

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF TUESDAY AUGUST 27, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education was held on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Great Meadows Middle School Cafeteria, Independence Township. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Lori Prymak, President. A statement was read that adequate notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Flag Salute was led by President Prymak.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:**

Susan Cullen, Tim Koeller, Joe Malloux, Ed O'Melia, Douglas Smith, William Vonder Haar, Courtney Wenthen and Lori Prymak.

**Absent:** None

**Administration / Other:**

David C. Mango-Superintendent, Angela Moyer- Interim BA/Bd Secretary, Mr. Mark Toscano, Esq.- Comegno Law Group as Board Attorney, Debra Grigoletti-Director of Curriculum, Israel Mamolejos-Principal of GMMS and Michael Mai-Principal of GM Central, Kevin O'Leary-Director of Special Services. Approximately 14 members of the public.

**Correspondence :** None

**Minutes**

Motion moved by Lori Prymak, seconded by Susan Cullen.

To approve the minutes as presented for the meetings:

June 13, 2019 Regular and Executive Session

June 18, 2019 Regular Session

Vote: Ayes-7; Nays-0; Abstention-1 (Cullen). Motion Carried.

**Committee Reports:**

The following members summarized their committee reports:

Ed O'Mellia : Education/Governance. Highlighting the preparation for 100<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary and the committee's interest in

Susan Cullen : Human Resources and Operations. Highlighting the staff recommendations as reflected on the agenda for action and noted the proposal that the school colors be consideration of student choice.

**Board Vacancy**

Due to the resignation of Jamie Cicerelle, the Board accepted letters of interest for the appointment of a representative for Liberty Township. The Board received two letters of Interest. Ms. Alison Demarco and Mr. Matthew Begley. President Prymak summarized the process that will be implemented to interview the candidates, specifically noting the candidate interviews would be held in public session and discussion and deliberations to be held in closed session. Additionally requesting the members ask the same question to each candidate. Mr. Toscano, Board Attorney further reviewed the appointment process.

The Board interviewed each candidate: Mr. Matthew Begley and Ms. Alison DeMarco while the other candidate was out of the meeting room.

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Executive Session:

Motion moved by Tim Koeller, seconded Susan Cullen,

To adjourn to executive session at 7:32 PM for the purpose of discussion and debate on the candidates interviewed to fill the vacant position on the board. Furthermore, the Board expects to return to public session prior to 8:00 pm. Carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion moved by Joe Mailloux, seconded by Courtney Wenthen,

To reconvene the public session at 7:58 PM.

Carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Board Vacancy Appointment:**

Motion moved by Douglas Smith, seconded by Courtney Wenthen,

To appoint Ms. Alison DeMarco to the vacant seat representing Liberty Township.

Roll call vote: Susan Cullen-aye; Tim Koeller- nay; Joe Mailloux-nay; Ed O'Mailloux-nay; Douglas Smith-aye; William Vonder Haar-aye; Courtney Wenthen-aye; Lori Prymak-nay.

Vote: Ayes – 4; Nays-4. Motion fails.

Motion moved by Joseph Mailloux, seconded by Tim Koeller,

To appoint Mr. Matthew Begley to the vacant seat representing Liberty Township.

Roll call vote: Susan Cullen-nay; Tim Koeller- aye; Joe Mailloux-aye; Ed O'Mailloux-aye; Douglas Smith-nay; William Vonder Haar-nay; Courtney Wenthen-nay; Lori Prymak-aye.

Vote: Ayes – 4; Nays-4. Motion fails.

With no one indicating they would propose changing their vote, it was explained that the matter would be forwarded to the Warren County Executive County Superintendent after the 65<sup>th</sup> day of the vacancy.

**Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent provided the Board and Public with an update on various topics:

- ✓ Revision to Student of the Month recognition will be expanded to include a short video for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student. Video to be developed by the students at Hackettstown High School.
- ✓ Principal Mai provided an update on the preparations of facilities for the opening of school for the PK-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Transition of the inclusion of the Liberty Students, room utilization changes utilization of the stage area for OT/PT services.
- ✓ Principal Marmolejos provided an update on the preparation of the Middle School facilities for the opening of school for the 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Indicating the separate time schedule for grades 4 & 5 that will have their own wing and provided positive feedback for the open house and the locker practice activities.
- ✓ Presentation on security proposal would be delayed until such time as Mr. Steven Spiers' arrival.

