

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26, 2020**

The rescheduled regular business meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education was held on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 on a virtual platform. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Douglas Smith-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 Smith.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Alison DeMarco, Daria Hill, Tim Koeller, Giles Stuber, Courtney Wenthen, William VonderHaar, Heather Wulf, Douglas Smith

**Absent:** Susan Cullen.

**Administration / Other:** Mr. Michael Mai, Superintendent, Ms. Alexandra Stulpin, Esq.-Comegno Law Group as Board Attorney, Israel Marmolejos- Principal of GMMS and Melissa Hall-Principal of GM Central. Public were able to be in attendance via virtual platform.

**Correspondence / Recognition:**

- Department of Community Affairs-Final Decision  
Geoffrey J. Cullen v. GMRBOE #2018-191

**Minutes**

Motion moved by William VonderHaar, seconded by Heather Wulf.  
To approve the minutes as presented for the meeting July 28, 2020  
Vote: Ayes-8; Nays-0; Abstention-0. Motion Carried.

Motion moved by Giles Stuber, seconded by William VonderHaar  
To approve the minutes as presented for the August 6, 2020 meeting.  
Vote: Ayes-7; Nays-0. Abstention-1 – Wulf. Motion Carried.

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Mai reported on the status of the district preparations for the reopening of school and students returning for instruction. It was noted that aides would be riding the bus to take temperatures. Buildings are in good shape. Desks have been placed in accordance with social distancing guidelines with class sizes averaging between 11 to 17 students. Drop off procedures will include screening and is expected to be a bit cumbersome to start. Mr. Mai expressed his appreciation to the entire staff for the preparations. Especially Ms. Hall based on her recent addition to the GMR Central School. In closing Mr. Mai expressed the District's commitment to keeping the safety and health of staff and students in the forefront as we embark on this school year.

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**Committee Reports:**

Operations – Trustee Stuber gave a comprehensive report updating on the roof project, oil tank removal at Central, repair of sump pump at Liberty oil tank, corrective action for drainage at Central, and the Central paving project to be awarded this evening. Additional topics reviewed in committee included transportation consolidation and bus sanitation, food services, HVAC filters and possibilities of utilizing UV light in unit vents.

Human Resources – Trustee Wenthen gave an update on Business Office staff noting the expectation of Mr. Burnside to be released from his current position making it possible to join GMR on September 1, 2020 rather than the expected October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Moyer has agreed to stay on through October as a consultant. Fourth grade teacher opening replacement is on this evening’s agenda for approval and our administration has release the staff member who resigned to report to her new district. Aides are on the agenda for hire and their responsibilities have been expanded to included COVID19 related duties.

Education – Trustee Koeller report focused on components of the instructional day and remote learning opportunities. Training on Edgenuity has been completed by administration with instructional staff training scheduled on PD days. Virtual learning will be scheduled in the afternoon to maximize student contact time. Also discussion on classroom ventilation was held with the committee. Student choosing totally remote learning through Edgenuity program will be able to join in afternoon virtual special classes as well as involvement in Friday homeroom activities. Videos are being posted on utilization of remote learning and Edgenuity.

Governance – Trustee Wenthen report addressed the various policies reflected on the agenda for board action. In addition to the second reading on the multitude of policies introduced last month, two additional policies are presented in regard to remote learning. Revisions to policy # 5516 are presented on the utilization of cell phones by students *with* direction and authorization of administration.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items Only - (via email : [pcagenda@gmrtd.com](mailto:pcagenda@gmrtd.com))**

NONE

**President Smith** acknowledged this as Mrs. Moyer last official Board Meeting and expressed what a pleasure it was to work together and the Board’s appreciation for her services.

**SECTION A –**

Motion moved by Heather Wulf, seconded by William VonderHaar.  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve  
Section A-Operations items A-1 through A-17; as amended  
(A-1 add supplemental bill list item (d)).

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Discussion: Inquiry as to amendment. Mrs. Moyer explained that the majority of the additions were for September tuition as per contracts and void replacement checks. A-11 is the mandated mentorship for new superintendents.

Roll Call Vote Summary

Alison DeMarco-aye; Daria Hill-aye (except A11-abstain); Tim Koeller-aye; Giles Stuber-aye (except A11-abstain); William VonderHaar-aye; Courtney Wenthen-aye; Heather Wulf-aye and Douglas Smith- aye.

