

**EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING- BUDGET REVIEW SESSION #2
BELL TOP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022**

1. A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Mr. Buono- 6:59 P.M.

B. ATTENDANCE

	Present	Absent	Arrival
Mr. Buono	X		
Ms. Curtin	X		
Mr. Dunn	X		
Ms. Kennedy	X		
Mr. Mann	X		
Ms. O'Brien	X		
Ms. Skumurski	X- remote		
Ms. Taylor	X		
Mr. Yeboah			X-7:18 P.M.

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 that on March 24, 2022 students and staff will be wearing purple to raise awareness for Epilepsy. He said Student Council will hold a pizza fundraiser to raise money for that cause. He announced there will be a blood drive on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at Columbia High School and encouraged all eligible students and staff to donate blood. Ryan also said Student Council has planned a field trip to Six Flags New England to reward their members who have gone above and beyond the past few years, especially during the pandemic.

B. Bell Top Elementary School Bell Ringers Wall of Fame Ceremony

Mr. Mahar told the story of how the bell ringer award came about, and then presented the award to Assistant Superintendent Mr. James McHugh, former Bell Top principal for his leadership, dedication and contributions to Bell Top and the district at large with his academic leadership.

Ms. Lussier congratulated Mr. McHugh on becoming a Bell Top bell ringer. She stated during his ten years as Bell Top's principal he set expectations high while simultaneously supporting and encouraging students and staff to meet or exceed the levels of excellence he saw in them. She stated his balance of humor, compassion and genuine understanding of what it means to educate and care for children built a culture in the walls of the small community school that they all take great pride in.

Mr. McHugh thanked everyone for the honor and said he was truly touched, and that the ten years at Bell Top definitely stand out and are years he truly cherishes.

4. MINUTES

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2022.

Motion by Ms. Curtin, 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 March 9, 2022.

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

Motion carried

5. BOARD FORUM #1

Ms. O'Brien congratulated the students and staff who participated in Lion King Jr. at Goff for putting on a successful show. She also congratulated the students who had their art chosen for the High School Regional Art Exhibition at the Albany City Gallery.

Ms. Taylor congratulated Mr. McHugh on his Bell Ringer recognition.

Mr. Yeboah also congratulated Mr. McHugh.

6. PUBLIC FORUM #1

None at this time.

7. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS - SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Simons presented workshop #2.

He shared some highlights of the District:

Sue Schreck, 5th grade teacher at Green Meadow recognized as a Master Teacher.

Columbia High School graduation rate 98%

Students in area Art shows and Drama performances

Forty-four Sectional Titles and six State Championships

Eight sportsmanship awards

Twenty-two varsity athletes obtained 90% or higher GPA

He stated that since last week's presentation, Ms. Wager has adjusted both the revenue and expenditures sides of the budget, but the district is still working to bring the tax levy as close to zero as possible without cutting any needed programs.

The Superintendent said the District will continue to work and make adjustments.

Mr. Simons explained the bus purchase reserve and stated the District would like to purchase eight buses at a cost of \$752,468. He explained the purchase of the buses is not from the general fund, but from a reserve voted on in 2018 by the community solely for the purpose of replacing buses. He stated that for every dollar spent to purchase a new bus, the District receives \$.68 back in transportation aid, which goes right back into the reserve for the next bus purchase.

The Superintendent proposed setting up a Capital Reserve similar to the bus reserve to defray the cost of construction, reconstruction and equipping of School District buildings and facilities, including original equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishing, land acquisitions, and other incidental improvements and expenses. He explained the amount of the reserve fund cannot to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000), inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, over a term of ten (10) years. The Superintendent said funding of the Reserve Fund requires Board of Education Approval, and expenditure of Reserve Fund requires Voter Approval. Mr. Simons explained the District has maintained the reserves, even through difficult times and since the reserve will be used instead of borrowing, it saves the local taxpayers.

