7 program and operational items were identified to be added back at a cost of \$343,000
- Superintendent Retz met with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers to review their needs and class size numbers for next year. Superintendent Retz recommended adding back in an additional \$77,300 for an elementary teacher to give the district some flexibility depending on the final class sizes next year. Additional funds will be allocated from reserves to cover the increase
- Replacing all retirements and an additional 6.4 FTE's
- Total budget amount \$24,710,107 plus \$77,300 (\$24,787,407)
- Tax Cap results in a negative levy of 0.009% this year (-\$590)
- Use of Reserves - \$234,300 plus \$77,300 (\$311,600)

- Board member, Ethan Day, stated that the district is in a good position this year versus the past 6 difficult years. He stated that the district should be able to sustain those items added back in. This is a smart and cautious budget that is good for the taxpayers and the students.

- Board member, Helen Hunsinger, stated that this is the first year that working on the budget hasn't been agonizing and stressful with trying to weight what cuts need to be made. It was nice to work in a more favorable environment.

- Board member, Karen Hendershott, thanked the budget committee for all their time and hard work.

**ADOPTION OF 2015-16  
SCHOOL BUDGET**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to adopt the 2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$24,787,407 with a tax levy decrease of 0.009% and \$311,600 being used from reserve accounts.  
Yes-6, No-0

- Board member, Karen Hendershott, had to leave the meeting.

**REVENUE & BUDGET  
STATUS REPORTS**

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Hunsinger, to accept the Budget Status Reports for March 2015 for the General Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Federal Grants & Capital budgets as presented.  
Yes-5, No-0

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to accept the Treasurer's Report for the Extracurricular Accounts for March 2015 as presented.  
Yes-5, No-0

**TREASURER' REPORT  
FOR ACTIVITY FUNDS**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Day, to accept the Internal Claims Auditor Report for March 2015 as presented.  
Yes-5, No-0

**INTERNAL CLAIMS  
AUDITOR REPORT**

- Budget figures through March 2015 were reviewed with the Board. March figures were better than projected and will improve upon the projected deficit. The program also has a fund balance of \$28,650 which should cover the deficit for this year and any deficit next year as well.

**SCHOOL LUNCH FUND  
PROGRAM UPDATE**

- Motion made by Day, seconded by Crumb, to award the General Work for the Early Project Number 07834-14002 to Andrew R. Mancini Associates, Inc., Endicott, NY as the low bidder, in the amount of \$817,400 which includes two alternates.  
Yes-5, No-0

**CAPITAL PROJECT  
AWARD BID**

**EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:**

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

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Day, to accept the resignation of Brent Kim from the position of Varsity Baseball Coach effective immediately.  
Yes-5, No-0

**RESIGNATION(S):  
BRENT KIM –VARSITY  
BASEBALL COACH**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Day, to adopt the Academic Calendar for 2015-2016 (attached as Exhibit "A") as presented.  
Yes-5, No-0

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR  
2015-2016**

**OUTSTANDING BOARD  
ACTIONS LIST**

<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**

- **The Superintendent reported on the following items:**

**1. State Testing Opt-Out** – Last year 2-3 students did not sit for the state assessments. This year we had close to 20% of students opt out of the assessments. Some districts had as high as 60% opt out of the assessments. It is anticipated that there will be a response from New York State regarding this issue as some state aid was to be tied to performance on the state assessments.

**2. APPR** - A new APPR Plan was slated to be developed, submitted to State Ed., and approved by all parties by November 15, 2015. There has been not guidance from State Ed. and is not anticipated until after July.

**3. Budget Vote** – We will be using paper ballots for the budget and Board Member vote in May.

- Chris Mack, Teacher, asked if there is a plan for the first grade class next year that is already projected at 20 per section.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Superintendent Retz stated that there is some flexibility within the grade levels.
- Shannon Livingston, teacher, Deb Krupp, teacher/parent, and Debbie Mills, parent, thanked the Board for adding the additional section to the current 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class.
- Kelly Browning, teacher, thanked Superintendent Retz for meeting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade staff and listening to their concerns.
- Scott Youngs asked if the increases in the BOCES budget line is for mandated items.
- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, responded that some of the costs are BOCES mandated costs and others are due to student placements and programs.
- Superintendent Retz stated that at the Board meeting next Tuesday the Board will be voting on the BOCES budget. He also stated that if there is interest, BOCES would come and do a budget/program presentation at a future board meeting.
- Scott Youngs asked what is left in reserves after taking out enough to balance next year's budget.
- Mark Rubitski responded that the books have not been closed out yet this year, however it is approximately 4 million dollars.
- Scott Youngs asked if with the additional staff, does that put 4 sections in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Superintendent Retz stated that it depends on where the class numbers are at the start of school.
- Jacki Barton, parent, thanked the Board for appointing Pete Mansheffer as the Varsity Baseball Coach. She has noticed a huge change in the moral of the players.
- Marie Scofield, GTA President, stated that if changes are made in class sections, she requested that a decision be made as early as possible to allow for ample teacher planning. She also asked since the budget line for the pool was down \$500 are we still moving forward with the diving board, and if so, she offered to help with input on any diving board purchase.
- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, stated that there is a pool maintenance fund which is accessed for needs.
- Stacey Diamond, teacher, thanked the Board for the additional position stating that small class sizes are a great help with working on critical reading skills. She also stated that she would like to see some programs added at the high school level.
- Jessica Trepa stated that she was pleased to see the baseball concerns taken care of, however, she still had concerns with the individual.
- Superintendent Retz stated that specific personnel matters could not be discussed in public session, but if she wanted to attend the next Board meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, she could discuss her concerns in Executive Session with the Board.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015**

**Page 5**

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn to Executive Session for a particular personnel matter and negotiations at 8:25 p.m.  
Yes-5, No-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to adjourn Executive Session at 8:59 p.m.  
Yes-5, No-0

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

- President Boeltz reconvened the meeting at 9:00 p.m.
- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Day, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.  
Yes-5, No-0

**RECONVENE**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marie Utter  
District Clerk