Motions carried by roll call vote (ayes-8; nays-0; abstentions-0), except A-11 (ayes-6; nays-0; abstentions-2 Hill; Stuber)

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

August Benefits/Debt	(Electronic)	\$ 370,121.31
August Interim (8/12-8/21)	Checks #55510-55530	\$ 28,890.41
August Bill List	Checks# 55531-55591	\$ 165,318.45
August 27 <sup>th</sup> Additions	Checks#55592-55508	\$ 535,763.35

**ATTACHMENT A-1(a-b-c-d)**

**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 bills as listed:

Check # 2573	Parent Refund – Ferraioli	\$ 32.50
Check # 2574	Parent Refund - LaVerde	\$116.80
Check # 2475	Parent Refund – Witt	\$ 44.50

**A-3 Approval of Financial Reports – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the Secretary and Treasurer Reports (**BSR/ TSM**) for the month of July 2020. **ATTACHMENT A-3(a-b)**

**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 July 31, 2020, 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 2020-2021 fiscal year.

**A-5 Approval of Transfers – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, to approve the transfers as of July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$236,600. **ATTACHMENT A-5**

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**A-6 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreement, Special Education-Limitless : BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the 2020-2021 Special Education Tuition Contract Agreements with Limitless (Celebrate the Children) for one student (ED) , ESY program July 8 – August 7, 2020 at a tuition rate of \$5,645.

**A-7 Approval of GMR Tuition Rates (Receiving) – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, establish the annual tuition rates for programs offered at GMR for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Preschool	\$ 7,000.00
Preschool Disabled	\$10,000.00
Elementary K-5	\$13,000.00
Middle School 6-8	\$14,000.00
LLD	\$22,000.00
BD	\$27,000.00

**A-8 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreements (Receiving) – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves tuition agreements with Hackettstown School District for purposes of receiving students into the district for the 2020/2021 program Sept 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

BD	1 Student (AD)	\$ 22,000
LLD	1 Student (PL)	\$ 27,000
Middle School / RR Serv	1 Student (YL)	\$ 14,000

**A-9 Approval of Renewal Transportation Contracts for 2020-21 School Year - BE IT RESOLVED:** 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 2020-2021 School Year for a total cost of \$717,809.09: (This represents renewal at an increase of 1.7% which is equal to the C.P.I.)

Multi Contract #	Renewal #	Contract Amount
GMR2005	16	\$ 251,178.89
FS-0607-1	14	\$ 25,201.80
FS-201314-1	8	\$ 24,487.20
2019-2020-001	1	\$ 416,941.20

**A-10 Approval of the following Appointments - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the following appointments effective July 1, 2020 through January Annual Organization:

Affirmative Action Officer	Melissa Hall
504 Officer	Lauren Ackerman
District Testing Coordinator	Israel Marmolejos
HIB Coordinator	Melissa Hall

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**A-11 Approval of School Administrator Residency Agreement - BE IT RESOVLED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves Residency Agreement for Michael Mai, Superintendent with Robert Magnuson as the School Administrator Mentor at a fixed fee of \$2,500.00

**A-12 Approval of Withdrawal Maintenance Reserve - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, authorizes a withdrawal from maintenance reserve to meet the needs of oil tank removal/paving project which was included in the FY20-21 Approved budget, due to the under projection of the repaving needs in the amount of \$40,000.

**A-13 Approval of Paving Contract – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, authorizes a contract with Murray Paving and Concrete for the paving of the Central School side and front lot in the amount of \$130,570.62 under the terms and conditions of the ESCNJ State Approved Coop #65MCECCPS / JOC Contract No. : ESCNJ 18/19-66

**A-14 Approval of Architectural Services for Boiler Replacement: BE IT Resolved,** that the Board of Education, up the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, accepts the proposal to perform the needed architectural and engineering services for:

Central Boiler Replacement	\$32,500.
Asbestos/Hazardous Material Survey	\$ 5,000.
Air Monitoring Removal Phase	\$ 8,000.

in accordance with the proposal dated January 24, 2020.

