

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at the Great Meadows Middle School, Independence Township. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Ed O'Melia, President. A statement was read that adequate notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Flag Salute.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Jennifer Cassini, Jamie Cicerelle, Joe Mailloux, Ed O'Melia, Jason Schaffer, and William Vonder Haar.

Absent: Joe Mahal and Glenn Sullivan.

Catherine Mozak, Interim Superintendent, and Julie Mumaw, Business Administrator, were in attendance.

There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

Motion by Jenn Cassini, seconded by Jamie Cicerelle, to approve the minutes from December 5, 2011 and December 19, 2011.

Motion carried in a voice vote with J. Schaffer abstaining from December 5, 2011 minutes.

Motion by Jenn Cassini, seconded by Jamie Cicerelle, to approve the executive session minutes from December 5, 2011 and December 19, 2011.

Motion carried in a voice vote with J. Schaffer abstaining from December 5, 2011 executive session minutes.

Motion by Joe Mailloux, seconded by Jenn Cassini, to accept the Financial Report of the Secretary and Treasurer for the months ending December 31, 2011, as per copies attached, and to certify that as of December 31, 2011, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of my knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.12(e) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Jenn Cassini, to approve the bills from December 19, 2011 to January 17, 2012 in the amount

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of \$2,341,516.47.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Jamie Cicerelle, to approve the cafeteria bills from December 14, 2011 to January 17, 2012 in the amount of \$19,033.12.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Catherine Mozak, Interim Superintendent's Update.

Committee Reports were given as follows:

Jenn Cassini - Curriculum/Personnel Report.

Joe Mailloux - Finance Report

William Vonder Haar - Buildings/Grounds Report.

Ed O'Melia - Outreach and Technology Report.

Public Comment:

Susan Cullen asked about tuition assistance. Cather Mozak, Interim Superintendent, replied it is for teachers and must be in their subject area. Susan asked about fingerprinting volunteers and was told by Catherine that the district will not be fingerprinting volunteers. Susan also asked about recording the board meetings and was told by Catherine that the district will not be recording the board meetings.

**14.1** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Jenn Cassini, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to approve the following **Personnel** items 14.1.1 to 14.1.15.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**14.1.1** Approve Candy Dushaj, as an ABA aide for two 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students effective January 18, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at a rate of \$25.00 per hour with an annual salary of \$29,412.50 pro-rated to \$16,087.50.

**14.1.2** Approve home instruction for a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student effective January 6, 2012 through March 4, 2012.

**14.1.3** Approve Robin Morris-Marano as a home instructor for a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student effective January 6, 2012 through March 4, 2012 for 10 hours per week at a rate of \$38.00 per hour.

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- 14.1.4 Approve movement on the guide to Kerri Muller, Special Education teacher, from Step 4 BS+30 to Step 4 Masters effective February 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at an annual salary of \$54,280.00 pro-rated to \$27,140.00.
- 14.1.5 Approve Jennie Stormes as a substitute nurse for the Great Meadows Regional School District for the 2011-2012 school year.
- 14.1.6 Approve a field trip for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade GATE students to Blairstown Free Evangelical Church in Blairstown for "Marvelous Math Day" on January 20, 2012.
- 14.1.7 Accept, with regret, the resignation of Sandra Simone, Speech Language Specialist at Liberty School, effective February 22, 2012.
- 14.1.8 Approve, Katie Chruz, to be placed on Great Meadows Regional School District substitute list as a classroom teacher and teacher for homebound instruction for the 2011-2012 school year.
- 14.1.9 Approve the 2012-2013 Great Meadows Regional School District calendar.
- 14.1.10 Approve Felicia Politi, a Bloomsburg University student, to observe two 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers for a total of 12 hours, 6 hours per day, during the month of January 2012.
- 14.1.11 Approve Vittoria Scricco, as a substitute secretary at Liberty School, at an hourly rate of \$10.50.
- 14.1.12 Accept, with regret, the resignation of Kim Schaffer, Board of Education member, effective immediately.
- 14.1.13 Approve Deanna Frayne to perform tutoring instruction to a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student for 2 hours per week effective January 18, 2012 at \$38.00 per hour as per negotiated contract.
- 14.1.14 Acknowledge the receipt of the Superintendent's HIB incidents for the month of January 2012.

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**14.1.15** Approve a 4<sup>th</sup> grade trip to the Growing Stage Theatre in Netcong, NJ on April 5, 2012.

**14.2** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by William Vonder Haar, seconded by Jenn Cassini, to approve the following **Buildings/Grounds/Transportation** item 14.2.1.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**14.2.1** Approve building use at Great Meadows Middle School to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for one hour at \$45.00 per hour on the following dates:

February 22, 2012	April 25, 2012
February 29, 2012	May 2, 2012
March 7, 2012	May 9, 2012
March 14, 2012	May 16, 2012
March 21, 2012	May 23, 2012
March 28, 2012	May 30, 2012
April 4, 2012	June 6, 2012
April 18, 2012	June 13, 2012

Totaling 16 hours x \$45.00 per hour = \$720.00

**14.3** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Joe Mailloux, seconded by Jenn Cassini, to approve the following **Finance** items 14.3.1 to 14.3.3.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call.

