

**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL
GREENE, NEW YORK
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016**

A Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:02 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
Mr. Timothy Crumb, Vice-President
Mrs. Helen Hunsinger
Mr. Brian Milk
Mr. Scott Youngs
Mrs. Tammie McCauley
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 Hunsinger, seconded by Crumb, to adjourn to **EXECUTIVE SESSION** Executive Session for the following at 7:03 p.m.:
 - To review special education placements for particular students and to consider them for approval.
 - To discuss a matter leading to the appointment of a particular person.

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to adjourn **ADJOURN EXECUTIVE** Executive Session at 7:11 p.m.

Yes-7, No-0

- President Day reconvened the meeting at 7:13 p.m. **RECONVENE**

5. TRANSPORTATION

Add: Varsity Wrestling Trip Request

**ADD./DELETIONS
TO AGENDA**

- Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, a motion was made by Crumb, seconded by Youngs, to approve the following placement(s):
#710023462; #710123328; #710023407; #710023429;
#710022185; #710022168.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
PLACEMENT**

Yes-7, No-0

- Motion made by McCauley, seconded by Hendershott, to **APPROVE MINUTES** approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on January **1/6/16** 6, 2016, as presented.

Yes-7, No-0

CALENDAR

- January 26-29 – Regents Exams
- January 27 – Budget Cmte. Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- January 29 – ½ Day for Students K-5
 - No School for Students 6-12
- February 3 – Board of Education Meeting – SPECIAL TIME – 6:00 p.m. start for Executive Session. Return to Public Session at 7:30 p.m.
- 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 24 – Budget Cmte. Meeting – 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Beverly Sabin asked if the water aerobics class could go to the Norwich YMCA for class due to the water temperature issue at Greene.
- Superintendent Retz stated that he would contact the Norwich YMCA and inquire.
- President Day indicated that the Buildings & Grounds Committee met regarding the pool and will give a report later in the meeting which may address some of the public's questions. He also stated that there is another chance for public comment at the end of the meeting if they still have questions.

REPORTS:

- None

**BOARD COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

- **Budget Committee Report** – Will be discussed during the Business and Finance portion of the meeting.
- **Building & Grounds Committee Report** – Board member Tim Crumb, reported on a recent Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting and the discussion regarding repairs to the pool. A crack was found in a valve which was affecting the heating of the pool water. Our current system is on year 18 of a 15 year life span. The pool has been operating with one pump for a number of years. Maintenance repairs have been made over the years. Repairs were made to the system and supplemental heat is being provided by the building's boiler system and it is hoped that the temperature will get back up to 78 degrees. Replacing the pump at an estimated cost of \$25,000 or more did not seem responsible at this point. It is hoped that these repairs will keep the system going until June when a new desert aire system can be installed through Phase 2 of the current building project. The problem with the temperature of the pool deck involved a power outage in several areas and was fixed yesterday afternoon.
- Gray Reid and several other members of the public joined in the discussion with questions related to timeline for repairs, operation of the system, specific repairs needed, and why major repairs were not made sooner.
- Mark Rubitski stated that SED just approved Phase 2 of the building project and the work will be going out to bid, with work to begin during the summer.

**COMMITTEE REPORT
CONT'D.**

- Board member Helen Hunsinger, asked if the swim team can practice at another facility until the water temperature issue is resolved?
- The swim team was offered the use of Whitney Point's pool, but due to practice time constraints, they decided to remain here.
- Board member Tammie McCauley, asked why the pool maintenance fund was not used to replace the system when the initial problems arose.
- Mark Rubitski stated that the pool maintenance fund has been used to make repairs over the years. Additionally, this fund is not sufficient to cover the costs of replacing this system. It is more cost effective to be done during a building project due to state aid.
- Faith Neal stated that 3 of the 6 showers available in the pool locker room are not working and asked if they would be addressed in the project as well.
- Board member Karen Hendershott, recognized the boys' swim team for their hardiness and Board member, Tammie McCauley, apologized for the inconvenience.
- Board member Brian Milk, stated that the committee also discussed the proposed new board room and district office. The committee is recommending that the board room remain where it is, moving the Superintendent's office to the adjoining space previously used as the district office space, and moving the district office into the Superintendent's office space.
- Board member Brian Milk also stated that the recent problem and evacuation of the primary school has been cleared and things are back to normal. The evacuation went well and staff were very accommodating and cooperative at both the primary and intermediate schools.

