

**EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023
Red Mill Elementary School**

1. A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER- Mr. Buono - 7:00 P.M.

B. ATTENDANCE

	Present	Absent	Arrival
Mr. Buono	X		
Ms. Curtin			X -7:02 P.M.
Mr. Dunn	X		
Ms. Kennedy	X		
Mr. Mann	X		
Ms. O'Brien	X		
Ms. Skumurski		X	
Ms. Steinbach			X -7:02 P.M.
Ms. Taylor	X		

Also Attending

Mr. Simons	X
Ms. Cannon	X
Mr. Stiles	X
Ms. Wager	X

Student Council

Emma Marchiony	X
Roan Butterfield	X

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. EX OFFICIO STUDENT COUNCIL COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Student Council Representatives: Emma Marchiony ~ President; Roan Butterfield ~ Vice President
None at this time

B. Volunteer Recognition - Red Mill Elementary School Principal~Helen Squillace

Community volunteers were recognized by staff members at the elementary and secondary level buildings for contributing to the District's success and promoting programs for the children. These individuals have given unselfishly of their time to work with staff, school programs or directly with students. Mr. Simons said that the District would not be as successful without volunteer support.

4. MINUTES

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING OF APRIL 4, 2023

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Second by Mr. Dunn

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 April 4, 2023.

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

Motion carried

5. BOARD FORUM

Ms. O'Brien congratulated all of the volunteers, and also congratulated the District for receiving the "Best School" distinction in the Times Union. Ms. Taylor gave a shout out to the bus drivers and mechanics for their special day, and thanked them for all they do for the District.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

None at this time

7. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS - SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Simons announced a special recognition to Ms. Steinbach and Ms. Kennedy, who received a certificate of accomplishment for participating in leadership development at the New York State School Board Association. The Superintendent said he appreciates that the Board members

participate by attending conferences, conventions and other workshops to help them in their role of serving the community.

A. Capital Project Planning

Mr. Simons stated the District is nearing the completion of the \$39.7 million capital project that was approved 2017. He said the fire alarm system is the last component and is scheduled to be completed this summer. Mr. Simons said new designs are being considered for the Red Mill and Genet playgrounds from a local contractor.

The Superintendent said soon after the budget vote, the District will begin discussing the possibility of a new capital project. He said Capital Markets, the District's fiscal planner, will be invited to a Board and BRAC meeting to talk about what the overall cost of the next project could be without incurring an additional impact on the tax levy.

Mr. Mann asked if Columbia High School will be totally shut down over the summer while work is occurring to the fire alarm systems.

Mr. Simons said they are reviewing options now, and are discussing phasing the work into different sections. He stated that under New York State regulations, a school building can operate with fire and smoke watchers, when absent of a fire and smoke system. Mr. Simons said he has asked for more detail about how that might work, and plans to bring a plan back to the Board for discussion.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Pre-K Lottery Update

Mr. Simons gave an overview of the recent lottery. He stated 152 applicants entered the lottery, and 61 were chosen to receive spots in either Red Mill, Genet, Donald P. Sutherland or the Early Childhood Education Center. He said families have been contacted and have started the registration process.

Ms. Wager explained approximately 50 of the chosen families received their first or second choice and the last ten received their third or fourth choice, but all are happy to hear they have been selected. She said the registration packets are due back on May 5, 2023.

Ms. Steinbach asked if this year had the highest interest of families wanting Pre-K.

Ms. Wager said yes, for the current year they received about 129 applications, so this year was slightly more.

Ms. Steinbach she has heard that many families that didn't get selected are very disappointed. She said she hopes they are able to expand the program in the future.

Mr. Buono said they will continue to look for classroom space, and hope to hear better news about the funding in the State budget.

B. Special Grants 2023-2024

Ms. Cannon explained that Special Grants are awarded to educators to enrich their knowledge, and bring it back to their colleagues in the District. She said the committee has met and reviewed all the applications. She said it was a difficult decision, but the committee is presenting their choices, and will bring those choices to the next Board meeting for approval.

Ms. Steinbach asked if the acronyms could be spelled out so everyone understands who has been chosen.

9. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Approval of Programs for Resident Children with Disabilities

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROGRAMS FOR RESIDENT CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Second by Ms. Taylor

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- 8, Nays-0

Motion carried

B. Adoption of Proposed Budget 2023-2024

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AND APPROVE THE 2023-2024 BUDGET AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$108,812,882.

Motion by Ms. Curtin, Second by Mr. Dunn

Resolved, that the Board of Education adopts and approves the 2023-2024 budget as recommended by the Superintendent in the amount of \$108,812,882 and authorizes Proposition #1 for presentation to District residents on the annual budget vote date of May 16, 2023 as follows:

Resolved, that the operating budget in the amount of \$108,812,882, as proposed by the Board of Education, be adopted for the school fiscal year 2023-2024 and the levy of taxes be assessed therefore in accordance with law.