**Public Comment (Agenda Items)**

- 1) Teresa Brose addressed the Board reflecting their positive experiences of her son attending GMMS as a receiving student during the past year and looking forward to returning to school in September. She expressed concern for the proposed personnel appointments reflected on the agenda. The Board requested that she work closely with their case worker and Mr. O'Leary, Director of Special Services to address her concerns.

**Close of Public Comment**

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**SECTION A, B & C**

Motion moved by Lori Prymak, seconded by Courtney Wenthen,  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Section A-Operations items A-1 through A-16; Section B-Human Resources items B-1 through B-10 as amended; Section C Education/Governance items C -1 through C-4,

Discussion:

Section A

Clarification was requested concerning A-9 (Extraordinary Aid and Non Public Transportation Adjustment) and A-12 (memorandum of agreement related services WCS SSD 2019-2020).

Section B

Clarification concerning the necessity of filling the vacancy of the full time administrative position.

Discussion ensued noting the transitional year of the middle school, the two distinctive schedules resulting in an extended day with students present. It was noted that there was no specific stipend amount stipulated in B9.

Section C

Clarification related to the revised curriculum for media/library and concern for individual titles on the reading list.

Vote:

Roll call vote: Susan Cullen-aye except nay on B-9 and C-4; Tim Koeller- aye; Joe Mailloux-aye; Ed O'Melia-aye; Douglas Smith-aye except nay on B-5; William Vonder Haar-aye except nay on A-5 and B-5; Courtney Wenthen-aye except nay on B-5; Lori Prymak-aye.

Summary:

Motions carried by unanimous roll call vote - except A-5 (ayes 7; nays 1 Vonder Haar); B-5 (ayes 5; nays 3 Smith; Vonder Haar; Wenthen); B-9 (ayes 7; nays 1 Cullen) ; C-4 (ayes 7; nays 1 Cullen). Motions passed.

**A-1 Approval of Check Register – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the following bill lists:

- June 26, 2019 through June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$332,654.5(Check #'s 54006-54059)  
**ATTACHMENT(s) A-1**
- July 1, 2019 through July 19, 2019 in the amount of \$544,246.83 (Check #'s 54100-54157)  
**ATTACHMENT A-1a**
- Supplemental bill list from June 18, 2019 in the amount of \$13,623.71 (Check #'s 53998-54005)  
**ATTACHMENT A-1b**
- July 19, 2019 through July 31, 2019 in the amount of \$68,319.15 (Check #'s 54158 - 54163)  
**ATTACHMENT A-1c**
- August 1, 2019 through August 20, 2019 in the amount of \$268,647.22 (Check #'s 54164-54239)  
**ATTACHMENT A-1d**

**A-2 Approval of Check Register (Cafeteria Account) – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the bill list from June 1, 2019 through June 29, 2019 in the amount of \$6,957.09 (Check # 22546) **ATTACHMENT A-2.**

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- A-3 Approval of Financial Reports –BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the Secretary and Treasurer Reports (*BSR & TSM*) for the months of May2019 and June 2019. **ATTACHMENT A-3& A-3a**
- A-4 Acceptance of Financial Reports Certification – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, accept the certification of the Board Secretary, and certify: in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c), that to the best of our knowledge as of May 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019, no major account or fund has been over-expended and that sufficient funds exist to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. **ATTACHMENT A-3& A-3a**
- A-5 Approval of Transfers -- BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the transfers as listed  
May 31, 2019inthe amount of \$87,564.72 **ATTACHMENT A-5**  
June 30, 2019in the amount of \$608,516.28 **ATTACHMENT A-5**
- A-6 Approval of Facility Use Report – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator,
- acknowledge the utilization of the school property by the Independence Township Volunteer Fire Department on Wednesday August 21<sup>st</sup> for ladder drills, and
  - approve the attached anticipated facility use report for the period 7/24/2019 through 9/30/2019 subsequent to appropriate building level approval as needed. (*Please note that in some instances requests have been submitted and the space has been “reserved” however the formal application cannot be approved until a current COI has been received.*)**ATTACHMENT A-6**
- A-7 Approval of Fundraisers – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves in accordance with Policy #5830 the following district wide fundraising events at GMRSD as attached:
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Healthy Snacks **ATTACHMENT A-7**
- A-8 Approval of Out of District Placements, Special Education -- BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the attached out of district placement(s) for the 2019-2020 school year, as attached, and further, that transportation be arranged as required. **ATTACHMENT A-8 & A-8a**
- A-9 Acceptance of Allocation Notices (FY2020) - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, accept the Nonpublic Transportation funds for 2018-19 (\$12,180.00) and the excess Extraordinary Aid for 2018-19 (\$101,739.00) to be appropriated into the 2019-20 budget. **ATTACHMENT A-9**

