

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL, GREENE, NY
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**

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The regular meeting of the Greene Central School Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 PM by Board President, John Fish, in the Auditorium, High School/Middle School campus, South Canal Street, Greene, New York.

CALL TO ORDER

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. John Fish – President
Mr. Douglas Markham – Vice President
Mr. Seth Barrows
Mr. Andrew Bringuel, II
Mr. Nicholas Drew
Mrs. Natalie McMahon
Mr. Brian Milk

ROLL CALL

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Timothy Calice, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Clifford Jones, Head Bus Driver
Mr. David Kendall, Facility & Safety Coordinator
Mr. Mark Rubitski, Business Manager

OFFICER(S) PRESENT:

Mrs. Shiela Walker, Clerk of the Board

None.

**FIRST EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Update regarding the Chenango County School Board Association under Section III, Board Committee Reports.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS
TO REGULAR AGENDA**

Mr. Calice shared the great start to the new academic year. Students are happy to be back full time. He thanked the staff, in every department throughout the district, as there have been lots of adjustments made and everyone has been working hard to solve situations, sometimes at the last minute.

**GOOD NEWS ~
DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS**

Mr. Calice congratulated our student athletes on their seasons so far; it's encouraging to see them in action. He reminded that community members that can't make competitions may follow our athletic programs on

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platforms such as Twitter. Events will also be available soon on the platform Huddle. [Additional note from the Board Clerk: The District is live streaming events happening on our turf and in the Middle/High School Gym. You can find the direct link to the YouTube channel on the district athletic page.]

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Barrows, seconded by Bringuel, to approve the following placements:

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
PLACEMENTS**

PRESCHOOL:

#710024257
#710024197
#710024111 (Modify)

AMENDED/MODIFIED IEP:

#710023067
#710023288
#710022617
#710023042
#710022834
#710024260

TRANSFER/INTAKE:

#800000016

504 Accommodation Plan:

#710022370 (Modify)

Yes - 7, No - 0

Motion made by Milk, seconded by Barrows, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 1, 2021 as presented.

**APPROVE MINUTES
OF 9/1/21 BOARD
MEETING**

Yes - 7, No - 0

September 21 – Primary School Open House – 6:00 - 7:00 PM
September 23 – Intermediate School Open House – 6:00 - 7:00 PM
September 28 – UPK AM Class Parent Information Night – 6:00 - 7:00 PM
October 5 – UPK PM Class Parent Information Night – 6:00 – 7:00 PM
October 6 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 PM
October 8 – Staff Development Day – No Students
October 11 – Columbus Day – No School
October 15 – Early Dismissal Drill – Students Released 15 Minutes Early

CALENDAR

Dan Seidof commented that he wonders how far the school district would take with vaccination clinics since they are being allowed on State grounds. He commended Greene Central Schools on our outside learning and mask breaks, stating that it's more than other schools are offering.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kassey Seidof stated that the vaccines are mostly 12 and over and that she is worried schools are trying to sneak in younger students.

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Mr. Seidof stated that he finds nothing wrong with vaccinations; he just doesn't want it mandatory and have someone go above his head with regard to vaccines for students.

Board Member, Mr. Drew, wanted clarification that Mr. & Mrs. Seidof were worried about children being forced to vaccinate.

Mrs. Seidof stated that children can't be tricked and that adults are extremely good at tricking them.

Mr. Seidof mentioned that even Ivy League colleges are tricking students into vaccines in order to help them with funding.

Mrs. Seidof stated that everybody gets headaches due to breathing in CO₂. She wondered about medical exemptions for masks and whether they are kicking back if a child has COPD.

President Fish stated that exemptions are being reviewed for medical reasons.

Mrs. Seidof asked if there is any way to cut spending and that GCS gets 7 million dollars. She asked why students need free meals and perhaps GCS could consider cutting corners.

Mr. Seidof mentioned what is happening at The Raymond Corporation with mandatory tests and that employees either need to get the vaccination or a swab test. He stated that the pandemic is affecting the whole United States and it's affecting manufacturers and retailers. People, including RNs, are leaving their jobs and the government is stripping our freedoms.

Mr. Fish stated that Mr. & Mrs. Seidof used 8 minutes, combined, and might have an additional chance to speak during the Second Public Comment session.