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

C. Adoption of Questar III Administrative Tentative Budget for 2023-2024

Mr. Simons said he thought the Questar III Board and Administrators did a great job at keeping the costs low in the administrative budget.

Mr. Mann said the services BOCES provides to the District are phenomenal.

Mr. Dunn acknowledged the positive relationship the District has with Questar III. He thanked Mr. Mann for serving on the BOCES board, and Mr. Simons for his leadership, and stated how their efforts to work collaboratively with Questar III has positively impacted the students.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE QUESTAR III BOCES ADMINISTRATIVE TENTATIVE BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,152,804

Motion by Mr. Mann, Second by Ms. Taylor

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Questar III BOCES Administrative Tentative Budget in the Amount of \$7,152,804.

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

D. Election of Members of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services
RESOLUTION TO ELECT FOUR MEMBERS OF THE RENSSELAER-COLUMBIA-GREENE COUNTIES BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Second by Mr. Mann

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Election of Four Board Members of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

E. Capital District Regional Planning Commission Agreement

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CAPITAL DISTRICT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AGREEMENT

Motion by Ms. Taylor, Second by Ms. Curtin

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Capital District Regional Planning Commission Agreement.

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

F. Change Order-Phase 3- Schenectady Hardware & Electric, Inc.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER - PHASE 3 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT- SCHENECTADY HARDWARE & ELECTRIC, INC.

Motion by Mr. Mann, Second by Ms. Kennedy

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Change Order - Phase 3 Construction Project- Schenectady Hardware & Electric, Inc.

Vote: Ayes-8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

G. Resolution to Approve EGTA MOA

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH EGTA.

Motion by Ms. Steinbach, Second by Ms. Curtin

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement with EGTA.

Vote: Ayes- 8 Nays- 0

Motion carried

H. Tax Litigation Settlement Proposal - 2429 Old Coach Property, LLC.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TAX LITIGATION SETTLEMENT - 2429 Old Coach Property, LLC.

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Second by Mr. Mann

Resolved, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the Tax Litigation Settlement - 2429 Old Coach Property, LLC.

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Marissa Cannon, Director of Human Resources

None at this time.

B. Linda Wager, Director of Business and Finance

None at this time.

C. Roy Stiles, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

None at this time.

D. Jeffrey Simons, Superintendent - Health and Safety Committee Meeting 4/17/23 & Committee to Promote Global Education 4/18/23

Mr. Simons stated the Safety Committee has recently met and have discussed the March 30, 2023 lockdown. He said prior to the meeting he met with the Administrative Team, and then separately with some of the Principals and representatives from the Transportation Department to have a full discussion of some of the issues that occurred. He said overall the committee felt the District responded appropriately in instilling the district-wide lockdown. The Superintendent said at the time, it was not known if it was a real event. He said the difference with this lockdown was the timing, since some students were just arriving at the buildings when the lockdown occurred. He said the District has been evaluating the decision to keep the students on site at the schools, and are now working with the transportation department to confirm staging locations where the buses can go in the event a situation occurs. Mr. Simons said he cannot share the locations with the public for safety reasons, but each school will have a separate location. He explained that if an event were to happen again, he would work with law enforcement to decide if a lockdown is needed. He would then contact the dispatcher at transportation, who would alert the drivers to go to their staging location and wait for further instruction.

Mr. Simons reported that the nurses are meeting with the PPS Director, Assistant Director, some Principals and the SRO's to discuss how to get necessary medications to students during a lockdown.

He also said the District is considering installing AED devices on the buses, and have reached out to Questar III BOCES to determine if it is permissible.

The Superintendent stated that overall everyone felt the situation was handled well, but there were some gaps and everyone will continue to work together to close those gaps.

Mr. Simons said the Committee for Global Education met and discussed the success of the One District, One Book, One Community Initiative. The Superintendent stated they also discussed further work needed to expand diversity, inclusion and equity in the District. He said the committee would like to increase its membership and are exploring ways to recruit others to help them promote an inclusive environment

Mr. Buono asked at which grade level do most of the issues occur.

Mr. Simons said they are seeing the most problems at the middle school level. He said the expansion of staff to full teaming will help improve student relationships, and the new safety supervisors will benefit the overall climate of the school. The Superintendent stated the new Assistant Principal will assist the incoming 5th graders with the support they need to be able to interact positively with each other.

Mr. Dunn stated a lot of the issues comes from the homes. He said if the families aren't participating with the District it will be a constant struggle. He said he fears that the school is taking on more of a parent role to children. He asked if they were any programs to help encourage families to engage in their children's education.

Ms. Steinbach echoed Mr. Dunn's concerns and said she appreciates the District's work in continuing to try to better themselves in regards to diversity, equity and inclusion.

