

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, November 15, 2010, at the Great Meadows Middle School, Independence Township. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Jennifer Cassini, Board 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, Christy Doyle, Joe Mahal, Joe Mailloux, Ed O'Melia, Jason Schaffer, Kimberly Schaffer, and William Vonder Haar.

Absent: Glenn Sullivan.

Dr. Timothy Frederiks, Superintendent, and Julie Mumaw, Business Administrator, were in attendance.

There were 14 members of the public in attendance.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Joe Mailloux, to approve the minutes from September 20, 2010 (as corrected), October 4, 2010, and October 18, 2010.

Motion carried in a voice vote with Vonder Haar abstaining from October 4, 2010 minutes.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Joe Mailloux, to approve the executive session minutes from September 20, 2010 and October 18, 2010.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Jason Schaffer, to accept the Financial Report of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month ending October 31, 2010, as per copies attached, and to certify that as of October 31, 2010, 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 Joe Mailloux, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to approve the

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bills from October 16, 2010 to November 15, 2010 in the amount of \$1,324,496.13.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Joe Mailloux, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to approve the cafeteria bills from October 18, 2010 to November 15, 2010 in the amount of \$42,656.37.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Timothy Frederiks, Superintendent's Update.

Public Comment: None

**16.1** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Jason Schaffer, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to approve the following **Personnel and Curriculum** items 16.1.1 to 16.1.17.

Motion carried in a roll call vote with Vonder Haar voting no it item 16.1.11 and 16.1.15.

**16.1.1** Approve Lisa Parry, Centenary College student in the school counseling program, to complete a two hour observation requirement with Cheryl Zeliff, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Liberty School.

**16.1.2** Approve Anna Schwartz, Centenary College student, to fulfill her 100 hours of internship with Linda McClune, guidance counselor at Great Meadows Middle School, effective January 3, 2011 through May 13, 2011.

**16.1.3** Approve Victoria Kinney, Warren County Community College student, to complete 10 hours of classroom observation with Melissa Benbrook, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher at Central School, and Marianne Woods, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at Central School, beginning November 17, 2010 through November 19, 2010.

**16.1.4** Approve Laura Martone, College of Saint Elizabeth student, to complete her student teaching experience with Nancy Cole, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher at Central School, effective January 18, 2011 through May 6, 2011.

**16.1.5** Approve Todd Carpenter, Deborah Gartelmann and Jeremy Mayer as substitute teachers in grades K through 8 in Great Meadows Regional School District during the

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2010-2011 school year.

- 16.1.6** Approve Susan Dingsor, as a substitute teacher in grades K thru 5 in Great Meadows Regional School District during the 2010-2011 school year.
- 16.1.7** Approve the Nursing Services Plan for Great Meadows Regional School District for the 2010-2011 school year.
- 16.1.8** Approve Barbara Wohlgemuth, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Liberty School, as mentor to Robin Morris-Marano, .6x teacher at Liberty School and .4x special education teacher at Great Meadows Middle School, for the 2010-2011 school year.
- 16.1.9** Approve Martha Teixeira, Spanish teacher at Great Meadows Middle School, and Casey Ritson, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts/Special Education teacher at Great Meadows Middle School, splitting the stipend of \$1,080.00 as student council advisors for the 2010-2011 school year.
- 16.1.10** Approve Linda O'Connor, media specialist at Great Meadows Middle School, and Linda McClune, guidance counselor at Great Meadows Middle School, splitting the stipend of \$900.00 as Student Leadership Corp advisors for the 2010-2011 school year.
- 16.1.11** Approve the employment of Lauren Ackerman as guidance counselor for Liberty and Central Elementary Schools effective December 6, 2010 through June 30, 2011 at Step 1 MA with an annual salary of \$51,985.00 pro-rated to \$35,609.71.
- 16.1.12** Approve the employment of Dineen Permahos Gruchacz as Liberty School Principal effective January 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011 at an annual salary of \$84,000.00 pro-rated to \$42,000.00.
- 16.1.13** Approve the extension of Sandy Simone, speech and language specialist, from .8x (4 days per week) to full time effective January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 at an annual salary of \$54,435.00 pro-rated to \$32,661.00.
- 16.1.14** Approve an MD (Multiple Disability) class in Liberty Elementary School for the 2011-2012 school year or sooner. This MD program will be fully funded through

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IDEA and ARRA funds.