**A-15 Approval of Suspension of Transportation Routes: BE IT Resolved,** that the Board of Education, up the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, suspends the following per diem transportation routes, totaling \$145,906.89 due to COVID19 parental waivers and enrollment changes:

ROUTE #	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
FS1	Hackettstown	\$ 25,201.80
MS5	Middle School	\$ 24,487.20
ES8	Central School	\$ 32,072.40
ES9	Central/Middle Campus	\$ 32,072.40
ES12	Central/Middle Campus	\$ 32, 072.40

**A-16 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreement, Special Education-Arc Essex : BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the 2020-2021 Special Education Tuition Contract Agreements with Arc of Essex County for one student (SN) , ESY Program at tuition rate of \$10,050., and September through June of \$70,350.

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**A-17 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreement, Warren County Technical : BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the 2020-2021 Tuition Contract Agreements Warren County Technical School based on 39 students at tuition rate of \$5,100 and Transportation Fee of \$750 per student. Total annual contract cost of \$228,150.

**SECTION B – as amended**

Motion moved by Giles Stuber seconded by Heather Wulf,  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve  
Section B- Human Resources items B-1 through B-8 as amended: withdrawal of B-4 and revised  
B-6 to reflect part time aide positions.

Discussion:

President Smith acknowledged the service of Cheryl Wilson both in her duties as School Nurse and the many programs she volunteered her time to serve the students and families of the district. Her resignation is a loss to the District.

Clarification request concerning Mrs. Moyer contract (motion B-5) is reflected through October although the HR report reflected through September. It is apparent Mr. Burnside will be released from his current contract and join GMR as the School Business Administrator on September 1<sup>st</sup> rather than October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Roll Call Vote Summary

Alison DeMarco-aye; Daria Hill-aye (except B6-abstain); Tim Koeller-aye; Giles Stuber-aye (except B6-abstain); William VonderHaar-aye; Courtney Wenthen-aye; Heather Wulf-aye and Douglas Smith-aye.

Motions carried by roll call vote (ayes-8; nays-0; abstentions-0), except B-6 (ayes-6; nays-0; abstentions-2 Hill; Stuber)

**B-1 Approval Retiree Vacation & Sick Pay – BE IT RESOLVED;**

That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the payment of 23.4 accumulated vacation days at a value of \$4,538.43 and 80.5 accumulated sick days at a value of \$ 1,610. upon retirement in accordance with district policy to Susan Lanzarone.

**B-2 Acceptance of Resignations – BE IT RESOLVED;**

That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the resignations of the following staff member:

Cheryl Wilson MS Nurse      submitted 8/18/20 effective October 17, 2020

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**B-3 Approval of New Staff – BE IT RESOVLED;**

That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the following contracts for 2020 – 2021 operating year upon completion of all necessary documentation, pro-rated accordingly:

Joseph Matusek	Sub Custodian	Retroactive to	8/01/2020	\$12. hr
Ayah Muheisen	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	Step 1 BA	8/31/2020	\$56,115/ann'l

**B-4 ~~~ REMOVED ~~~**

**B-5 Approval of School Business Consultant - BE IT RESOVLED;** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the offer of a contract to Angela Moyer to act as an assistant for business office at a per diem rate of \$240.00, effective upon Eric Burnside commencing SBA duties, anticipated to be September 1, 2020, for a period not to exceed sixty days.

**B-6 Approval of 2020-2021 Employment Contracts for Aide Positions – BE IT RESOVLED;** the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following contracts for instructional/bus/health aides for 2020 – 2021 school year.

**ATTACHMENT B-6**

**B-7 Appointment of 2019-2020 Team Leaders and PLC Leaders - BE IT RESOLVED:** the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve 2020-2021 PLC Leaders, Yearbook and RTI attached by reference. **ATTACHMENT B-7**

**B-8 Approval of 2020-2021 Employment Contracts for Transportation/Security – BE IT RESOVLED;** the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves contract for 2020-21 school year (180 days) for David Graznitzski as Security/Traffic Control Officer at an hourly rate of \$25.50/hour three hours per diem.

**SECTION C**

Motion moved by Giles Stuber, seconded by Heather Wulf.  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve  
Section C –Education/Governance itemsC-1 through C-5 as presented

Discussion: None.

Roll Call Vote Summary : Alison DeMarco-aye; Daria Hill-aye; Tim Koeller-aye; Giles Stuber-aye, William VonderHaar-aye; Courtney Wenthen-aye; Heather Wulf- aye; and Douglas Smith- aye

Motions carried by unanimous roll call vote (ayes-8; nays-0; abstentions-0).