11. TABLED MOTIONS

None at this time

12. OLD BUSINESS

None at this time

13. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Financial Reports

2023-04-25 Claim Auditor Reports for Warrants - 0081, 0093, 0094, 0095, 0096, 0098, 0099, 100, V079, V089, V095, V100

2023-04-25 January Treasurer's Report

2023-04-25 February Treasurer's Report

B. Instructional/Instructional Support Personnel Memo

A. DISCONTINUANCE

1. Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

a. Balzer, Anne Marie - Teaching Assistant, Donald P. Sutherland Elementary School, effective 6/30/23.

Date of Hire: 1/28/02

b. Frankoski, Jill - Teaching Assistant, Columbia High School, effective 6/24/23.

Date of Hire: 10/01/01

2. Resignation

a. Vazquetelles, Lara - Special Education, Howard L. Goff Middle School, effective 5/11/23.

Date of Hire: 9/10/20 Reason: personal

3. Leave of Absence

a. Campos Castaneda, Jillian - Science, Howard L. Goff Middle School, requesting an unpaid child-rearing leave of absence from 3/31/23-5/31/23. Planned return on 6/1/23.

b. McHugh, Kayla - K-3 Interventionist, Green Meadow Elementary School, requesting an unpaid child-rearing leave of absence from 4/6/23 - 6/30/23. Planned return 8/31/23.

B. APPOINTMENTS

1. Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Name	Certification Area	Degree Status	Effective Date
Forezzi, Karly	Childhood Education	A.S.	4/26/23
Harrington, Brady	Physical Education	B.S.	4/26/23

C. Non-Instructional Support Personnel Memo

Discontinuance as listed:			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Balzer, Edward	Network Technician	6/30/2023	Retirement
Corellis, Kathleen	Food Service Helper-Goff	6/30/2023	Retirement
Giordano, Sandra	Typist-Genet	6/23/2023	Retirement
Harris, Leah	Cook-DPS	5/4/2023	Resignation
Jorgenson, Marilee	School Bus Driver-Transportation	6/24/2023	Retirement
Mancino, Darcy	Typist-Genet	6/30/2023	Retirement
Roe, Michael	Head Custodian-Genet	7/14/2023	Retirement
Thomas, Diana	Substitute Typist	4/24/2023	Per employees request
Wright, Johusa	School Bus Driver-Transportation	4/29/2023	Resignation
Appointment as listed:			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Knott-Defoe, Georgette	Custodial Worker-Green Meadow	4/26/2023	Step 1 = \$18.11 per hour 8 hours/12 months
	Probation period: 4/26/23-10/25/23		
Schaefer, Christopher	Custodial Worker-Genet	5/1/2023	Step 1 = \$18.11 per hour 8 Hours/12 months
	Probation period: 5/1/23-10/31/23		
Substitute employees as listed:			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Corellis, Kathleen	Food Service Helper	6/30/2023	Substitute rate = \$14.98 per hour
Durivage, Chase	Monitor	4/26/2023	Step 1 = \$15.02 per hour
	Senior Monitor	4/26/2023	Step 1 = \$15.74 per hour
Mancino, Darcy	Typist	6/30/2023	Step OS = \$24.82 per hour
Phelps, Sally	Aide	5/8/2023	Step 1 (BA) = \$19.97 per hour
Wright, Johusa	School Bus Driver	4/29/2023	Step 1 = \$21.65 per hour
Leave of Absence:			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Adalian, Vanessa	School Registered Nurse	3/27/2023-6/30/2023	Unpaid child care Leave

D. Appointment of Election Workers for District Vote

E. Health and Welfare Services Contract- Averill Park Central School District

F. Health and Welfare Services Contract- Taconic Hills Central School District

G. Bell Top Elementary School Grade 5 Field Trip to WonderWorks, Syracuse New York

H. Library Materials Recommended for Weeding- Red Mill Elementary School

I. Approval of Consent Agenda

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Motion by Ms. Kennedy, Second by Mr. Mann

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

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

14. ADDENDUM

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Motion by, Ms. Curtin, Second by Ms. Kennedy

Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District hereby approves the following actions of non-instructional personnel:

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Substitute employees as listed:			
Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary
Dunham, Scott	School Bus Driver	4/26/2023	Step 1 = \$21.65 per hour

15. NEW BUSINESS

None at this time

16. PUBLIC FORUM #2

Mr. Buono recognized Wayne Morrow on his last Board meeting, and thanked him for all his IT work.

17. BOARD FORUM #2

Ms. Curtin stated that voter participation in the area is very low, she asked everyone to encourage the community to come out and vote.

Mr. Buono asked about the voting location change at Goff.

Mr. Simons said the location has been changed to the cafeteria, which will keep the voters separate from the students.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Dunn, Second by Ms. Curtin to enter Executive Session for purposes of Litigation and Personnel Matters

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 8:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Pangburn
District Clerk

19. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Steinbach Second by Ms. O'Brien to Adjourn the Meeting

Vote: Ayes- 8, Nays- 0

Motion carried

Time: 9:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kennedy
Assistant District Clerk