Brandy Hodge spoke about CSE placements and her child *[name redacted]*. She has concerns based on their behaviors, and the school's reactions to such behaviors, during the 2020-2021 academic year. Ms. Hodge named several GCS staff members and said she will not stop until they are all fired.

At this point President Fish excused himself and tried to interject, several times.

Ms. Hodge completed her statement, stating what she feels are the wrongdoings of the district. *[Due to confidentiality, and on behalf of the student, the name of Ms. Hodge's child and individual staff members, all of whom she mentioned, have not been recorded in these minutes.]*

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President Fish stated that he understood how difficult Ms. Hodge's situation is and that the Board appreciated her comments.

None.

REPORTS

Mr. Milk discussed the upcoming Legislative Dinner to be held in Norwich on September 20th. This gives Board members a chance to mingle with other districts. A Treasurer's Report will be provided and there are currently two legislatures that will be in attendance. He asked his fellow Board members to think of any questions they would like to ask and reminded them that if anyone else wanted to attend, to please let the Board Clerk know.

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

None.

OTHER ITEMS

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following Board actions:

**EDUCATION &
PERSONNEL:**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by M^cMahon, to modify the 2021-2022 Instructional Calendar as follows:

**MODIFICATION TO
CALENDAR**

Two Half Day Releases at the Primary and Intermediate Schools for Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Friday, 12/10/21

Friday, 12/17/21

Yes - 7, No - 0

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by M^cMahon, to create one (1) Custodian/Part-Time Bus Driver position as requested.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**CREATE POSITION -
CUSTODIAN/PART-TIME
BUS DRIVER**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by M^cMahon, to create one (1) Full-Time Teacher's Aide position as requested.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**CREATE POSITION -
FULL-TIME TEACHER'S
AIDE**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by M^cMahon, to accept the resignation of Whitney Hibler from Part-Time Cafeteria Worker position effective September 3, 2021.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**WHITNEY HIBLER -
RESIGNATION**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by M^cMahon, to accept the resignation of Carrie Callahan from Cafeteria Worker position effective September 22, 2021.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**CARRIE CALLAHAN -
RESIGNATION**

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Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to accept the resignation of Penny Hinman from Cafeteria Worker position effective September 24, 2021.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**PENNY HINMAN -
RESIGNATION**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to appoint Erin Fink as a substitute Teacher, LTA & Aide K-12 effective September 16, 2021.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**ERIN FINK -
SUBSTITUTE**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to appoint Heather Decker to a regular Teacher's Aide K-12 position, effective September 27, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending September 26, 2022.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**HEATHER DECKER -
TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to appoint Erin Fink to a regular .5 Teacher's Aide K-12 position, effective September 16, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending September 15, 2022.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**ERIN FINK -
.5 TEACHER'S AIDE**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to appoint Andrew Bolster to a regular Cafeteria Worker position, effective September 20, 2021, for a one-year probationary period ending September 19, 2022.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**ANDREW BOLSTER -
CAFETERIA WORKER**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to approve the Co-Curricular Advisors and Staff Assignments for 2021-2022 as presented.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**CO-CURRICULAR
ASSIGNMENTS -
2021-2022**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to approve the 2021-2022 Service Agreement with Pete Mansheffer to provide Communication Coordinator services for the district.

Yes - 7, No - 0

**PETE MANSHEFFER -
SERVICE AGREEMENT -
2021-2022**

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Milk, to approve Maeric Barrows as a student lifeguard.

Yes - 6, No - 0 (Barrows abstained)

**STUDENT LIFEGUARDS -
2021-2022**

Motion made by Barrows, seconded by McMahon, to approve the following student lifeguards:

Michael Giannetto
Dalton Krupp
Madison Pavlovich
Natalie Specht

Yes - 7, No - 0

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Motion made by Barrows, seconded by M^cMahon, to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to provisionally hire and approve payroll for employees between Board of Education meetings. Final approval of employment will be at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.
Yes - 7, No – 0

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS - PROVISIONAL HIRING & APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEES

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Markham, to approve the unpaid Leave of Absence request by Cary Ann Ross from September 20, 2021 through October 17, 2021.
Yes - 7, No – 0

