

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Red Mill Elementary School

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Mann – 7:30 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

x
x

3. **Ex Officio Student Council Comments**

**EX OFFICIO
COMMENTS AND
PRESENTATIONS**

A. Student Council
None at this time.

B. Volunteer Recognition

Mr. Caporta welcomed the Board of Education to Red Mill Elementary School. The fifth grade chorus sang “God Bless America” and a selection from the upcoming spring concert.

Dr. Nagle said the District annually recognizes staff and community volunteers who have supported and contributed to school success and promoted programs for children. They have

given unselfishly of their time to work with staff, school programs or directly with students. The Superintendent said the schools would not be as successful without volunteer support. She thanked Mr. Caporta, administrators, staff, students, and PTO of the Red Mill Elementary School for hosting the annual volunteer recognition ceremony.

Mr. Alvey extended his appreciation to volunteer Judith Markessinis for supporting Ms. McDonald and students in third, fourth, and fifth grade and making math fun. Her expertise in mathematics has continued from her teaching days at Howard L. Goff Middle School. Ms. Markessinis also volunteers at the Nassau Resource Center and Supports the community by providing car rides for people to get to their medical appointments.

Mr. Garab recognized volunteer Monica Ray for service to the PTO Afterschool Enrichment Program, which has included courses on Mandarin Chinese, chess, cooking, and technology. Ms. Ray was thanked for the countless hours spent recruiting instructors, registering students, and communicating with PTO members and faculty.

Ms. Yeomans honored Maura Przybylek for volunteering to coordinate the PTO's "Explore and Grow" enrichment program and assist Grade 4 students with additional math practice and homework help. She said that Ms. Przybylek's numerous volunteer hours broaden experiences for children and support them in their learning.

Mr. McHugh honored Devon Baird, Donna Gruett, and Patty Persell as tremendous resources at Bell Top Elementary School. Ms. Baird is a STAR volunteer in Ms. Adam's Kindergarten classroom, providing needed assistance to students on computers, organizing supplies, and filing materials. Ms. Gruett volunteers in Ms. Lyte's classroom, developing a wonderful rapport with young learners and organizing the pancake dinner. Ms. Persell has organized the yearbook and annual Education Fair. She has been a vital member of the school's wellness team and organizer for Fabulous 5th Grade events.

Mr. Caporta thanked John Kaplan, owner of Red Kap Sales for partnering with Red Mill to provide a grant of \$500 and over many years grants totaling \$4,000. These monies are used in math and science areas and provide additional resources or programs for students. Mr. Caporta also honored STAR volunteer Angie Kirkland for assisting Ms. Warrington in the nurse's office. He

said she recently celebrated her 90th birthday and continues to maintain an active social schedule, assisting senior citizen organizations and doing Tai Chi.

Mr. Grignon recognized Angel Schweigert for volunteering at activity nights and cake walk for Winterfest. Ms. Schweigert is known for organizing the basket raffles at Winterfest, coaching cheerleading, and serving on the board of Pop Warner. Mr. Grignon noted her hard work, dedication, and determination.

Mr. Sawchuk thanked Joe McCabe who has volunteered his time with the varsity wrestling programs for the last ten years. He noted many of Mr. McCabe's accomplishments, including induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Section 2 Wrestling Hall of Fame, service as a US Marine, and Schodack Town Supervisor.

Mr. Leonard extended his appreciation to Rich Schwarz, a member of the Columbia All Sports Club for 18 years, serving as president for the past 8 years. Mr. Schwarz is involved in many activities such as the kickoff barbecue, pasta dinner, homecoming dance, and Athletic Hall of Fame celebration. Mr. Leonard thanked Mr. Schwarz for his dedication and positive influence on the school and community.

Dr. Pampel honored David Clarke as an Education Committee member and Mike Rubinstein and Arthur Sanderson as Technology Committee members. She thanked all three individuals for attending meetings on a regular basis and bringing student centered perspectives to enhance planning and development of new programs.

Mr. Edson spoke of the difficulty in finding volunteer Budget Review and Advisory Committee (BRAC) members. He appreciated Janet Lento's willingness to serve on the committee and be a true contributor to improve school operations and finance. Mr. Edson said Ms. Lento had great insight, a wonderful sense of humor, and excellent skills as a note taker for the meetings when needed.

4. Public Forum

None at this time.

PUBLIC FORUM

5. Board Forum

Ms. Curran thanked Red Mill School administration and staff for hosting the meeting. She congratulated the volunteers on their

BOARD FORUM

awards. Ms. Curran also congratulated the Howard L. Goff Middle School Science Olympiad Team for placing third at the state championships in Syracuse on April 9. She recognized Ms. McAlonie for her efforts in organizing the recent multi-cultural fair.

Ms. Taylor thanked the volunteers for their service to the school community, including retirees of the District who return to provide assistance. She expressed regret for the recent passing of Ms. Hambright, a retired music teacher. Ms. Taylor recognized the fine service of employees Ms. Tidd, Mr. Bolani, and Mr. Howland, who will be retiring soon.

Ms. Maciol thanked Mr. Caporta and Red Mill staff and students for a great presentation. She thanked the volunteers for their service to the school community.

6. Minutes

MINUTES

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

Vote on the April 6 Minutes postponed until May 4, 2016

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 Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Ms. Curran
Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0
Motion carried.

8 Reports and Presentations

**REPORTS AND
PRESENTATIONS**

A. Health Insurance Consultants Report
Dr. Nagle introduced Mr. Millet from the firm of Bouchey and Clark Benefits, Inc. Mr. Millet gave an overview of information within the report, including a series of recommendations.