**TRANSPORTATION:
TRANSPORTATION
REPORTS**

- Transportation reports for September, October, November and December 2015 were reviewed and noted.
- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to approve the request of the Greene Ski and Board Club for transportation to Greek Peak for 6 Wednesdays beginning January 6, 2016.
Yes-7, No-0

**TRANSPORTATION
REQUEST-SKI CLUB**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Youngs, to approve the request of the wrestling team to travel and participate in the "Wrangle on the Plains" tournament in Clifton Park, NY on January 22 & 23, 2016 with the wrestling booster club to pay all expenses.
Yes-7, No-0

**TRANSPORTATION
REQUEST-WRESTLING
TEAM**

EDUCATION & PERSONNEL:

- **The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following board action:**
- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, to approve the Local Assistance Plan (LAP) for the Middle School for the 2015-16 school year.

**APPROVE LAP PLAN
FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Yes-7, No-0

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EMPLOYEE

DISCIPLINE-

TERMINATION-

**THOMAS J. FARGO-
CUSTODIAN**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, it is resolved that the employment of Mr. Thomas J. Fargo, Custodian, is hereby terminated due to NYSED rescinding prior fingerprint approval, effective January 21, 2016.
Yes-7, No-0

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
SICK BANK – PENNY
FURMAN, BUS DRIVER**

- Upon the recommendation of the Non-Instructional Sick Bank Committee, a motion was made by Youngs, seconded by Hendershott, to approve the request of Penny Furman, Bus Driver, to withdrawal 14 days from the Non-Instructional Sick Bank to cover the period of January 5, 2016 through January 25, 2016.
Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-1(Milk)

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL
SICK BANK – JAIME
MILK, AIDE**

- Upon the recommendation of the Non-Instructional Sick Bank Committee, a motion was made by Youngs, seconded by Hendershott, to approve the request of Jaime Milk, Teacher's Aide, to withdrawal 2 ½ days from the Non-Instructional Sick Bank to cover the period of January 13, 2016 (1/2 day) through January 15, 2016.
Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-1(Milk)

**MODIFY ACADEMIC
CALENDAR**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Hunsinger, to modify the academic calendar for January 29, 2016 which was originally a ½ day for students K-12 to a ½ day for students K-5 and a full day off for students 6-12 to allow for staff development.
Yes-7, No-0

**UNPAID LEAVE OF
ABSENCE– KIM
BOELTZ, LTA**

- Motion made by Milk, seconded by Hunsinger, to approve the unpaid leave of absence request of Kim Boeltz, LTA, for February 12, 2016 and April 18, 2016.
Yes-7, No-0

**APPOINTMENT(S):
GARY CHURCH-SMITH
BUS DRIVER**

- Motion made by Hendershott, seconded by Hunsinger, to appoint Gary Church-Smith, as a bus driver, effective January 21, 2016 for a one-year probationary period ending January 20, 2017.
Yes-7, No-0

**KARA BARTHOLOMEW
TEACHER'S AIDE**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, to appoint Kara Bartholomew, as a Teacher's Aide, effective January 21, 2016 for a one-year probationary period ending January 20, 2017.
Yes- 6, No-0, Abstain-1 (Hunsinger)

COACHING ROSTER

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, to appoint the following individuals as coaches effective January 21, 2016:

- JV Baseball – Rick Smith
- Varsity Tennis – Rich Karl
- Varsity Track – Mary McBride
- Asst. Varsity Track – Deb Krupp
- Modified Track – Chris Rice
- Varsity Volleyball – Mary McBride

Yes-7, No-0

**SUBSTITUTE ROSTER
ADDITIONS**

- Motion made by Youngs, seconded by Crumb, to appoint the following individuals to the Substitute Roster for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year effective January 21, 2016:

- Heather Gardner – modify previous appointment as an Aide K-2 to Aide K-5;
- Timothy Neville – Substitute Custodian;
- Harold Roach – Substitute Custodian.