CARY ANN ROSS - UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Motion made by Milk, seconded by Bringuel, to approve the unpaid Leave of Absence request by Rachel Cirigliano from September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
Yes - 0, No – 7

RACHEL CIRIGLIANO - UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE

BUSINESS & FINANCE:

Mr. Rubitski provided the Board with information to support the review of fund balance and transfers for the General Fund. Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Markham, to accept the transfers as presented.
Yes - 7, No – 0

GENERAL FUND

Motion made by Bringuel, seconded by Drew, to appoint Natalie M^cMahon to be the Legislative Advocate for NYSSBA for 2021-2022.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Directed Date	Task	Responsibility	Report Back
7/10/2019	BOE Training	BOE & Superintendent	Ongoing
9/18/2019	BOE Goals	BOE & Superintendent	Ongoing

REVIEW BOARD OUTSTANDING ACTIONS LIST:

Superintendent Calice reported on the following:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

CAPITAL PROJECT & EPC - Mr. Calice reported that several main components were completed the day before school started for students. He thanked Aaron Leach, Onsite Project Manager, for all of his help with accomplishing this. According to Mr. Calice, there are several local schools that are not in as good shape as GCS. A lot of cosmetic work throughout the district will be made during second shift.

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BUILDING CONDITIONS SURVEY – Mr. Calice stated that this is usually held every 5 years. The process needs to be started in the next month or so.

COVID TESTING FOR STAFF - The district is currently getting set up to provide the required weekly testing of staff that do not have proof of completing a COVID vaccination. Mr. Calice further stated that if a student is not feeling well, and the parent/guardian wants a COVID test completed onsite, the district is able to provide that option this year. This helps avoid having to make an appointment at their doctor's office. Last year families also had to travel to Norwich or Binghamton for testing. Our nurses have been extremely helpful in developing the process and Mr. Calice said that he appreciates that very much.

Mrs. Seidof asked if Mr. Calice was 100% positive this will be the procedure (and not vaccinations). Mr. Bringuel stated this is always how it's been.

With respect to doctor's exemptions, Mr. Calice stated that forms that are received for students are submitted by either himself or a school Nurse to the school medical director, Dr. Martin Masarech, and they are usually turned around the same day.

Mr. Drew asked that Mr. Calice state what the consequences would be if the district were to break policy and protocols with respect to medications for students. Mr. Calice stated that we could face lawsuits.

Mr. Drew then asked for clarification that the district is only providing testing, and not vaccination. Mr. Calice replied that there are no mandates on student testing, just staff. Furthermore, there are no vaccination requirements at this time.

Mr. Drew asked what would happen without written consent, from parents, with respect to testing students. Mr. Calice said that students are not tested without a signed parental form in hand. He also mentioned that the district isn't even allowed to administer a Tylenol without written consent from parents or guardians.

Mr. Bringuel asked if there have been any situations where other children did not have to quarantine. Mr. Calice replied that, currently, three (3) staff members and two (2) students are quarantined and that they are all separate cases except a situation in a family setting. Mr. Calice also stated that, due to the district's COVID protocol, instead of eighteen (18) students being quarantined in a particular situation we only had one (1).

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Committee Name:	Last Meeting:	Next Meeting:
Budget	March 17, 2021	
Building & Grounds	May 25, 2021	
Transportation		
Audit	Oct. 7, 2020	Sept. 29, 2021 @ 4:30 PM
Curriculum & Technology	Aug. 15, 2018	
Policy	June 23, 2021	

**REVIEW
 COMMITTEE
 SCHEDULE:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT
 FROM THE FLOOR:**

President Fish stated that the public session is to be respectful and civil and that no disparaging comments about GCS staff members would be allowed.

Bridgette Conway said that she spoke with a nurse about a medical exemption despite her child’s developmental delay. She also mentioned the change, in the last decade or so, of no parent chaperones or helpers in classrooms. She is hoping that GCS reconsiders this. With respect to COVID testing and shots, she stated that the rules change and that two years ago we didn’t have to wear a medical device on our face. Finally, she stated that all teenagers are honest and never forge signatures on forms.

None.

**SECOND EXECUTIVE
 SESSION**

On motion by Milk, seconded by Markham, President Fish adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM.

**MEETING
 ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully Submitted,

Shiela Walker
 Clerk of the Board