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**A-10 Acceptance, Approval of Transportation Routes & Contracts for 2019-20 School Year- BE IT RESOLVED:**

**WHEREAS**, The Great Meadows Regional School District advertised BID # (2019-2020-001) which included thirteen (13) separate Routes for Elementary Student Transportation Services for the 2019-2020 school year which was received on June 27, 2019 @ 10:30 a.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, Four (4) firms were solicited and two (2) responses was received; and

**WHEREAS**, these responses were reviewed and analyzed for compliancy, accuracy and cost by the School Business Administrator, and two (2) responses were deemed as responsible and responsive in part or in total to all of the Bid Specification packages as follows: now therefore be it:

<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>First Student</b>	<b>KRAPF</b>
<i>Guarantee</i>	<b>X</b>	X
<i>Surety</i>	<b>X</b>	X
<i>Routes ES1-ES13</i>	<b>219.00</b>	340.00
<i>Total Per Diem</i>	<b>2847.00</b>	4420.
<i>Bulk Discount</i>	<b>20%</b>	0%
<i>Total Cost</i>	<b>\$409,968</b>	\$795,600
	<b>AWARD</b>	

**RESOLVED**, that the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education accept the bids as submitted and to award the bid number (2019-2020-001) to First Student Bus Service, Inc. for 2019-20 school year at an annual cost (180 days) of \$409,968.00

**A-11 Approval of Coordinated Transportation Agreement with WCSSSD (2019-2020) – BE IT RESOLVED:**

that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the Coordinated Transportation Agreement with the Warren County Special Services School District (WCSSSD) for Transportation Services for the 2019-2020 School Year.

**A-12 Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement for Related Services with WCSSSD (2019-2020) – BE IT RESOLVED:**

that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the entered into the Memorandum of Agreement with the Warren County Special Services School District (WCSSSD) for Related Services on an as needed basis for the 2019-2020 School Year.

**A-13 Approval of Renewal Transportation Contracts for 2019-20 School Year- BE IT RESOLVED:**

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that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the following transportation contracts and routes between Great Meadows Regional School District and *First Student, Inc.* for the 2019-2020 School Year for a total cost of **\$383,091.92**: (This represents renewal at an increase of 1.45% which is equal to the C.P.I.)

- A-14 Approval of Coordinated Transportation Agreement with WCSSSD (2018-2019) – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the Coordinated Transportation Agreement with the Warren County Special Services School District (WCSSSD) for Transportation Services for the 2018-2019 School Year.
- A-15 Approval of Supplemental Check Register – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the following bills: August 26, 2019 in the amount of \$21,982.13 (Check #'s 54006-54059)
- A-16 Approval of School Lunch Program – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the attached Price list for the 2019-2020 established in accordance with the State of NJ School Nutrition Program as presented.
- B-1 Approval of Additional 2018-2019 Co-Curricular/Title I Appointments - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve additional co-curricular appointments for the 2018-2019 school year, effective September 1, 2018, attached by reference.
- B-2 Approval of Revised Summer 2019 ESY Staff - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval of Revised Summer 2019 Extended School Year (ESY) Staff, attached by reference.
- B-3 Acceptance of Resignation(s) - BE IT RESOLVED:** at the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignations for the 2019-2020 school year attached by reference.
- B-4 Approval of 2019 ESY Bus Aide - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Nancy Mezzina as a 2019 ESY bus aide for Student #4000548 effective July 1 – August 5, 2019, not to exceed 1 hour per day for 20 days, at a rate of \$13.02/hour.
- B-5 Approval of New Staff – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the new staff for the 2019-2020 school year, attached by reference.
- B-6 Approval of Advancement on the Salary Guide - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve advancement on the salary guide, effective August 28, 2019, attached by reference.