**14.3.1** Approve the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND NJSBAIG BYLAWS**

**WHEREAS,** The New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group (NJSBAIG) Board of Trustees approved proposed amendments to its Bylaws at a public meeting on October 19, 2011 in accordance with Article IX(C) of the current NJSBAIG Bylaws; and

**WHEREAS,** the current NJSBAIG Bylaws require for the proposed amendments to be approved by member school districts; and

**WHEREAS,** seventy-five percent (3/4) of the member school

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districts must approve the proposed amendments within one hundred eighty (180) days of the hearing on the amendments:

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that at a regular meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education held on the seventeenth day of January 2012, the Board

☐ does

☐ does not

Hereby approve the proposed amendments to the NJSBAIG Bylaws.  
Board of Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Board Meeting : \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

**14.3.2** Approve the following personnel to attend workshops and/or conferences for the dates and costs listed below:

\$ - Denotes the need for a Substitute Teacher at \$80.00 per Diem.

<u>PERSONNEL</u>	<u>WORKSHOP</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>DATES</u>
\$ Betsy Hart	NJAHPERD	\$90.00	3/5 -6/2012
\$ Lisa Baatz	NJAHPERD	\$90.00	3/5 -6/2012
Julianne Kotcho	NJPSA	\$75.00	1/31/2012

**14.3.3** Approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment to the 2011-2012 No Child Left Behind Grant sub section Title IIA for the addition of substitute teacher per diem for workshop coverage.

**14.4** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Joe Mailloux, to approve the following **Policy** item 14.4.1.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**14.4.1** Approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the following bylaw, policies, and regulation:

ByLaw #0168 - Recording Board Meetings  
Policy #5519 - Dating Violence at School  
Regulation #5519 - Dating Violence at School  
Policy #6424 - Emergency Contracts  
Policy #6472 - Tuition Assistance  
Policy #8505 - School Nutrition  
Policy #9180 - School Volunteers  
Policy #9181 - Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants

Ed O'Melia, Board President, read the following resolution to

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the public:

RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE THE VOTE ON THE ANNUAL BUDGET  
AND TO MOVE THE ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS  
TO THE GENERAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER

**WHEREAS** Public Law S-3148, Laws of 2012 provides that a local school district may adopt a resolution to eliminate the vote on its annual school budget that is within the statutory cap imposed by the State of New Jersey, and

**WHEREAS** the above legislation provides that the above action would require districts to hold their annual election for school board members in November during the regular general election, and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education has determined that the statutory restrictions on the local levy tax increase for annual school appropriations is appropriate and sufficient to control and maintain a thorough and efficient education for the children of Great Meadows Regional School District, and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education, consistent with the budgetary restrictions expressed above, believes that dispensing with annual school budget votes will save taxpayer dollars, and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education believes that school board member elections in November will attract a far greater number of voters than typically vote in April elections, and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education believes that the elimination of the vote on the school budget and the movement of the board member election to November is in the best interest of the Great Meadows Regional community, and

**WHEREAS**, the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education understands that this decision shall remain in effect for a minimum of four years,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVES**, that the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education does hereby determine that it will eliminate the vote on its annual school budget which shall be

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within the statutory cap and become effective for the 2012-2013 budget, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education does hereby determine that the election of school board members will occur at the annual general election in November, 2012.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Jenn Cassini, to accept the resolution to eliminate the vote on the annual budget and to move the election of school board members to the general election in November.

Roll call vote: Yes: Jenn Cassini, Jamie Cicerelle, Joe Mailloux, Jason Schaffer, Ed O'Melia.

No: William Vonder Haar.

Board Member Comments:

William Vonder Haar - Is totally opposed to this resolution.

Jenn Cassini - Best use of district resources. BOE spends too much time in limbo each year. With the 2% cap it is still difficult to run the district.

Ed O'Melia - Is in favor of the resolution. No one votes on Municipal Budgets or State Budgets. Voters can take their frustrations out for various reasons on the school district vote.

Jenn Cassini, Hackettstown Report.

None - Independence Report.

Jamie Cicerelle, Liberty Township Report.

Public Comment/New Business:

Susan Cullen asked about Shared Services for Superintendent with Hackettstown School District and Great Meadows Regional School District. Ed O'Melia, Board President, stated Great Meadows would probably get lost with this big district. Susan also asked is every district aligning their curriculum. Catherine Mozak, Interim Superintendent, replied that everyone is aligning with the Common Core Content Curriculum Standards.

Ved Fernandez asked what does Common Core Content Curriculum

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Standards mean. Catherine stated counties will work together for curriculum updates. It is not a state curriculum.

The regular board meeting scheduled for March 19, 2012 will be changed to March 26, 2012 in the Central School cafeteria for the Public Hearing for the 2012-2013 Great Meadows Regional School District Budget.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Jenn Cassini, whereas, the Board must consider matters involving personnel and contract negotiations, the deliberation of such matters may be held in private under the Open Public Meeting Act NJSA 10:4-6, the Board will adjourn to Executive Session at 8:29 PM to discuss the above mentioned matter, to the exclusion of all others. If any action results, it will be taken following the re-entry into regular session.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Joe Mailloux, seconded by Jason Schaffer, to re-enter regular session at 9:35 PM.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Jason Schaffer, seconded by Jamie Cicerelle, to adjourn at 9:40 PM.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Mumaw  
Board Secretary