

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – Dr. Harrison – 7:33 p.m.

MEETING BEGINS

2. **Attendance**

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Buono	x	
Ms. Curran	x	
Ms. Curtin	x (arrived at 7:37 p.m.)	
Mr. Dunn	x	
Mr. Giordano	x	
Dr. Harrison	x	
Mr. Mann		x
Ms. Massey	x	
Ms. Taylor	x	

Also Attending

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

Student Council Representatives

Devin Neal	x	
Lilly Hutton		x

3. **Ex Officio Student Council Comments**

**EX OFFICIO
COMMENTS AND
PRESENTATIONS**

A. Student Council Representatives

Devin Neal reported that the Pep Rally and other events are set as part of Spirit Week. On Monday, the school will be “painted pink” in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. The student council will be selling t-shirts for \$10 and also host hair extension and pink ribbon fundraisers. Devin Neal said the Student Council Leadership Conference will be held in November at the State Capitol.

B. Special Presentation – Summer Reading Initiative

Mr. Alvey welcomed the Board and audience to the D.P. Sutherland Elementary School. He introduced a project based activity to encourage students to read over the summer and avoid regression. Participating staff members included Ms. Driscoll, Ms. Maxstadt, Ms. Gardinier, Mr. McGraw, Ms. DiSotto, Ms. Treiber, Ms. Staszowski, and Ms. Haldane. Staff members reviewed the project in detail with the Board, including brainstorming student involvement, Bingo Boards, book donations, incentives, tracking participation, benchmark data, outcomes, and survey on non-participants. Mr. Alvey thanked the PTO for the donation of over 300 books from proceeds of the Scholastic Book Fair. He thanked the DPS staff for their enthusiasm for the project and the creation of individualized student packets to support summer reading.

Ms. Massey suggested partnering with financial institutions on the project. Mr. Alvey spoke of collaboration with CapCom Credit Union, but noted that the reading project was going to be a stand-alone project. Mr. Buono congratulated the teachers on a successful project and liked hearing the parent feedback. Mr. Alvey added that Fountas and Pinnell Benchmarking was used to determine the students reading level.

4. Public Forum

Mr. Crall expressed concern about the negotiations process and requested a proposal from the District prior to the scheduled October 5 negotiation session.

PUBLIC FORUM

Superintendent Report

Mr. Simons announced that 28 students will be attending Manufacturing Day at RPI on October 14. He thanked Mr. Ford, Ms. Gruet, Dr. Pampel, and Mr. Sawchuk for supporting the program. Mr. Simons reported that the Commissioner spoke at a recent conference regarding the NYS draft standards, which will be adopted later this year and result in curriculum changes for 2017-2018. A State plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act will be submitted in March so that school districts will be aware of any changes to the accountability system by 2017-2018. The Commissioner also reflected concerns about the new ENL regulations and availability of qualified teachers. Additionally, concerns were raised about the Common Core based math examinations, scaling of scores, and impact on the student cohort. Mr. Simons said the District will participate in a Rensselaer County Chamber of Commerce event on October 21 on the future of workforce readiness. He also announced that the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council will be meeting soon.

5. Board Forum

BOARD FORUM

Ms. Massey congratulated Mr. Alvey and the D. P. Sutherland teaching staff on an outstanding and innovative program. She appreciated the presentation and review of data as part of the program. Ms. Massey acknowledged the efforts of Ms. Taylor, Columbia Science teacher and wished her well in retirement.

Mr. Dunn thanked Mr. Alvey and the teachers for the presentation. He said they are creating a foundation for future student success. Mr. Dunn thanked the union for attending the meeting and was interested and empathetic on what they had to say. He pledged to make the process work and supported and respected their dialogue. Mr. Dunn expressed support for the work of administration and staff and working as a community of educators.

Mr. Giordano thanked teachers going above and beyond to present at the Columbia Open House.

Ms. Taylor thanked Mr. Simons for his detailed update. She expressed condolences to the family of Jaime Adams.

Ms. Curran appreciated the comments of Mr. Crall and the hard work of the teachers. She said that Jaime Adams was an inspiration to all of us.

6. Minutes

MINUTES

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the District Clerk, the Board of Education approves the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of September 14, 2016.

Moved by Ms. Massey, Seconded by Ms. Taylor
Vote: Ayes – 7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 1 (Mr. Dunn)
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 Ms. Curran, Seconded by Ms. Curtin
Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0
Motion carried.

8. Reports and Presentations

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS GAPP PROGRAM

A. German GAPP Program

Mr. Williams spoke about the benefits of the GAPP program in place for the last six years. He anticipated 20 to 25 students will host German students next fall at Columbia. Mr. Williams thanked the Board for supporting the program.

Students Athena Conzone, Lauren Kelly, and Jonathan Sills spoke of the benefits of long-term exposure to German language and culture through the program. They said the experience was life-changing and very beneficial.

Mr. Buono thanked the students and teachers for participating in the program and said it was very motivating.

Mr. Giordano said his son attended the program twice and had a great experience. He extended his appreciation to Mr. Williams for organizing the program.

B. Five-Year Capital Facilities Plan

FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN

Mr. Hamlin provided a five-year capital facilities plan for Board of Education review. He said that the plan represents priorities initially identified in the Building Condition Survey. Mr. Hamlin thanked Mr. Ellsworth and Mr. Craft for their input in developing the plan. He said that the plan is submitted in the suggested State Education Department format, including the executive summary which must be included with all capital project submittals.

