

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES OF
TUESDAY OCTOBER 27, 2020**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Great Meadows Regional School District will provide quality educational opportunities that ensure the individual success of all students within a safe and supportive environment and to build lifelong learners who will meet society's challenges into and beyond the 21st century. To that end, it is anticipated that all students will achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels.

Flag Salute was led by President Smith.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Susan Cullen

Administration / Other: Mr. Michael Mai, Superintendent, Mr. Eric Burnside, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Israel Marmolejos- Principal of GMMS, Melissa Hall-Principal of GM Central, R. Taylor Ruilova – Board Attorney.

Correspondence /Recognition: None

Minutes

Motion moved by Alison DeMarco, seconded by Courtney Wenthen.

To approve the minutes as presented for the September 17, 2020 meeting and September 22, 2020.

Vote: Ayes-8; Nays-0. Abstention-0. Motion Carried.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Mai reported on the status of the opening of the school year. Mr. Mai, Principal Mr. Marmolejos, and Principal Ms. Hall all assisted in presenting the student of the month and employee of the month. Mr. Mai thanked the Dept. of Corrections for cleanup of the area behind the garage on the Central Elementary School property. An update on the progress of QSAC, Strategic Planning, and the Hybrid Learning schedule was given. Mr. Mai also informed the public of the Free Lunch Program that is currently available and reminded the public about Election Day.

Committee Reports:

Operations – Trustee Stuber gave a comprehensive report updating on the roof project, paving, and a financial opportunity to earn interest. The committee discussed a Transportation request from a parent that resulted in no action being taken. Liberty School being used as an emergency shelter was explored. The Boiler Bid is on hold until the RFP's for architect are reviewed. Open window/fresh air ventilation was discussed as the weather gets colder. There was an update on switching garbage services, Policy 0155, as well as discussion on Facilities usage during the pandemic.

Human Resources – Trustee Wenthen gave an update on the Part-time Office Aide and possibly changing the position to January to October. The committee also discussed Aides positions, Full Time Nurse shadowing to learn duties, and the need for a part time nurse. Teacher attendance has been good and two permanent substitutes have been in each building. Other positions discussed included the pay raise for substitutes, Edgenuity Instruction. Policy 3282 was also discussed for the staff that use social media. Mr. Hann joined the meeting to discuss the implications of the new OPMA regulations.

Education – Trustee DeMarco reported that the committee focused on some concerns surrounding the need for increased in person instruction. The district is moving towards live streaming in the near future and the role of Edgenuity was discussed. Mr. Mai is directing principals to distribute textbooks as supplemental material. Also, the topic of purchasing Wilson for lower elementary classes was explored and will be with Title I funds.

Governance – Trustee Wenthen reported that following policies were discussed: Policy 0155 a revised copy of the Board Committees policy was reviewed. Also, Policy 0155.1 Board Member participation using electronic devices was presented for first reading. Policy 2312 addressing class size had discussion concentrated on the maximum size that would give the Superintendent some flexibility when needed. This is on the October agenda for first reading. Numerous policy alerts were also reviewed: R7510 Use of School Facilities, 2464 Gifted & Talented, 2431 (P) Athletic Competitions, 2431.1 (R) Emergency Procedures For Sports, 7510 (P) Use of School Facilities, 8561 Procurement for School Nutrition, 1620 Administrative Employment Contracts, 2451 Adult High School, 2464 Gifted and talented, 5330.05 P&R Seizure Action Plan, 6440 Cooperative Purchasing, 6470.01 P&R Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification, 7440 School District Security, 7450 Property Inventory, 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations. Also, some non-agenda items discussed included: procedures for remote and hybrid meetings and the venue conforming to COVID19 guidelines.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only – (via email : pcagenda@gmrtd.com)

Mr. Brendan Gross commented on the Hybrid Learning Schedule update by the superintendent. Mr. Gross stated he would like to see the schedule updated to 5 days a week immediately.

Ms. Tara Speer commented on the Hybrid Learning Schedule update by the superintendent. Ms. Speer questioned how many hours are lost for education and curriculum due to the hybrid schedule.

SECTION A – as amended

Moved by Daria Hill, Seconded by Courtney Wenthen.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Section A-Operations items A-1 through A-14; as amended.