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- B-7 Approval of Revised 2019 Title I Summer Academic Program Hours - BE IT RESOLVED**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve revised 2019 Title I Summer Academic Support Program hours, attached by reference.
- B-8 Approval of Bus Aide Hours- BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Nancy Mezzina, as a Central School bus aide for Student #4000548, not to exceed 1 hour/day at an hourly rate of \$13.02/hour for the 2019-2020 school year
- B-9 Appointment of 2019-2020 Team Leaders and PLC Leaders - BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve 2019-2020 Team Leaders and PLC Leaders, attached by reference.
- B-10 Approval of Observation Hours- BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve observation hours for the 2019-2020 school year, attached by reference.
- C-1 Approval of Workshop Attendance - BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve workshop attendance for the 2019-2020 school year, attached by reference.
- C-2 Approval of Revised Curriculum - BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Curriculum Committee, approve new curriculum for the 2019-2020 school year, attached by reference.
- C-3 Approval of Annual Memorandum of Agreement - BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the 2019-2020 Annual Memorandum of Agreement between the District and the Independence Police Department.
- C-4 Approval of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of District Policies and Regulations - BE IT RESOLVED:**  
that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following District Policies and Regulations in a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading  
P&R 5330.04                      Administering an Opioid Antidote

**Other Business**

Updates were provided on the following:

- Estimated minimum cost to video tape meetings projected at \$3,400, plus stipend.
- Chrome Books distributed for use by members to access documents at the Board meeting.
- Fire panel has been on order since July for the MS and the district is still awaiting final permits.
- Software to include information on bullying.

**Hackettstown Report**

- Mr. Mango invited everyone to attend and be involved in the Strategic Plan for Hackettstown School District on September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Football season kicks off on September 6<sup>th</sup>

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**Independence Report**

None at this time.

**Liberty Report**

None at this time.

**Public Comment**

- Air Conditioning in the middle school.
- Support of the administrative assistant position and the variety of matters the position addresses.

The Board of Education took a ten minute break at 8:45 – 8:55, until such time as Mr. Spiers arrives.

**Security Update**

Mr. Stephen Spiers presented his recommendation to the Board of Education for the purchase and utilization of the LENS program to enhance security communications during critical events. Mr. Spiers highlighted the following;

- Automation of communication.
- Audio components
- Alerts – 911
- Push notifications
- Affects entire campus
- Notification capabilities outside the physical building
- Compatibility with our current systems

The system has been utilized at Warren Hills and Hackettstown is currently installing the system.

Lt. Perrell participated in a walk- through of the Great Meadows campus. The systems does exceed the minimal requirements under the “Alyssa’s Law”. Video reflecting the systems capabilities can be accessed at their website for Eastern DataComm

Discussion ensued touching upon the following areas:

- Initial proposed cost of \$109,000
- Possibility of basic program to reduce initial cost
- Other utilization for the funds within the district ie: counseling services
- Recurring cost
- Access to phone system once the system initiates communication protocols
- Comparability of other applications / programs

It was agreed that a request would be made for the company to be present at the September meeting to present their product and accept questions from the membership.

Executive Session:

Motion moved by Lori Prymak, seconded Courtney Wenthen,

To adjourn to executive session at 9:30 PM for the purpose of personnel matter, Superintendent Annual Evaluation, the results of which are not anticipated to be made public this evening. Furthermore, the Board expects to return to public session prior to 10:30. Carried by unanimous voice vote.

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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Motion moved by Lori Prymak, seconded by Joe Mailloux,  
To reconvened the public session at 10:10PM.  
Carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Public Session**

Members of the public present were invited back to the meeting room.

The following topics were referenced by general comment of the members of the Board:

- Reference to the difficult decisions made during the last budget process and the eliminations of positions further noting the administrative assistants were not anticipated to be reduced.
- Reference that shared services with Hackettstown are not anticipated to be discontinued.

**Adjournment**

Motion made by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Courtney Wenthen, to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 pm.  
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela J. Moyer  
Interim BA/Board Secretary