Mr. Millet noted that the experience of East Greenbush Central School District within the RCG Trust has been favorable, resulting in a surplus. In some years, the surplus generated by East Greenbush covered the deficits of other schools. He said that the District is experiencing escalating prescription plan costs under a self-funded plan. Mr. Millet expressed concern with the District's

lack of influence and control over RCG Trust operations in light of its approximate 15% of the total Trust enrollment.

Mr. Millet provided a series of recommendations. He said that each recommendation has benefits and risks in the areas of control, savings, and rate stability. Mr. Millet suggested that all recommendations be simultaneously pursued. He advised that the possibility of leaving the RCG Trust should not be taken lightly. The 180 day notice and July 1, 2017 renewal date provisions were explained. Mr. Millet noted the options could be pursued from now until December 2016. He commented on the option to stay with the Trust and hold a trustee position. The seven trustee terms of office are staggered, with the potential for a June election.

Mr. Millet said the high rate increases with the prescription drug plan were also experienced by other school districts. He spoke about the NY44 Trust option, noting the savings are too large to ignore, although there is some concern with rate stability. Further, Mr. Millet shared the District's size make it a candidate to stand on its own with a potential plan through Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The potential plan is a minimum premium arrangement that allows risks to come into play.

Mr. Dunn said the report was a lot to digest and the Board would need greater time to think about the recommendations. He asked if the NY44 Plan has greater rate increases over time. Mr. Millet responded that the NY44 Trust is growing by moving into eastern New York. The western part of the State has seen greater rate stability. He said that due to network issues, the Plan has split some rating regions. While the eastern part of the state had an approximate 10% rate increase, the other regions had an 18% rate increase. As the Plan is maturing, it is responding to cost pressures.

Mr. Mann suggested the report recommendations be revisited at the next meeting.

Dr. Nagle said that two RCG trustee positions are open at this time, and two incumbents are rerunning for their seats. Mr. Mann asked for information on the deadline. Ms. Maciol also suggested the report be revisited at the next meeting.

B. Election of Members of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services
Motion by Ms. Maciol and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the following resolution:

ELECTION OF MEMBERS-BOCES

Resolved, that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mr. Edmund Brooks, Valatie, NY, Mrs. Lynn Clum, Germantown, NY, Mrs. Mary Marro-Giroux, Troy, NY and Mrs. Nadine Gazzola, Hudson, NY to terms as members of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019
Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0
Motion carried.

C. 2016-2017 Administrative Budget Vote of Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Motion by Ms. Curtin and seconded by Ms. Curran to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene Counties is authorized to expend the sum set forth in the 2016-2017 tentative Administrative budget document in the amount of \$5,882,746.

Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 1 (Ms. Maciol)

Motion carried.

**BOCES
ADMINISTRATIVE
BUDGET**

D. Adoption of 2016-2017 Cooperative Services Agreement with Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Motion by Mr. Dunn and seconded by Ms. Taylor to authorize the BOCES Final Service Request Report for the fiscal year 2016-2017 in the amount of \$3,414,017.57

Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 1 (Ms. Maciol)

Motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF
COSER**

9. Tabled Motions

None at this time.

**TABLED
MOTIONS**

10. Old Business

Mr. Mann noted that he read the Columbine book and was in agreement with the approval at the prior Board of Education meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

11. Consent Agenda

A. Financial Reports

1. Warrants – 0066, 0067, 0069, 0070
2. Treasurer’s Reports – February 2016

B. Personnel

1. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel #663 as Recommended by Superintendent
2. Non-Instructional Support Personnel #662 as

**CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCIAL
REPORTS**

PERSONNEL

Recommended by Superintendent
C. 2016-2017 BOCES Cross Contracts

**BOCES CROSS
CONTRACTS**

D. Removal of Broken Equipment from Howard L. Goff Middle School

**REMOVAL BROKEN
EQUIP.**

E. 2016-2017 Mentoring Program Proposal

**16-17 MENTORING
PROGRAM
PROPOSAL**

F. EGTA Special Grants

**EGTA SPECIAL
GRANTS**

G. Health Services Contract

**HEALTH SERVICES
CONTRACT**

H. Acceptance of Gifts and Authorization to Increase the 2015-2016 Budget

**ACCEPTANCE OF
GIFTS**

Be it Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Consent Agenda, without #11-E, 2016-2017 Mentoring Program Proposal, be approved as presented.

Motion by Ms. Curran, Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Mann asked if Ms. Shaughnessy was a district employee. Ms. Bowman responded no and said she was under contract for the last seven years. Mr. Mann asked about the time period of the proposal. Ms. Bowman said the proposal was for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Mann asked about the location of the work. Ms. Bowman said that Ms. Shaughnessy works out of Ms. Bowman's office.

Be it Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Consent Agenda Item #11-E, 2016-2017 Mentoring Program Proposal, be approved as presented.

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Ms. Maciol

Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0

Motion carried

12. New Business

NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

13. Committee Reports

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

Ms. Taylor said the Education Committee had presentations by Ms. Hosier and Ms. Neiman on art and Mr. Halliday on music. The committee is reviewing its mission with Dr. Pampel. Ms. Taylor said the recent Dessert Night fundraiser for the Education Foundation was very successful and raised almost \$900.

14. Public Forum
None at this time.

PUBLIC FORUM

15. Board Forum
None at this time.

BOARD FORUM

16. Executive Session
Not required.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

16. Adjournment
Motion by Ms. Curtin and seconded by Mr. Dunn to adjourn the meeting.
Vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0
Motion carried.
Time: 9:04 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy J. Mancino
District Clerk