Mr. Buono asked if the capital project and reserve would need to be voted on in separate votes by the community.

Ms. Simons said yes, that is how it works, but that if the reserve didn't pass, the Board could always propose to lower the cost of the capital project.

Mr. Buono asked if the reserve could be used for other purposes, such as machinery, or equipment.

Ms. Wager said only if the machinery or equipment are included in the capital project, such as HVAC or technology.

Mr. Mann stated he would like for the District to bring the tax levy down to zero percent. He said since Assemblyman McDonald stated last week that this year's state aid is the best available, he hopes the District will be able to meet that goal.

Ms. Skumurski thanked Mr. Simons for the presentation, and said she supported the Capital reserve.

Ms. O'Brien asked if the reserves weren't used, does the money go back into the general fund.

Ms. Wager explained at the end of its term, the money can be used to pay down debt, or go back into the general fund to reduce the levy. She stated you could also open a new reserve and transfer the balance.

Mr. Dunn expressed his concerns over offering a zero tax levy again this year and stated he would rather have a slight gradual increase now to avoid a large increase later.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Draft Calendar 2022-23

Ms. Cannon presented the 2022-2023 draft calendar to the Board.

B. Update on Pre-K Planning

Ms. Wager announced that the District will be offering Pre-K to residents in three locations in the upcoming school year; Red Mill Elementary, Donald P. Sutherland Elementary and Citizen Genet Elementary. She stated that 18 slots will be available in each school. Ms. Wager explained that a lottery will be held on April 11, 2022 for the available spots.

Mr. Buono said he fully supports this program and he thanked Mr. Alvey and Mr. Grignon for carving out space within their schools for the program.

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. O'Brien

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. Resolution Teaching Assistant Tenure**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TEACHING ASSISTANT TENURE**

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Ms. Skumurski

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following individual is prospectively awarded tenure in the tenure area of Teaching Assistant. Jeanelle Tiley, Teaching Assistant, effective 3/29/22

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. Marissa Cannon, Director of Human Resources**

Ms. Cannon gave an overview of the current open positions within the District and where they are in the interview process.

B. Linda Wager, Director of Business and Finance

Ms. Wager reported that Finance and Audit Committee has met and are presenting their choice for the District's Independent Auditor in the Addendum.

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

None at this time

D. Jeffrey Simons, Superintendent - Committee for Global Education

Mr. Simons discussed the recent Committee for Global Education meeting and said some committee members are coordinating efforts to help the people of Ukraine. One event is "Fill-a-Bus", occurring on April 2, 2022. He said the local Ukrainian Church is asking the community to limit their donations to much needed medical and first aid supplies.

Mr. Mann said the Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Watervliet is looking for help next week to pack up all the donated supplies for shipment.

11. TABLED MOTIONS

None at this time.

12. OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

13. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Financial Reports**

2022-03-23 Claims Auditor Report for Warrants- V073, V075, 0077, V077, 0078, 0080. pdf

B. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel Memo**A. DISCONTINUANCE****1. Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement**

a. Kelley, Sheree - Teaching Assistant, Columbia High School, effective 7/1/22.

Date of Hire: 11/15/07

B. APPOINTMENTS**1. Voluntary Transfer of Assignment**

a. Tremblay, Meryl - Approval of transfer request, Effective: 3/24/22

From: Family Engagement Social Worker, District-wide

To: Social Worker, Howard L. Goff Middle School

(Replacing Anjelica Krouse, resignation)

2. Per Diem Substitute Teacher

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification Area</u>	<u>Degree Status</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Goodwine, Matthew	Childhood 1-6; SWD 1-6	B.S.	3/24/22
Hayashi, Alicia	Degree in Agricultural Business	B.S.	3/24/22
Kinley, Mary	Degree in Management	B.S.	3/24/22

C. OTHER**1. Salary Adjustment - Credit Hours**

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Compensation</u> (prorated for 1/2 year)
Smades, Tara	M+0	M+30	\$780.00