**16.1.15** Approve an Intramural Basketball program for the 2010-2011 school year for a cost of \$5,570.00. This program will be fully funded through Job Stimulus Funds.

**16.1.16** Approve a Grades 3 through 8 Activity Program for the 2010-2011 school year at an estimated cost of \$11,216.00 with stipends funded through Job Stimulus Funds.

**16.1.17** Approve the following field trips for the 2010-2011 school year:

3/10/10 - grade 8 - Spanish Club - Las Costillas de Pedro Restaurant, Dover, NJ

3/23/10 - grade 6 - All-Star County Band - North Warren Regional HS, Blairstown, NJ

5/09/10 - Kindergarten - KevLar Farms - Washington, NJ

**16.2** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Jason Schaffer, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to approve the following **Policy** items 16.2.1 and 16.2.2.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**16.2.1** Approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and adoption of the following regulations:

Regulation #3144 - Certification of Tenure Charges

Regulation #6112 - Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures

Regulation #8310 - Public Records

**16.2.2** Approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the following policies:

Policy #8130 - School Organization

Policy #8310 - Public Records

**16.3** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Joe Mailloux, seconded by Jason Schaffer, to approve the following **Finance** items 16.3.1 to 16.3.8.

Motion by Christy Doyle, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to amend motion 16.3.5 to approve the 1.5% salary increase for the Great Meadows Regional School District support staff for

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the 2010-2011 school year retro-active to July 1, 2010 using Ed job Funds. Total cost would be \$14,900.00. Central Office staff 1.5% would come from district funds at a cost of \$4,500.00.

Motion carried in a roll call vote approving items 16.3.1 to 16.3.4, amending item 16.3.5, approving items 16.3.6 to 16.3.8, and Mahal and Vonder Haar voting no to item 16.3.5.

**16.3.1** 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.

PERSONNEL	APPROX WORKSHOP	COST	DATES
\$ Jennifer Koster	Reading Skills	\$199.00	11/16/10
\$ Marilyn Kosiorek	Foreign Lang Skills	\$199.00	11/22/10
\$ Martha Teixeira	Foreign Lang, Skills	\$199.00	11/22/10
Stephanie Conway	Accountability w/Effective Behavioral Intervention	\$202.90	12/08/10
Stephanie Conway	Functional Behavioral Assessment & Design of Intervention Plans	\$45.25	12/10 & 1/10/11
\$ Linda DeJesus	Oral Proficiency	\$175.00	12/09/10
Linda McClune	MH & Crisis Counsel	\$ 11.00	12/16/10
\$ Christine Kohl	MH & Crisis Counsel	\$ 11.00	12/16/10
\$ Cheryl Wilson	MH & Crisis Counsel	\$ 4.00	12/16/10
\$ Beth Hendershot	MH & Crisis Counsel	\$ 2.00	12/16/10
\$ Betsy Hart	2011 NJAHPERD Conv	\$ 90.00	2/17, 18/11

**16.3.2** Accept the 2009-2010 Great Meadows Regional School District Comprehensive Annual Financial Audit and Report with no recommendations.

**16.3.3** Approve the 2010 Corrective Action Plan with no recommendations or prior year Findings.

**16.3.4** Approve a Special Education Contract between Great Meadows Regional School District and Chester School District for one student for the period September 1, 2010 through December 15, 2010 at a cost of \$14,700.00.

