

**EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Wednesday, August 11, 2021**

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Mr. Buono- 7:01 P.M.

**B. ATTENDANCE**

	Present	Absent	Arrival
Mr. Buono	X		
Ms. Curtin	X		
Mr. Dunn		X	
Ms. Kennedy	X		
Mr. Mann	X		
Ms. Muth		X	
Ms. Skumurski	X		
Ms. Taylor	X		
Mr. Yeboah	X		

Also Attending

Mr. Simons	X
Ms. Cannon	X
Mr. McHugh	X
Ms. Wager	X

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. EX OFFICIO STUDENT COUNCIL COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Student Council Representatives Not in Attendance During the Summer

**4. MINUTES**

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF JULY 28, 2021.

Motion by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Curtin

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the District Clerk, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of July 28, 2021.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

**5. PUBLIC FORUM #1**

Quinn Austin-Smalls, a parent, expressed concerns about the lack of plans for the fall re-opening. Dr. Austin-Small asked the District to submit plans so parents and families can make arrangements.

**6. BOARD FORUM #1**

Ms. Taylor offered her condolences to the Kelly family, for the recent loss of Lillian, a former EGCS D teacher and her husband, Joseph, a former bus driver in the district.

**7. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS - SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

A. Update on School Opening in September-Considerations in Reference to Health and Safety Guidance

Mr. Simons announced that all children will return in the fall, for five days a week in-person learning. He stated that a full course of classes will be offered. The Superintendent explained that since the New York State Department of Health is not issuing guidance, the Commissioner of Education has stepped in and is working on providing guidance, hopefully by the week of August 16th, 2021. Mr. Simons reported that he has been working with area Superintendents and Questar BOCES to develop a regional plan, using the CDC guidelines. He reported that the CDC has said all counties in New York State are considered to be at high risk for transmission of the Coronavirus. Mr. Simons provided the preliminary plan using the CDC guidance:

- Masks will be required by all students and staff regardless of vaccination status, since Rensselaer County is a high-risk area.
- There will be no social distancing needed on the school buses. All buses can be filled to capacity, but the windows and roof hatches must be left open, and cleaning and disinfecting protocols must be continued.
- The physical distancing requirement in classrooms is three feet.
- Band and Chorus will have a six-foot social distancing requirement.
- Physical education classes remain at six-foot distancing.
- District will continue to remind parents to assess their children's health before sending them to school, but will only screen temperatures in the buildings.
- In the cafeteria, the District will continue to have students distance, sit individually, and face the same direction.
- Rensselaer County will provide language about contact tracing. CDC says students are exempt from quarantine when in contact with someone testing positive as long as the students are wearing masks.
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection will occur daily
- Remote instruction will be available to students identified as medically at risk of contacting Covid-19. There will be an application to determine if a remote program is needed.
- District is waiting for further guidance on high risk sports, such as volleyball and football, since the CDC requires all participants to be vaccinated.
- Surveillance testing is still be discussed

**8. DISCUSSION ITEMS****A. Board Discussion on School Opening Guidance**

None at this time.

**B. Status of Universal Pre-K**

Ms. Wager reported the District is deciding whether to use either of the two responders to the Request for Proposal, or go with a Questar program, or a combination of both. She explained that one respondent would like to use District facilities and would be able to provide service to approximately 15 students, the other has their own facility, and would be able to provide for 36 students. She explained a Questar program would use two classrooms at Red Mill and would be able to accommodate 36 students. Ms. Wager stated she has reached out to Jason Breslin at the New York State Education Department to make sure that if the District decides to go with the Questar program that all the requirements will be met to access the aid. She explained the Questar program is more expensive than the allotted amount, but a Pre-K program is an allowable expense under the American Rescue Plan.

Mr. Simons stated that the District has had a 20-year relationship with Questar BOCES working in District schools. He said the Administration is very comfortable and confident in the programs Questar offers, the people they hire, and the services they provide. He said the District feels that even though they are more expensive, any program they offer would be advantageous to the District. The Superintendent also discussed because this program may get a late start, he has reached out to area Legislators to see if the program could possibly extend into the summer or if the money could be allocated to next year. He said the Legislators were interested in supporting the District. Mr. Simons reported the District is awaiting further information from the State Education Department and will bring this to the Board at a later date.

Ms. Curtin asked about the sustainability of the Pre-K program.