D. MISCELLANEOUS**1. Volunteer Coach - 2021-2022 Spring Sports Season**

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sport</u>
Faas, Hillary	Softball

C. Non-Instructional Support Personnel Memo**Discontinuance as listed:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Harris, Diane	Account Clerk-Goff	4/4/2022	resigning to accept position as Account Clerk Typist
Wood, Brooklyn	Substitute Custodial Worker	3/24/2022	Per employee's request

Appointment as listed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Harris, Diane	Account Clerk Typist-Administration Provisional	4/4/2022	Step 3 = \$16.86 per hour 7.5hrs/12 months
Mestoik, Corey	Registered Professional Nurse Green Meadow Elementary School Probation: 4/4/22-12/3/22	4/4/2022	Step 10 = \$35.81 per hour 7hrs/10 months

Substitute employees as listed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Bakowski, Lydia	Aide	3/24/2022	Step 1 (BA)= \$19.97 per hour
Brown, Randy	Bus Driver	4/29/2022	Step 3 = \$24.35 per hour
James, Heather	Monitor	3/9/2022	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour
Jenks, Devyn	Aide	3/24/2022	Step 1 (HS)= \$16.13 per hour
Roy, Bonnie	Senior Bus Driver	1/26/2022	Step 7 = \$31.78 per hour
Tafilowski, Meggan	Aide	3/24/2022	Step 1 (AS) = \$18.30 per hour
	Monitor	3/24/2022	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour
Wood, Brooklyn	Monitor	3/24/2022	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour
	Food Service Helper	3/24/2022	substitute rate = \$13.78 per hour

Appointment Adjustment:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Izzo, Nicole	Substitute Aide	3/10/2022	Step 2 (HS) = \$16.39 per hour (revised hourly rate)

Leave of Absence:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Corellis, Kathleen	Food Service Helper-Goff	6/8/2022- 6/9/2022	Unpaid Personal Leave of Absence

D. Disposal or District Property- Assets

E. Columbia HS Boys and Girls Overnight trip to Penn Relays - April 28-30, 2022

F. Howard L. Goff Middle School Science Olympiad State Competition - East Syracuse, NY

G. Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament

H. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Motion by Ms. Skumurski, Seconded by Mr. Dunn

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

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM C

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Mr. Dunn

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

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

Motion carried

14. ADDENDUM

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FOR ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT SERVICES OF THE EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AS SUBMITTED BY BONADIO & COMPANY, LLC FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING 2022-2024

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Ms. Skumurski

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby accepts a proposal for annual independent audit services of the East Greenbush Central School District as submitted by Bonadio & Company, LLC for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022-2024

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

15. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Simons explained that on April 13, 2022, the date of the next Board meeting, there is a CASDA event honoring Mr. Leonard, and many administrators and Board members would like to attend. He asked if the date of meeting could be changed. Everyone agreed that it could be moved to Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

16. PUBLIC FORUM #2

None at this time.

17. BOARD FORUM #2

Mr. Mann said the bus patrol project is close to fruition. He said he hopes this will be finalized soon and will be implemented in the next school year.

Mr. Buono mentioned a recent Skills USA competition at the Stratton Air National Guard Base, and congratulated the East Greenbush students in the competition who will be moving on to States.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Seconded by Ms. O'Brien to enter Executive Session

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Pangburn
District Clerk

19. PUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Ms. Taylor, Seconded by Mr. Yeboah to return to Public Session

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 9:46 P.M.

20. ADDENDUM

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE TWO AGREEMENTS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby accepts the two agreements as discussed in Executive Session on March 23, 2022 and authorizes the Board of Education President to sign such agreements.

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Seconded by Ms. Skumurski

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

21. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Yeboah, Seconded Ms. Taylor by to adjourn the meeting

Vote: Ayes- 9, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 9:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kennedy
Assistant District Clerk