

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 29, 2021

1. A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mr. Buono- 7:00 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 7:32 PM
Ms. Taylor	X		
Mr. Yeboah	X		

Also Attending

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

Student Council
Representatives

Ryan Seely	X	
Emma Marchiony		X

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. EX OFFICIO STUDENT COUNCIL COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Student Council Representatives: Ryan Seely-President; Emma Marchiony-Vice President

Ryan Seely reported how happy the students were to be able to have normal events again. He thanked the Board, Mr. Simons and Mr. Harkin for their support and allowing all the events this year. Ryan also spoke of upcoming events, such as paint the school pink for breast cancer awareness, and the annual blood drive. Ryan also congratulated Green Meadow on receiving the Blue Ribbon Award.

4. MINUTES

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Ms. Muth

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 September 8, 2021.

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays-0

Motion carried

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah

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 September 15, 2021.

Vote: Ayes- 7, Nays- 0, Abstentions-1 (Mann)

Motion carried

5. BOARD FORUM #1

Mr. Buono spoke of the success of the past weekend's homecoming events and thanked all the efforts of the staff to make it possible.

6. PUBLIC FORUM #1

None

7. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS - SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

None at this time.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. COVID Testing Coordinator

Mr. Simons explained he is recommending hiring a registered nurse for this new position to oversee all the required testing and help out with other related duties, as needed. He reported that this position would be hired by the District, but the salary and benefits would be reimbursed through a Rensselaer County grant.

The COVID Testing Coordinator's duties include:

- Provides oversight and coordinates school based COVID testing
- Administer COVID testing as needed with support from Questar III
- Assures adequate inventory and timely distribution of testing materials
- Maintains accurate records of testing
- Serves as liaison to local county Health Department
- Prepares and completes required daily reporting to NYSDOH ECLRS systems with support from Questar II and data department
- Assists and provides additional support for contact tracing as needed
- Maintain communication with families of students who are quarantined or symptomatic
- Performs routine registered professional nurse duties

B. Delineation of COVID Related Duties Among Nursing Positions

Mr. Simons presented a chart that explained the job duties of all the new nursing positions and explained how their duties will overlap.

C. 12 Month Nurse

Mr. Simons reported that the 12-month nurse position was approved by Rensselaer County Civil Service and will be posted.

The 12-month nurse duties would be:

- Administer COVID testing, only if COVID coordinator needs assistance
- Maintains accurate records of testing
- Serves as liaison to the local county Health Department
- Maintain contact upon the identification of positive COVID-19 cases and is responsible for subsequent communication to school nurses, principals and families.
- Responsible for contact tracing at the elementary level with assistance of the principal
- Maintain communication with families of students who are quarantined or symptomatic
- Assists with compliance and return to school protocol after a confirmed COVID case
- Serves as liaison between the District's Medical Director and students who require school based physicals
- Perform routine registered professional nurse duties
- Provide nurse coverage on a rotational basis to elementary schools
- Coordinate with social workers to address the barriers of care and help parents arrange for appointments with a primary care provider
- Prepare health records for students attending a summer program
- Coordinate late sports physicals

D. 10 Month Nurse on Special Assignment

The duties of this position would include:

- Administer COVID testing, only if COVID coordinator needs assistance
- Maintains accurate records of testing
- Serves as liaison to the local county Health Department
- Maintain contact upon the identification of positive COVID-19 cases and is responsible for subsequent communication to school nurses, principals and families.
- Responsible for contact tracing at the secondary level with assistance of the principal
- Maintain communication with families of students who are quarantined or symptomatic
- Assists with compliance and return to school protocol after a confirmed COVID case
- Perform routine registered professional nurse duties
- Provide nurse coverage to secondary buildings when available
- Responsible for gathering testing data required for the Daily COVID report

Mr. Mann asked why the District would need a COVID Coordinator and a 12-month nurse.

Mr. Simons said he thought the need for testing might be quite high and the COVID testing coordinator's primary job will be to oversee all the testing.

Mr. Buono said he thought the level of work in this area is getting more and more intense, and splitting it within these positions, will give the District a more coordinated effort and allow the other nurses to focus on their daily work.

Mr. Dunn asked if this program overlaps just in case COVID increases, so the District will have adequate staff.

Mr. Simons said yes, and he also said all athletics testing will be rolled into the COVID Coordinator's testing schedule.

Mr. Buono polled the Board and said the District has the Board's support to move forward with all of these nursing positions.

E. Recommendation Requiring Vaccination for Students Participating in High Risk Sports Memo

Mr. Simons reported that current CDC and Department of Health guidelines state that all high risk sports and activities should be virtual or canceled in all communities of high transmission unless all parties are fully vaccinated. He stated that many of the students have been impacted by quarantines, and he is recommending the Board to require vaccination for students who participate in high-risk sports. He said he respects the rights of the families to make individual choices, but he felt this was the best policy going forward, to protect the students, make sure they can continue to participate, and to keep the kids in the classrooms. Mr. Simons also said he wanted to provide as much

time as possible to allow the families to comply to the new requirement. He said he understands the vaccination is controversial, but feels it is necessary for the students to participate safely.

