

**EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Board of Education Public Hearing and Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Howard L. Goff Middle School

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – Dr. Harrison – 6:36 p.m.

**MEETING BEGINS**

2. **Attendance**

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Buono	x	
Ms. Curran	x	
Ms. Curtin	x	
Mr. Dunn	x	
Dr. Harrison	x	
Ms. Maciol		x
Mr. Mann	x	
Ms. Massey	x	
Ms. Taylor	x	

Also Attending

Dr. Nagle	x
Ms. Bowman	x
Mr. Edson	x
Dr. Pampel	x

Student Council Representatives

Stephen Reilly	x
Devin Neal	x

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Mr. Mann to go into executive session to discuss personnel.

Vote: Ayes – 6, Nay – 0

Ms. Curran and Ms. Curtin entered executive session after 6:36 p.m.

Motion carried.

Time: 7:36 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:43 p.m.

3. **The Call of the Meeting**

Motion by Ms. Curran and seconded by Ms. Taylor to waive the reading of the public hearing notice for the 2016-2017 budget.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0

Motion carried.

**CALL OF THE MEETING**

**BUDGET  
PRESENTATION**

**4. Presentation for May 17, 2016 Vote**

Dr. Nagle reviewed a listing of information in the public hearing notice:

Location and time of public hearing  
Availability of budget documents  
Voting date and propositions  
Election of Board members process  
Voting districts and polling sites  
Voter registration and inspection of register  
Qualification of voters  
Absentee balloting

The Superintendent said the public hearing notice was published in local newspapers four times within the forty-five days preceding the vote, made available on the website, and placed on the side table at the hearing for the public to review.

Dr. Nagle reviewed the availability of budget packets after May 3, 2016 during regular business hours in all school buildings, at local libraries, on the District website, and at the public hearing. The packets contain budget information and the District report card.

The Superintendent announced the voting date as Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Voting will be conducted to fill three Board of Education vacancies for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019. Voting will be by the new voting machines. Three propositions are up for consideration. The first relates to the proposed 2016-2017 budget, the second and third involve the proposed purchase of school buses.

Four polling sites will be available to District voters dependent upon town of residence. Residents of the Towns of Sand Lake and Chatham and residents with Nassau mailing addresses will vote at the Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School. Residents of the Town of Schodack without Nassau mailing addresses will vote at Green Meadow Elementary School. Residents of the Town of East Greenbush will vote at the Howard L. Goff Middle School. Residents of the Town of North Greenbush will vote at the Bell Top Elementary School.

Voter registration is required in order to vote in the May 17 election. Individuals may register at the Rensselaer or Columbia County Board of Elections or at the District Clerk's Office on regular business days. Individuals will be deemed as registered if they voted in the school election in the last four years. The register of voters will be open for inspection from May 11, 2016 to May

16, 2016 during regular business hours at the Office of the District Clerk.

Dr. Nagle explained that qualified voters are citizens of the United States, eighteen years of age or older, a resident of the District for 30 days preceding the day of the vote, and registered to vote.

Absentee ballots will be available on and after April 19, 2016. An application is required and is available at the Office of the District Clerk and online at [www.egcsd.org](http://www.egcsd.org). The due dates for applications are Tuesday, May 10 if by mail and Tuesday, May 17 if in person. After the application is received, an absentee ballot is issued to the voter with a return envelope. Ballots are due back by 5:00 p.m. on May 17 at the Office of the District Clerk.

Absentee ballots may only be issued to voters with a valid reason such as hospitalization, physical disability or illness, business commitments out of the area, vacation, or incarceration. Individuals with questions on absentee ballots or desiring to view the absentee ballot list should contact the District Clerk.

Dr. Nagle said that three candidates for the Board of Education submitted petitions with the required number of signatures by April 18, 2016. The Superintendent introduced the three candidates running for the Board to the audience: James Giordano, Karen Curran and Shay Harrison.

The Superintendent stated that two budget packets were available on the side table. Packet 1 of 2 contained budget information and disclosures, while Packet 2 of 2 contained report card information.

Dr. Nagle advised that the preliminary budget proposed on March 2 was revised by April 6. The April 6 adopted budget totaled \$90.1 million and carried a 2.21% budget increase and 1.92% tax levy increase. The Superintendent noted the proposed tax levy was below the 3.35% property tax cap threshold.

The Superintendent explained that proposition #1 was for the proposed budget. She said that the budget increased \$1,951,673 from the current year and carried a 1.92% tax levy increase. Dr. Nagle said that final tax rates would not be available until August when assessment totals, equalization rates, and residential and commercial shares would be known.

Dr. Nagle explained that if the budget is passed, it will be enacted effective July 1, 2016. If the budget is not passed, the Board has

three options, including resubmitting the same or revised budget to the voters or adopting a contingent budget.

The Superintendent said a contingent budget will require a minimum reduction of \$967,677, which will be taken from non-contingent items. She provided a list of examples of possible areas of reduction, noting the school food service subsidy, community use of schools, and equipment will be reduced first.

Dr. Nagle stated that the District reviews the status of the bus fleet each year and evaluates the need to replace existing buses. Larger buses tend to have an expected life of 12 to 15 years, while smaller buses may last 8 to 10 years. The state provides approximately 60% aid for eligible costs.

The District requests authorization to purchase ten buses, six from the Bus Purchase Reserve in Proposition #2 and four through borrowing in Proposition #3. Withdrawals from the Reserve in Proposition #2 can only be done by voter approval and only for the purchase of buses. State aid from all purchases of buses is placed back in the Bus Purchase Reserve. Borrowing in Proposition #3 is proposed since the reserve balance is limited and can only fund six of the ten buses needed.