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 roll call vote (ayes-8; nays-0; abstentions-0)

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:

October Benefits/PR/ESIP	(Electronic)	\$964,803.17
October Interim (10/1-10/19)	Checks #55688-55703	\$ 41,526.59
October Bill List (10/19-10/31)	Checks# 55704-55788	\$ 896,376.90

ATTACHMENT A-1(a-b-c)

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 # 2577	Parent Refund – Schaffer	\$ 35.75
Check # 2578	Maschio’s	\$ 6,390.59

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(s) September 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 September 30, 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 September 30, 2020 in the amount of \$84,882.24. **ATTACHMENT A-5**

A-6 Approval of Participation in National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance- BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve participation in the NCPA (National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance) for school materials and supplies for the 2020-2021 School Year.

A-7 Approval of Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant- BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the School Business Administrator, acknowledges the amount and authorize the submission of the FY2021 grant application in the total amount of \$36,150 as developed by the administration and accept the award of funds upon subsequent approval of the application.

ATTACHMENT A-7

A-8 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreement, Special Education : BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the 2020-2021 Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement with Rutgers Day School, for student (NT), September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 at a twelve month tuition rate of \$85,620 (prorated accordingly).

A-9 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreement, Lopatcong : BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the 2020-2021 Regular Education Tuition Contract Agreement with Lopatcong Board of Education (Sending District) and Great Meadows (Receiving District) for one student (JC) , at tuition rate of \$13,000.

A-10 Approval of Funds Transferred Class of 2020 Funds - BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the transfer of \$6,451.06, on behalf of the GMR Class of 2020 to Hackettstown H.S. Activity Account for deposit into individual sub accounts of the GMR students now part of HHS Class of 2024, as the funds were fundraised for a trip to Washington D.C. that was cancelled due to COVID-19.

A-11 Approval to approve annual submission of M-1 and CMP – BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approve the annual submission of the M-1 and the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (CMP) for the school year 2020-2021 to the Warren County Office of Education.

ATTACHMENT A-11

A-12 Approval of Budget Calendar 2021-22 FY – BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, acknowledges the budget calendar for the creation of the 2021-22 FY Budget that reflects all applicable legal and management requirements, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-7. This development timeline includes input from all relevant programmatic staff for requirements and materials needed for teaching and student learning.

ATTACHMENT A-12

A-13 Approval to rescind award of Projects -- BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve to rescind the following award of projects to Settembrino Architects.

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

A-14 Approval of Tuition Contract Agreement, Special Education : BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator approve the 2020-2021 Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement with ECLC of New Jersey, for students (CH) and (AR), September 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 at a tuition rate of \$62,022(CH) and \$62,022(AR).

SECTION B – as amended

Moved by Daria Hill, Seconded by Bill Vonder Haar.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve
Section B- Human Resources items B-1 through B-10;

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

Motions carried by roll call vote (ayes-7; nays-0; abstentions-1; (B-7, Hill)

B-1 Approval of 2020-2021 Extra Curricular Programs (Virtual) – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the 2020-2021 Extra Curricular Programs.

ATTACHMENT B-1

B-2 Approval of 2020-2021 Title 1 Clubs (Virtual) – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the 2020-2021 Title 1 Clubs.

ATTACHMENT B-2

B-3 Approval of Substitute Nurse- BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved substitutes for the 2020-2021 school year.

ATTACHMENT B-3

B-4 Approval of Leave of Absence – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the leave of absences for the 2020-2021 school year.

ATTACHMENT B-4

B-5 Approval of New Staff – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the new staff for the 2020-2021 school year.

ATTACHMENT B-5

B-6 Approval of Involuntary Transfers – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the involuntary transfer of Tina Snyder, Special Education Teacher, Middle School Grades 6-8 to Central School Grades K-5, effective February 1, 2021.

B-7 Approval of Instructional Aide Reinstatement – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved to reinstate Tara Scalera Central Instructional Aide \$13.68 per hour 6.5 hours/day 142 days for the 2020-2021 school year.

B-8 Approval of Summer 2021 ESY Program - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved an Extended School Year (ESY) Program on Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm from June 28, 2021 – August 2, 2021.

B-9 Acceptance of Resignation – BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the resignation of Jennifer Daly 1st Grade Teacher, submitted October 20, 2020, effective January 1, 2021.

B-10 Approval of Substitute Nurse– BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Cheryl Wilson as a substitute nurse at a rate of \$300.00 per day.