Mr. Buono said he felt mandating vaccination was controversial. He said he supported vaccination for people who make that choice. He stated that he and his family were vaccinated, but felt it should be an individual choice.

Mr. Mann said he felt the mandates need to be left to the State or county health departments, not local school districts. He said he felt it was the individual's or parent's choice, and he does not support mandating vaccination.

Ms. Curtin said she supports mandating vaccination because sports are an extracurricular activity. She explained she was more concerned with students missing school from being exposed and having to quarantine.

Ms. Curtin stated she does not feel the District should sacrifice educational progress for an extracurricular activity.

Mr. Dunn reported he doesn't care for mandates, but feels in this instance, someone's personal choice can hurt others. He said he will vote for the good of the community and the whole rather than individual choice, and fully supports the policy.

Ms. Skumurski stated she supports the mandate. She said she felt everyone needs to protect their teammates and the only way to do that is by being vaccinated. She said that while she doesn't love the idea, she thinks it needs to be for the good of the school and sports program.

Ms. Taylor also supported the mandate. She said it is the family's right to not vaccinate, but sports is an option. She stated she felt it was needed to keep everyone safe.

Mr. Yeboah said it is the Board's job to manage the school, and he supports mandating vaccination for high risk sports.

Mr. Mann asked if East Greenbush's teams will still play teams that do not have the mandate.

Mr. Simons stated yes, the students can play and if exposed, they will be able to come to school as long they are vaccinated, and wearing a mask.

Mr. Mann reported that he and his family are vaccinated, but agrees with Mr. Buono that it should be an individual choice.

Mr. Simons said he understands, respects and values everyone's position on this issue.

Ms. Curtin pointed out that this is the only CDC or Department of Health guideline the District is not in compliance with. She asked if the Board really wanted to choose not to follow the guidelines only in sports.

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. Taylor, Seconded by Ms. Curtin

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- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

B. Instructional Tutoring Rate

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE INSTRUCTIONAL TUTORING RATE OF PAY FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Mr. Mann, Seconded by Ms. Skumurski

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves and accepts the instructional tutoring rate for the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

C. Resolution to Require COVID-19 Vaccination for Eligible Students Participating in Winter High Risk Athletics

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REQUIREMENT OF COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN WINTER HIGH RISK ATHLETICS

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves Requirement of COVID-19 Vaccination for Eligible Students Participating in Winter High Risk Athletics.

Vote: Ayes- 6, Nays- 3

Motion carried

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Marissa Cannon, Director of Human Resources

None at this time.

B. Linda Wager, Director of Business and Finance

Ms. Wager discussed the recent Long Range Facility Planning/BRAC Committee meeting and stated that the Gilligan Road pathway plan was shared by the Town of East Greenbush. She explained the new pathway would run parallel to Gilligan Road, be 8-10 foot wide and provide safe crosswalks. She also reported that March Associates has begun working on the Building Conditions Survey, which will serve as a guide to plan future projects.

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

Mr. McHugh presented the minutes from the recent Committee for Curriculum Study meeting.

D. Jeffrey Simons, Superintendent - Long Range Facility Planning / BRAC Committee Update

None

11. TABLED MOTIONS

None at this time.

12. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mann asked if the evening security position could be reinstated now that school is back on a normal schedule.

Mr. Simons agreed that it should be returned and said that it could be posted.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Taylor asked if item B. could be pulled due to a conflict of interest. She also congratulated the retirees and Mr. Leonard on his retirement announcement. She praised Mr. Leonard on his support of all the athletes over the past 30 years.

A. Financial Reports

2021-09-29 Claim Auditor Reports for Warrants 0021, 0022, 0023, 0024, 0026.pdf

B. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel Memo

A. DISCONTINUANCE

1. Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

a. Leonard, Michael - Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics, effective 9/12/22

Date of Hire: 09/03/90

2. Resignation

a. Appelbaum, Alycia - Special Education, Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School, effective 10/23/21

Reason: personal

b. McCullough, Amanda - Substitute Teacher, effective 9/23/21

Reason: accepted a position elsewhere

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. (No prior tenure)

a. Callaghan, Kristin - Elementary/K-3 Intervention Specialist, District-Wide

(New position)

Tenure Area: Elementary

Probationary Period: 10/25/21-10/24/25

(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)