Dr. Harrison asked if rebate incentives are available for the lighting projects. Mr. Hamlin replied the NYSERDA and National Grid currently have rebate programs.

Dr. Harrison asked if the current Goff fire system is out of date. Mr. Craft confirmed that the system is old and requires replacement.

Dr. Harrison expressed concerns with the VOIP system based on his experience. Mr. Hamlin noted that most schools are changing to the VOIP system and finding many of the features to be useful.

Dr. Harrison questioned the location of the Columbia water infiltration. Mr. Craft responded that most of the infiltration was located in the second floor in the towers.

Dr. Harrison noted that the track had recently been resurfaced. Mr.

Craft noted that the artificial turf field will need replacement in the next cycle, and it will be logical to modify the track.

Mr. Hamlin advised the Board that the cost estimates were in today's dollars and need escalation dependent on the proposed timing of the work. He said that abatement costs were also not included, along with contingency requirements.

Moved by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Mr. Buono

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby accepts the Five-Year Capital Facilities Plan dated September 2016 as presented and authorizes submission of the executive summary and other plan components to the State Education Department and Office of Facilities Plan as required.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0

Motion carried.

9. Table Motions

None at this time.

**TABLED
MOTIONS**

10. Old Business

None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

11. Consent Agenda

A. Financial Reports

1. Warrants – 0017, 0018, and 0019
2. Treasurer's Reports – None at this time.
3. Extra Classroom Treasurer's Report – Howard L. Goff Middle School – August 2016; Columbia High School – August 2016

**CONSENT AGENDA
FINANCIAL
REPORTS**

B. Personnel

1. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel #672 as Recommended by Superintendent
2. Non-Instructional Support Personnel #671 as Recommended by Superintendent

PERSONNEL

C. Acceptance of Gifts and Authorization to Increase the 2016-2017 Budget

**ACCEPTANCE OF
GIFTS, INCREASE
BUDGET**

D. Howard L. Goff Middle School 7th Grade Philadelphia and 8th Grade Washington, D.C. Trips

**GOFF 7TH AND 8TH
GRADE FIELD
TRIPS**

E. Howard L. Goff Middle School 6th Grade Nature's Classroom, Silver Bay, NY Field Trip

**GOFF 6TH GRADE
FIELD TRIP**

F. 2017-2018 Budget Calendar and District Vote

**BUDGET
CALENDAR AND
DISTRICT VOTE**

- G. Columbia High School German Club Field Trip – Adirondack Extreme and Heidelberg Inn – October 7, 2016
- H. Lead Evaluator Certification
- I. Establishment of 2016-2017 Columbia Event Chaperone Rate

**CHS GERMAN
CLUB FIELD TRIP
LEAD EVALUATOR
CERTIFICATION
ESTABLISHMENT
COLUMBIA
CHAPERONE RATE
CONSENT AGENDA
APPROVAL**

Be it Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Consent Agenda with Addendum Item 11-I and 11-B-1 be approved as presented.

Moved by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Massey

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions - 0

Motion carried.

12. New Business

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Harrison shared a list of draft Board of Education goals for the 2016-2017 year. He asked for input on a scorecard or method to measure progress. Ms. Massey said she would share some examples.

Mr. Buono suggested that objective 2.F. be moved to the last objective under goal 3.

Mr. Dunn spoke about long-term goals for the school district, including a review of Wynantskill UFSD students opting to attend Columbia. He said that consolidation and shared services initiatives are likely to continue. Dr. Harrison asked for input from Board members on long-term initiatives. He suggested that increasing voter participation should be a long-term goal.

Moved by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Mr. Giordano
Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District adopts the 2016-2017 Board goals, as amended.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0

Motion carried.

Mr. Dunn suggested that the Board self-evaluation not be a complicated process. Dr. Harrison said that the October 19 agenda should include the scorecard and Board self-evaluation.

Dr. Harrison requested that Board members submit ideas for changes in the Board of Education meeting format. He proposed consideration of a 7:00 p.m. start time, principals' forum, and additional time for dialogue. Mr. Dunn, Mr. Buono, Ms. Curran, and Ms. Massey volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Mr. Dunn also suggested that union leadership, principals, and students be requested to submit ideas.

13. Committee Reports

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

Ms. Taylor said CCS met and reviewed information on the alternate education program, summer curriculum projects, and honors courses.

Mr. Buono shared that the technology committee reviewed information on the website tutorial, professional development needs, student help desk, e-mail, wireless infrastructure, and the Smart Schools project.

14. Public Forum

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Balzer thanked Mr. Crall for his speech and expressed admiration for the teachers and the Board.

15. Board Forum #2

BOARD FORUM

Ms. Curran expressed appreciation for the t-shirts. Mr. Simons said they were supplied by Mr. Leonard and the Athletic Department.

Mr. Buono asked if Board Docs training is planned. Mr. Simons confirmed it was scheduled for November 3.

16. Executive Session

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Motion by Ms. Curran and seconded by Ms. Massey to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel and negotiations.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0

Motion carried.

Time: 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy J. Mancino
District Clerk

16. Executive Session

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The executive session began at 9:06 p.m. and ended at 10:23 p.m.

17. Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Buono and seconded by Ms. Curtin to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0

Motion carried.

Time: 10:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Curran

Assistant Clerk