Yes-7, No-0

**BUSINESS & FINANCE:
REVENUE & BUDGET
STATUS REPORTS**

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

Yes-7, No-0

**TREASURER'S REPORT
ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS**

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

Yes-7, No-0

**INTERNAL CLAIMS
AUDITOR REPORT**

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hunsinger, to accept the Internal Claims Auditor's Report for December 2015 as presented.

Yes-7, No-0

**BUDGET COMMITTEE
UPDATE**

- Mark Rubitski, Business Manager, reviewed the Governor's Budget proposal and what it means for Greene. His proposal includes an increase in state aid of 2.1 billion dollars over 2 years in the following areas: Foundation Aid, Gap Elimination Adjustments, Community Schools Aid and Expense-driven aid (BOCES, transportation, Special education, building/capital). Initial increase in aid to Greene not including expense aid is approximately \$248,857 which is \$78,843 less than last year.

- Health insurance increase or salary increases would take all the state aid increase and require the district to use reserves again. With record low inflation, the tax levy cap of 1.2 percent represents a \$7,800 increase which will not meet the district's needs.

- Budget line items reviewed and set by the committee were discussed. Increases were noted in Legal Services, Chief School Administrator (due to a Superintendent's search), and Health Services (increase in cost of flu vaccines). To-date, the overall budget is up 9.2% over last year's.

**ONGOING DISCUSSION
ITEMS:**

- Sunday Facility Use – Policy #3260 Review:

The Board reviewed the current Policy #3260 and discussed the pros and cons of opening facilities for Sunday use. Discussion included costs associated with opening on a Sunday, what the savings are by restricting use, availability of personnel to cover buildings, and possibility of allowing use of certain facilities only. Developing a fee schedule, receipt of actual figures on what savings are by restricting Sunday use, and an estimate on what costs would be to open facilities were requested.

Admission to Athletic Events – Policy #7532 Review:

The Board reviewed and discussed a proposed new policy for charging admission only to specific high school athletic events. When a decision regarding admission fees has been reached, it was suggested that advertising this change to the community should be made.

**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
7/15/15	Chrome Book Classroom Use	Board and Superintendent	Feb. 2016
10/7/15	Dept. Chair Update Work Session	Department Chairs	Feb. 2016

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SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

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- Superintendent Retz reported on the following:

1. Senator Akshar's visit – Tuesday Senator Akshar visited Greene and other area schools. His visit included a brief walk through all four buildings. An attempt was made to show him the impact reduction in state aid over the past 7 years has had on Greene, as well as the difficulty faced with the tax cap and unfunded mandates.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:
MARIE SCOFIELD**

- Marie Scofield, President GTA, spoke to the need for teachers to sometimes have school items shipped to their home. If they are buying school items through their personal Amazon account and the district's request not to have personal items shipped to the school make it necessary for shipment to their home.

- She also noted that the swim team's option for using Whitney Point's pool had restrictions on the amount of time available. The team would not be able to leave Greene until 3:00 and would have to be out of the pool by 5:00. She also noted that a letter was posted on the pool doors and the district's web site which was unsigned, leading individuals to believe that Mr. Platta had posted the letter. She requested that the district take a more proactive approach to repairs and maintenance.

DEB KRUPP

- Deb Krupp, teacher and coach, expressed her concern regarding proactive repairs and maintenance on other district assets, such as the turf and track. She thanked Mr. Calice for maintaining the district's website. Compared to other districts, Greene's is updated and provides nice pictures and needed information.

HEATHER KRIESEL

- Heather Kriesel, Instrumental Music Teacher, announced that 5-12 students will be attending All County this weekend.

PRESIDENT DAY

- President Ethan Day, apologized for the information regarding the Superintendent's Search being released through a review of budget documents instead of a public statement from himself and the Board as is appropriate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Motion made by Crumb, seconded by Hendershott, to adjourn to Executive Session for the following at 8:47 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 the contract and employment status of a particular person.

Yes-7, No-0

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by McCauley, to adjourn Executive Session at 10:03 p.m.

Yes-7, No-0

RECONVENE

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

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion made by Hunsinger, seconded by Youngs, to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Yes-7, No-0

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Marie Utter
District Clerk