**4. Public Forum**

Mr. Balzer commended Ms. Belmont and the transportation staff for having a comprehensive bus replacement plan.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**5. Board Forum**

Ms. Curran thanked everyone for their hard work to assemble the proposed budget.

**BOARD FORUM**

**6. Adjournment**

Motion by Ms. Massey and seconded by Mr. Buono to close the public hearing.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0

Motion carried.

Time 7:56 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy J. Mancino  
District Clerk

**Business Meeting**

The business meeting began at 7:58 p.m.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**3. Ex Officio Student Council Comments and Presentations**

None at this time.

**EX OFFICIO COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS PUBLIC FORUM**

**4. Public Forum**

Mr. Balzer acknowledged teachers on maternity leave who return quickly to school and assist the continuity of instruction.

**5. Board Forum**

Ms. Taylor expressed her condolences for the passing of Tyler Coyne, a Columbia High School graduate in 2015. She commended Mr. Halsey for his mission work in Haiti during the school break.

**BOARD FORUM**

Mr. Buono welcomed students and staff back after the break and hoped for a strong finish to the school year.

Dr. Harrison invited everyone to attend the Athletic Hall of Fame induction at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy on May 7.

Dr. Nagle announced that the annual District Art Show is Thursday, May 12 at Columbia High School from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**6. Minutes**

**MINUTES**

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the District Clerk, the Board of Education approves the minutes of the Budget Review Session on March 16, 2016 and April 6, 2016

Moved by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Curtin to approve the minutes of March 16, 2016.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Abstention – 1(Mr. Dunn)

Motion carried.

Moved by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Mr. Buono to approve the minutes of April 6, 2016.

Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Abstention – 1(Mr. Mann)

Motion carried.

**7. Regular Business**

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

Approval of Programs for Resident Children with Disabilities.

Be it Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the programs for resident children with disabilities as presented.

Moved by Mr. Buono, Seconded by Mr. Mann  
Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0  
Motion carried.

**8. Reports and Presentations**

A. Proposed Change of Policy #2120, School Board Elections –  
First Reading

Mr. Edson explained that the policy has been revised to include the procedure for requesting Commissioner of Education approval for changing the annual vote date from the third Tuesday in May. Additionally, wording has been inserted to note the number of qualified voters needed on board candidate petitions. The final paragraph defines electioneering.

**REPORTS AND  
PRESENTATIONS**

**9. Tabled Motions**

None at this time.

**TABLED  
MOTIONS**

**10. Old Business**

A. Health Insurance Consultant’s Report

Mr. Mann suggested that the District work on gaining representation of the RCG Trust Board. He was not aware that there was an opportunity to be a participant trustee. Dr. Harrison suggested Trust representation be a Board of Education goal next year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Buono noted that the District was represented on the Trust Board in the past with the Superintendent acting as a trustee.

Mr. Mann suggested the topic be discussed at the next Board meeting. Dr. Harrison said it would be an executive session item as it impacts negotiations.

**11. Consent Agenda**

Ms. Taylor congratulated Ms. Mason and Ms. McManus-Sarubbi on their retirements and thanked them for their service.

**CONSENT AGENDA  
FINANCIAL  
REPORTS**

Dr. Harrison said the resignation of Jerome Keenan will be pulled from the Consent Agenda, Item #11-B-2.A.2.a

A. Financial Reports

1. Warrants – None at this time.
2. Treasurer’s Reports – None at this time.

B. Personnel

1. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel #664 as Recommended by Superintendent

**PERSONNEL**

- 2. Non-Instructional Support Personnel #663 as Recommended by Superintendent
- C. Volunteers for the Budget Vote on May 17, 2016
- D. Appointment of Election Workers for District Votes
- E. Acceptance of Gifts and Authorization to Increase the 2015-2016 Budget
- F. Consulting Agreement with Needham Risk Management Resource Group
- G. Health Service Contracts
- H. Grant of Easement
- I. Approval of the Revised Smart Schools Investment Plan

**BUDGET VOTE  
VOLUNTEERS  
ELECTION  
WORKERS  
ACCEPTANCE OF  
GIFTS AND  
INCREASE BUDGET  
AGREEMENT WITH  
NEEDHAM RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
HEALTH SERVICE  
CONTRACTS  
GRANT OF  
EASEMENT  
SMART SCHOOLS  
INVESTMENT PLAN**

Be it Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Consent Agenda, with Addendums #11-H Grant of Easement and #11-I Approval of Revised Smart Schools Investment Plan, without Item #11-B-2.A.2.a Non-Instructional Support Personnel #663 and Item #11-F be approved as presented. Moved by Mr. Mann , Seconded by Ms. Curran  
Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0  
Motion carried.

Discussion on Item #11-F  
Mr. Mann asked if a request for proposal could be done for the proposed risk management services. Mr. Edson replied yes. Mr. Mann suggested that the District obtain more information regarding the scope of the BOCES service. He said that he will be forwarding some additional questions to administration. Mr. Mann noted that the BOCES services are subject to state aid. Mr. Edson said that the aid is in the year after purchase. Mr. Mann asked that consideration of the agenda item be postponed until a future meeting. Dr. Harrison requested that any questions be forwarded to administration.

**12. New Business**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**13. Committee Reports**

Ms. Taylor said the Education Foundation met to review recent events such as the Gala and Dessert Night. She said the scholarship process has begun and applications are online.

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

Ms. Taylor noted the Holocaust survivor speaker at the multi-cultural fair has been invited to speak at the Middle School.

**14. Public Forum**

None at this time.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**15. Board Forum**

None at this time.

**BOARD FORUM**

**16. Executive Session**

None at this time

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

**Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Buono, Seconded by Ms. Massey to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0

Motion carried.

Time: 8:12 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy J. Mancino  
District Clerk