**16.3.5** Approve a 1.5% salary increase for the Great Meadows Regional School District support staff and Administrators for the 2010-2011 school year retro-active to July 1,

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2010 using Ed Jobs Funds. Total cost will be \$14,900.00. Central Office staff 1.5% amount will come from district funds at a cost of \$4,500.00.

**16.3.6** Approve Amendment Number 1 for the IDEA ARRA BASIC Grant for the 2010-2011 Grant year to move \$21,875.00 from the Instructional equipment line to the Instructional supplies line.

**16.3.7** Approve the following letter to be sent to the NJ Division of Pensions and benefits on behalf of Great Meadows Regional School District requesting the division to provide budgetary guidance to schools every year in January for the payment of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) obligation due every April.

November 16, 2010

Florence J. Sheppard, Acting Director  
Division of Pensions and Benefits  
P.O. Box 295  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0295

Dear Acting Commissioner Sheppard:

Recently, New Jersey School districts were notified as to their 2011 PERS normal, accrued liability pension, noncontributory group life insurance (NCGI), and early retirement incentive costs. We are sure that you are aware that the charges due in April 2011 came as a great surprise to local units of government.

In the past, school districts have had to estimate these costs for budget purposes as the Division of Pensions refuses to provide any guidance as to a district's projected liability. School districts must adopt their next year's budget three months in advance of their next fiscal year. Pension appropriations are a significant cost and to find out after a budget has been adopted that there is a great difference between budgeted costs and actual costs can produce significant hardship for a school district. The Great Meadows Regional Board of Education has a shortfall in excess of \$ 20,000.00 and must now reallocate funds by that amount which will impact other district programs and services.

The Great Meadows Regional Board of Education requests that the Division of Pensions adopt a policy of providing guidance to NJ School Districts on or about January of every year as to a district's pension liability due in April of the next succeeding budget year. We further recommend that the estimate be fixed for budget purposes and that any adjustments (plus or minus) be reflected in the following year's April payment. Accordingly, if the Division notifies a district of a pension liability of \$300,000 for the next succeeding fiscal year, the district will budget and pay that amount. If the actual costs for that district are \$317,000, the district will pay the adjustment of \$17,000 in the next

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year along with the projected liability for that year. In this way a district will have a firm handle on these costs for budgetary purposes.

As New Jersey School Districts will face extraordinary limits on spending with the implementation of a 2% tax levy spending cap next year, we are hopeful that the Division of Pensions will consider our recommendations to provide the guidance we suggest to prevent the problems they have encountered with pension costs that far exceed their budgetary estimates

Sincerely

Jennifer Cassini, President  
Great Meadows Regional Board of Education  
P O Box 74  
Great Meadows, NJ 07838

CC: Local Legislators

**16.3.8** Approve the following budget transfers:

FROM: 11-204-100-610-000-000 LD Supplies

TO: 11-213-100-610-000-001 Res Center Supplies \$75.00.

No longer and LD class.

FROM: 11-190-100-320-000-000 OT Regular Students

TO: 11-150-100-320-000-000 OOD Student Home Instruction  
\$3,966.00. Summer High School Home/Hospital Instruction.

**16.4** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Joe Mahal, seconded by Ed O'Melia, to approve the following **Buildings/Grounds/Transportation** items 16.4.1 to 16.4.2.

**16.4.1** Approve the Great Meadows Regional School District, Transportation Routes for the 2010-2011 school year.

**16.4.2** Approve usage of the Liberty School gym from November 13, 2010 through March 19, 2010, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM to St. Mary's Basketball Team at the hourly rate of \$25.00.

\$25.00 per hour x 5 hours (4 hours + 1 hour custodian)  
per Saturday = \$125.00 each Saturday  
\$125.00 x 13 Saturdays = \$1,625.00  
\$75.00 x 1 Saturday = \$75.00 (11/13/10 - 2 hrs + 1 cust)  
Total cost \$1,700.00

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Motion by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Joe Mahal, to adjourn at 8:09 PM.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Mumaw  
Board Secretary