Ms. Wager said there are no guarantees the program will extend more than this year, but the students will be moving to Kindergarten the following year, and will not be affected, if it is discontinued. She said the District will have to look at the costs going forward to determine the longevity of the program.

**C. CRRSA & ARP Update**

Ms. Wager reviewed the Corona Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and the American Rescue Plan federal funds. She stated the CRRSAA funds must be spent by Sept 30, 2023 and the ARP money will be available until Sept 30, 2024. Ms. Wager reported she submitted the application for the CRRSA funds on July 14, 2021, but has not had a response from the State, and is currently preparing the application for the ARP. She stated that approximately \$1.9 million of the ARP monies is unrestricted, but the remainder must be spent on the following items:

- \$100,000 must be spent on summer enrichment
- \$100,000 must be spent on after school programs
- \$976,900 needs to be spent on learning loss

Mr. Simons reported that the District is talking with Rensselaer County, and they are discussing the possibility of a mental health clinic at Columbia High School, in addition to the one at Howard L. Goff Middle School.

As a side note, Mr. Simons proposed allowing outside groups and clubs to use the school facilities again, as long as they follow the protocols in place within the District.

**9. REGULAR BUSINESS****A. Approval of Programs for Resident Children with Disabilities****RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROGRAMS FOR RESIDENT CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

Motion by Ms. Skumurski, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Programs for Resident Children with Disabilities.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

**B. Tax Litigation - North Greenbush Associates-Shoppes at Greenbush Commons (N. Greenbush Road)****RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TAX LITIGATION - NORTH GREENBUSH ASSOCIATES - SHOPPES AT GREENBUSH COMMONS**

Motion by Mr. Mann, Seconded by Ms. Taylor

Resolves, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Tax Litigation - North Greenbush Associates - Shoppes at Greenbush Commons

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

**C. Internal Audit Reports-Cash Reconciliation****RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS - CASH RECONCILIATION**

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Ms. Skumurski

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Internal Audit Reports - Cash Reconciliation

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

**D. 2021-2022 AS-7 Contract for BOCES Services****RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2021-2022 AS-7 CONTRACT FOR BOCES SERVICES.**

Motion by Ms. Kennedy, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the 2021-2022 AS-7 Contract for BOCES Services.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

## E. Questar III Accounts Payable Service

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE BUSINESS OFFICIAL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH QUESTAR III BOCES FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ASSISTANCE.

Motion by Mr. Mann, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves and authorizes the Business Official to enter into an agreement with Questar III BOCES for accounts payable assistance.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Marissa Cannon, Director of Human Resources

Ms. Cannon announced that a new staff orientation for the 40 new staff members will be held on August 16 & August 17, 2021. She thanked the teachers, support staff, Administrators and Central Office team for contributing to all the hiring committees.

B. Linda Wager, Director of Business and Finance

None at this time.

C. James McHugh, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

None at this time.

D. Jeffrey Simons, Superintendent

None at this time.

**11. TABLED MOTIONS**

None at this time.

**12. OLD BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**13. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Financial Reports

2021-08-11 Extraclassroom Treasurer's Report-CHS- June 2021.pdf

2021-08-11 Extraclassroom Treasurer's Report-Goff- June 2021.pdf

2021-08-11 Treasurer's Reports- June 2021.pdf

2021-08-11 Claim Auditor Reports for Warrants 0006, 0007, 0008, 0009, 0010, 0011, 0012, 0013, V013

B. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel Memo

**DISCONTINUANCE****1. Resignation**

a. Pinkowski, April - Teaching Assistant, Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School, effective 8/27/21  
Reason: accepted another job. Date of Hire: 12/13/12

b. Ricalo-Zucker, Libia - Spanish, Howard L. Goff Middle School, effective 7/29/21  
Reason: personal. Date of Hire: 8/31/15

**2. Leave of Absence**

a. Herrington, Kara - Requesting a leave of absence from Assistant Director, PPS position from 9/8/21-12/3/21, to fill a leave of absence for the Director of PPS.