SECTION C

Motion moved by Daria Hill, seconded by Courtney Wenthien.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Section C –Education/Governance items C-1 through C-7 as presented

Roll Call Vote Summary: Alison DeMarco-aye (No to C-7); Daria Hill-aye (No to P1620 & P&R 3212); Tim Koeller-Abstain; Giles Stuber-aye(abstain to P1620); William VonderHaar-aye; Courtney Wenthen-aye; Heather Wulf-aye and Douglas Smith- aye(No to P&R2312).

Motions carried by roll call vote C-1 to C-6 (ayes-8; nays-0; abstentions-0), except C-7 P1620 (ayes-4; nays-1(DeMarco); abstentions-3(Hill, Koeller, Stuber), and C-7 P&R 2312 (ayes-4; nays-3 (DeMarco, Hill, Smith); abstentions-1 (Koeller)

C-1 Approval of Workshop Attendance - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved workshop attendance for the 2020-2021 school year.

ATTACHMENT C-1

C-2 Approval of HIB Report - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the September and October HIB Reports for the 2020-2021 school year.

ATTACHMENT C-2

C-3 Approval of 2019-2020 School Self-Assessment - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the School Self-Assessment for determining grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.

ATTACHMENT C-3

C-4 Approval of Annual Memorandum of Agreement - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the 2020-2021 Annual Memorandum of Agreement between the District and the Independence Police Department.

ATTACHMENT C-4

C-5 Annual Approval of Nursing Services Plans - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the Nursing Services Plans from each district school for the 2020-2021 school year.

ATTACHMENT C-5

C-6 Approval of 2nd Reading of District Policies - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the following District Policies in a 2nd reading and adopt the following: P 0131 By Laws and Policies (Revised) P 5600 Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct (Revised).

C-7 Approval of 1st Reading of District Policies and Regulations - BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the following District Policies and Regulations as 1st reading.

P 1620	Administrative Employment Contracts (M)	(Revised)
P 1648	Restart and Recovery Plan (M)	(Revised)
P 1648.02	Remote Learning Options for Families (M)	(New)
P 1648.03	Restart and Recovery Plan – Full-Time Remote Instruction (M)	(New)
P & R 2312	Class Size	(Revised)
P 2464	Gifted and Talented Students (M)	(Revised)
P & R 5330.05	Seizure Action Plan (M)	(New)
P 6440	Cooperative Purchasing (M)	(Revised)
P & R 6470.01	Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification (M)	(New)
P & R 7440	School District Security (M)	(Revised)
P 7450	Property Inventory (M)	(Revised)
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations (M)	(Revised)

ATTACHMENT C-7

Other / New Business

- President Smith announced Trustee Cullen’s resignation was effective immediately. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Vote to open school up five days a week for half a day each; Motion moved by Alison Demarco, seconded by Doug Smith.

Roll Call Vote Summary: Alison DeMarco-aye; Daria Hill-abstain; Tim Koeller-aye; Giles Stuber-no; William VonderHaar-no; Courtney Wenthen-no; Heather Wulf-no and Douglas Smith- aye.

Motion failed by roll call vote (ayes-3; nays-4; abstentions-1)

Community Reports

- Hackettstown Report – Representative Trustee Wenthen reported that the High School will not participate in sports until November 12th. Chorus will start after the NJEA convention with masks. The holiday concert will be held virtually this year. The district is still waiting on guidance from the county on virtual instruction for snow/emergency days. The buildings are all in good standing with new roofs for the first time in thirty years.
- Independence Report: None at this time.
- Liberty Report –Representative Trustee Wulf had no report at this time.

Public Comment (via email : pc@gmrtd.com)

Mr. Brendan Gross continued his comment on the Hybrid Learning Schedule update by the superintendent. Mr. Gross quoted many statistics related to the safety of opening the school immediately for full day instruction.

An email from Ms. Susan Deeney was read requesting that any decision about adding a fifth day of school be delayed until it is known how many children will be returning from Edgenuity. She also thank the teachers and administration.

An email from Sher Koeppen was read requesting to know how students were elected for remote learning in August guaranteed equity and if they must attend Google meets in marking period 2? At this time are 30% of students still electing a fully remote option? With Fios soon to support the school is it anticipated that will be offered in local homes?

Ms. Janet Torres questioned the administration on why the district can't open five to days a week.

Adjournment

Motion moved by William VonderHaar, seconded by Daria Hill To adjourn the meeting at 9:26 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Burnside
SBA/Board Secretary