Certification Status: NYS Professional Childhood Education 1-6

NYS Professional Students w/Disabilities 1-6

NYS Initial Early Childhood Education B-2

NYS Initial Literacy B-6 and 5-12

Step Placement: 2M = \$48,864.00

Prior: 09/18-present Elementary Education teacher Cohoes City School District

Degrees: B.S. SUNY Geneseo

M.S. SUNY Albany

- b. McHugh, Kayla - Elementary/K-3 Intervention Specialist, District-Wide
(New position)
Tenure Area: Elementary
Probationary Period: 10/25/21-10/24/25
(unless extended in accordance with the law as above)
Certification Status: NYS Initial Childhood Education 1-6
NYS Initial Students w/Disabilities 1-6
Step Placement: 1B = \$43,705.00
Prior: 09/19-present Special Education teacher Lansingburgh CSD
Degrees: B.S. The College of Saint Rose

2. Per Diem Substitute Teacher

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification Area</u>	<u>Degree Status</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Taylor, Steven	Social Studies; School District Admin	M.A.	09/21/21

3. Appointment Adjustment

- a. Cirincione, Amy - Special Education Teacher, Columbia High School
From: .4 FTE
To: .5 FTE

C. Salary Adjustment

- a. Kuhn, Denise - Summer 2021 APEX Staff 7/12/21 - 8/13/21
From: \$26.01 per hour
To: \$39 per hour

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>
Kelley, Kevin	Senior Custodian	10/06/21	Retirement	05/05/05
Shuler, Lisa	Aide	11/12/21	Retirement	09/04/07
	Senior Monitor	11/12/21	Retirement	09/03/13

Appointments as listed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Backmon, Veronica	Monitor - Bell Top Probation: 09/30/21-03/29/22	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour 3.25hrs/10 months
Cunningham, Victoria	Secretary II - Human Resources Provisional: 10/04/21	10/04/21	Step 1, Level 1 = \$24.10 per hour 4hrs/12 months
McKenna, Christine	Monitor - Green Meadow Probation: 10/04/21-04/03/22	10/04/21	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour 3.5hrs/10 months
Zane, Caleb	Custodial Worker - Howard. L Goff Middle School Probation: 09/30/21-03/29/22	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$17.11 per hour 8hrs/12 months

Substitute employees as listed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Carpenter, Tina	Monitor	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour
	Senior Monitor	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$15.74 per hour
	Typist	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$18.38 per hour
	Aide	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$16.13 per hour
Boniface, Michele	Secretary II	09/23/21	Step 11, Level 3 = \$31.43 per hour
Devine, Felice	Aide	09/30/21	Step 1 (BA) = \$19.97 per hour
	Typist	09/30/21	Step 1 = \$18.38 per hour
Lasch, Megan	Custodial Worker	09/30/21	Substitute rate = \$15.74 per hour

Shatraw, Robert	Custodial Worker	09/30/21	Substitute rate = \$15.74 per hour
Sikora, Kristen	Aide	09/30/21	Step 1 (HS) = \$16.13 per hour
Varian, Peter	Custodial Worker	09/30/21	Substitute rate = \$15.74 per hour
Wager, Tamara	Senior Typist	09/01/21	Step 11 = \$23.21 per hour

D. Acceptance of Gifts and Authorization to Increase the 2021-2022 Budget
E. Disposal of Outdated Curriculum Materials
F. Disposal or District Property- Assets
G. Fall Cheerleading Game Day Competitions
H. Approval of Consent Agenda

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-H WITHOUT ITEM B.

Motion by Ms. Skumurski, Seconded by Ms. Muth

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Consent Agenda Items A-H without Item B.

Vote: Ayes-9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM B.

Motion by Ms. Kennedy, Seconded by Mr. Mann

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

Vote: Ayes-8, Nays- 0, Abstentions- 1 (Taylor)

Motion carried

14. ADDENDUM

A. Transportation Center Emergency Project Tank Remediation Bid

Ms. Wager explained the first resolution was to increase the budget because all costs were not available in the initial projection because they did not know the amount of soil remediation needed. She also explained that two bidders have withdrawn their bids because they omitted some costs in error and the amount would cause a financial hardship, so the District is recommended the second lowest bids.

RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST FOR THE TRANSPORTATION CENTER TANK EMERGENCY PROJECT

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Ms. Curtin

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby Approves the Resolution to Revise the Maximum Estimated Cost for the Transportation Center Tank Emergency project

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE WITHDRAWAL OF LOW BIDDERS AND ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS REGARDING THE TRANSPORTATION CENTER TANK EMERGENCY PROJECT

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Ms. Curtin

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby Approves the Resolution to Revise the Maximum Estimated Cost for the Transportation Center Tank Emergency project

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

15. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dunn thanked the Board members for participating in the recent Board retreat and suggested they try to set up the next retreat for sometime in February.

16. PUBLIC FORUM #2

None

17. BOARD FORUM #2

None

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Ms. Skumurski, Seconded by Ms. Taylor to enter Executive Session for purposes of personnel

Vote: Ayes- 0, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Pangburn
District Clerk

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah to Adjourn

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna Muth
Assistant District Clerk