**B. APPOINTMENTS****1. Probationary Appointments**

The probationary expiration dates below are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Section 3012(3) of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

- a. Castellana, Lauren - Special Education Teacher, Bell Top Elementary School  
(Replacing Barbara Schielke, resignation)  
Tenure Area: Special Education  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Students w/Disabilities 1-6  
NYS Childhood Education 1-6  
NYS Provisional School Social Worker  
Step Placement: 1M = \$46,659.00  
Prior: 5/21-present North Colonie SD; 8/18-1/21 Teaching Assistant  
Wildwood Programs Inc.; 9/16-8/18 School Social Worker Wildwood  
Programs; 1/21-5/21 student teaching Guilderland CSD  
Degrees: B.A. Siena College

M.S. College of Saint Rose  
M.A. SUNY, Albany

- b. Hopeck, MaryJane - Elementary/K-3 Intervention Specialist, District-wide  
(New position)  
Tenure Area: Elementary  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Permanent N-6  
NYS Permanent Reading Teacher  
Step Placement: 11M = \$68,709.00  
Prior: 4/18-present Shenendehowa CSD; 9/91-11/01  
Hoosic Valley CSD; 1/02-6/02 Penfield CSD;  
9/02-3/03 Hoosic Valley CSD  
Degrees: B.S. SUNY, Cortland  
M.S. Sage Graduate School
- c. Loveland, Alecia - School Counselor, Howard L. Goff Middle School  
(New position)  
Tenure Area: School Counselor  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Provisional School Counselor  
Step Placement: 2M = \$48,864.00  
Prior: 4/21-6/21 Per Diem Sub Goff M.S.; 12/20-4/21 Schalmont CSD;  
5/20-10/20 Mohanasen CSD; 9/19-12/19 Goff M.S.  
Degrees: B.A. SUNY, Cortland  
M.S. College of Saint Rose
- d. Marra, Caterina - Elementary/K-3 Intervention Specialist, District-wide  
(New position)  
Tenure Area: Elementary  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Professional Childhood Education 1-6  
NYS Initial Early Childhood Education B-2  
Step Placement: 7M = \$59,887.00  
Prior: 4/18-present Troy CSD; 2/16-4/18 Albany Community  
Charter School; 8/07-6/12 Public School 254, Brooklyn  
Degrees: B.S. SUNY, Oneonta  
M.S. College of Saint Rose
- e. McArdle, Allison - Special Education, Genet Elementary School  
(Replacing Katherine Carlin, resignation)  
Tenure Area: Special Education  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Initial Students w/Disabilities B-6  
NYS Initial Childhood Education B-6  
Step Placement: 1M = \$46,659.00  
Prior: 12/20-6/21 Term Sub Shenendehowa CSD; 9/20-11/20  
Per Diem Sub EGCS  
Degrees: B.S. SUNY, Geneseo  
M.S. SUNY, Albany

The expiration dates below are tentative and conditional only. In order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance rating review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective to the extent required by the applicable provisions of the Education Law, the Rules of the Board of Regents and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

- f. Sullivan, Kara - Elementary/K-3 Intervention Specialist, District-wide  
(New position)  
Tenure Area: Elementary  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/24 (pending verification of tenure)  
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Initial Childhood Education 1-6  
Step Placement: 4M = \$53,274.00  
Prior: 9/14-present New York City Public Schools  
Degrees: B.A. SUNY, Geneseo  
M.A. Columbia University

The probationary expiration dates below are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Section 3012(3) of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or

highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

- g. Wargula, Kate - Elementary/K-3 Intervention Specialist, District-wide  
(New position)  
Tenure Area: Elementary  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
(unless extended by the law as above)  
Certification Status: NYS Professional Childhood Education 1-6  
NYS Professional Early Childhood B-2  
Step Placement: 2M = \$48,864.00  
Prior: 8/16-6/19 Bryant Elementary, Hornell, NY;  
8/13-6/15 Seven Oaks Elementary, MD;  
Degrees: B.A. Alfred University  
M.S. SUNY, Buffalo

## **2. Term Substitute Appointments**

- a. Coyle, William - Interim Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
(Replacing Kara Herrington, leave of absence)  
Effective: 9/8/21-12/3/21  
Certification Status: NYS Permanent School District Administrator  
NYS Permanent School Psychologist  
Salary: \$595.82 per day  
Prior: 7/07-6/20 Assistant Director PPS, EGCSO  
Degrees: B.A. SUNY, Albany  
M.A. SUNY, Albany  
C.A.S. SUNY, Albany
- b. Herrington, Kara - Interim Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
(Replacing Molly McGrath, leave of absence)  
Effective: 9/8/21-12/3/21  
Certification Status: NYS Professional School District Leader  
NYS Permanent School Psychologist  
Step Salary: Step 3 = \$115,799  
Prior: 6/20-present Assistant Director of PPS, EGCSO; 7/19-6/20  
Assistant Director, Averill Park; 9/17-6/19 CSE Chair, Averill Park  
Degrees: B.S. University of Vermont  
M.S. College of Saint Rose  
C.A.S. MCLA