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**C-1 Approval of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of District Policies - 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 and adopt the following:

<b>P 1649</b>	<b>Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act</b>	<b>(New)</b>
<b>P 2270</b>	<b>Religion in Schools</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 2431.3</b>	<b>Heat Participation-Student Athlete Safety</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 2622</b>	<b>Student Assessment</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 5111 &amp; Reg 5111</b>	<b>Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 5200 &amp; Reg 5200</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 5320 &amp; Reg 5320</b>	<b>Immunization</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 5610 &amp; Reg 5610</b>	<b>Suspension &amp; Suspension Procedures</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 5620</b>	<b>Expulsion</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P 8320 &amp; Reg 8320</b>	<b>Personnel Records</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P1648</b>	<b>Restart and Recovery Plan</b>	<b>(New)</b>

**C-2 Approval of 1<sup>st</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 as 1st reading.

<b>P1648.02</b>	<b>Remote Learning Options for Families</b>	<b>(New)</b>
<b>P5330.04&amp;R5330.04</b>	<b>Administering an Opioid Antidote</b>	<b>(New)</b>
<b>P5516</b>	<b>Electronic Portable Communication Devices</b>	<b>(Revised)</b>
<b>P1648.03</b>	<b>Restart &amp; Recovery Plan – Full Time Remote Instruction</b>	<b>(New)</b>

***Attachment C-2 (a-b-c-d)***

**C-3 Acceptance of Comprehensive Equity Plan Assurances – BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 operating year.

***Attachment C-3***

**C-4 Acceptance of District Mentoring Plan Assurances – BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the District Mentoring Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 operating year.

**C-5 Acceptance of District Professional Development Plan Assurances – BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the District Professional Development Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 operating year.

***Attachment C-5***

**Other Business**

- NJSBA Convention-Virtual Platform / Registration – Registration is most cost effective as a group if there are seven or more members interested. Virtual convention is October 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>.



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- Warren County Clerk – Election Nov 2020. There are two open seats in Independence with no petitions filed. There is one open seat in Liberty with one petition filed by Heather Wulf for re-election.

**Community Reports**

- Hackettstown Report – Representative Trustee Wenthen indicated the Hackettstown BOE was meeting this evening. On the district website they have posted pictures of classrooms set up for social distancing, video entitled “Why I Wear a Mask” and sports had approval for conditioning activities through August 31, 2020. The fall sports schedule is pending at this point in time.
- Independence Report – none.
- Liberty Report –Representative Trustee Wulf had no report at this time.

**New Business**

**Resolution of Recognition and Sincere Appreciation**

Moved by Courtney Wenthen, Seconded by William VonderHaar.  
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

WHEREAS, the Great Meadows Regional School District has been fortunate to have the dedicated services of Angela Moyer as Interim Business Administrator and Board Secretary, fully committed to the mission of the District and the stable continuity of all areas under her purview, and;

WHEREAS, Angela is about to embark on new adventures as her service to our district ends, and;

WHEREAS, we, as members of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education wish to extend our sincere and grateful appreciation for the work that Angela has accomplished for the staff and students of our district going above and beyond expectations in a time of great uncertainty, and;

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to extend our sincere best wishes for every happiness in the future to Angela;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Great Meadows Board of Education recognizes and sincerely appreciates the service of

Angela Moyer  
Interim Business Administrator and Board Secretary  
2019-2020

and wishes her well in all future endeavors, and, further, that this resolution of Recognition and Sincere Appreciation be duly recorded and noted in the minutes of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of the month of August in the year 2020.

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Mrs. Moyer graciously accepted the Board acknowledgement of her services. Additionally she commented that this adventure was much more than one imagined last August.

**Public Comment (via email : [pc@gmrtd.com](mailto:pc@gmrtd.com))**

- Aryanne Nicastro – Inquiry School Pictures / Remote Learning
- Allyson Orfield (copied Mr. Mai) – Requested comparison Edgenuity fully remote vs. in-school curriculum, temperature check procedures and definition of the term “presumed positive”
- Shauntell Costa –Reopening plan and concerns of inability to provide full instructional day/week with social distancing protocols in place.
- Evan Lenz – Eagle Scout Project – Approval required to build dugouts at the Pit Field.

**Adjournment**

Motion moved by Tim Koeller, seconded by Heather Wulf

To adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela J. Moyer  
SBA/Board Secretary