## **3. Probationary Appointment - Teaching Assistant**

- a. Sessock, Holly - Teaching Assistant, Green Meadow Elementary School  
(Replacing Mary Tremblay, retirement)  
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant  
Probationary Period: 8/31/21-8/30/25  
Certification Status: NYS Teaching Assistant, Level 1  
NYS Permanent School Counselor  
Salary: Step 1 = \$20.75 per hour  
Hours per day: 6.5

## **4. Substitute Teaching Assistant, Special Education Summer School, Summer 2021**

- a. Nedoroscik, Cheryl

## **5. Per Diem Substitute Teacher**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Certification Area</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Bonesteel, Meagan	Physical Education	B.S.		8/31/21
Dunham, Samantha (summer guidance duties)	School Counselor	M.S.		8/12/21

## **C. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **1. Rescind Appointment**

- a. James Hosley, Boys' Varsity Volleyball Coach

### **2. Volunteer Coaches - 2021-2022 Fall Sports Season**

The following will volunteer for our fall athletic programs. They hold current certification in CPR/AED, First Aid, Blood Borne Pathogens, DASA, Concussion Management, SAVE and Child Abuse.

DeJulio, Victoria Field Hockey

Gelatt, Heather Field Hockey  
 Kawczak, Christine Cheerleading  
 Leonard, Michael All Sports  
 Peffers, Kathleen Tennis  
 Schmitt, Melanie Girls' Soccer  
 Yannone, Zachary Cross Country

#### C. Non-Instructional Support Personnel Memo

##### **Discontinuance as listed:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Fernett, Ronald	Bus Driver	07/29/21	Retirement	09/14/17
Richards, Stacey	Bus Driver	08/26/21	Retirement	09/14/17
Regels, Christine	Typist	08/12/21	To accept Senior Typist position	
Hempstead, Tracy	Monitor	08/07/21	Resignation	
Amedio, Christopher	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Dollard, Lisa	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Dunn, Kathleen	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Gaston-Munson, Christine	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Gowie, Daniel	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Hall, Edgar	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Lieu, Tommy	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Marchese, Michael	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Race, Wendy	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	
Sager, Caren	Substitute Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Did not return Reasonable Assurance Letter	

##### **Appointments as listed:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Regels, Christine	Senior Typist-PPS Provisional Appointment	08/12/21	Step 9 = \$22.54 per hour 7.5 hours/12 months

##### **Substitute employees as listed:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Wood, Brianna	Aide	08/12/21	Step 1 (HS) = \$16.13 per hour
Oddy, Deborah	Aide	08/12/21	Step 1 (HS) = \$16.13 per hour
	Monitor		Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour
	Senior Monitor		Step 1 = \$15.74 per hour
	Food Service Helper		Substitute rate = \$13.78 per hour
Casey, Sara	Secretary II	08/28/21	Step 1 = \$24.10 per hour
Bonesteel, Meagan	Aide	08/31/21	Step 1 (BA) = \$19.97 per hour
Livolsi, David	Custodial Worker	08/12/21	Substitute rate = \$15.74 per hour
Mellet, Kathryn	Aide	08/12/21	Step 1 (HS) = \$16.13 per hour

#### D. Acceptance of Gifts and Authorization to Increase the 2021-2022 Budget

#### E. 2020-2021 Student Award and Scholarships

#### F. Approval of Consent Agenda

#### RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Motion by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Skumurski

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Consent Agenda.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

#### **14. ADDENDUM**

None

#### **15. NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time.

#### **16. PUBLIC FORUM #2**

None at this time.

#### **17. BOARD FORUM #2**

Mr. Buono thanked Mr. Simons and the team for all the work on the reopening plans.

#### **18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Yeboah, Seconded by Ms. Curtin to enter Executive Session for purposes of Personnel and Contractual Matters.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 8:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Pangburn  
District Clerk

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Yeboah, Seconded by Ms. Taylor to Adjourn

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 9:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna Muth  
Assistant District Clerk