

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

The rescheduled regular meeting of the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, April 29, 2019 at the Great Meadows Middle School Gymnasium, Independence Township. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Jamie Cicerelle, Susan Cullen, Tim Koeller, Joe Mailloux, Ed O'Melia, Doug Smith, William Vonder Haar, Courtney Wenthen and Lori Prymak.

Absent: None

David C. Mango, Superintendent, Timothy Havlusch School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mark Toscano, Comegno Law Group as Board Attorney, Debbi Grigoletti Director of Curriculum, Israel Marmolejos Principal of GMMS, and Kathy Gesurmaria Shared Director of Special Services were also present.

There was also approximately 40 member of the public in attendance.

**Correspondence**

Correspondence from multiple residents regarding requests for public records under the OPRA legislation was acknowledged.

**Minutes**

Motion by Lori Prymak, seconded by Susan Cullen to approve the minutes from March 19, 2019 regular and executive session.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Motion by Lori Prymak, seconded by Courtney Wenthen to approve the minutes from April 4th, 2019 regular and executive session.

Motion carried in a voice vote with Lori Prymak and Jamie Cicerelle abstaining.

**Committee Reports**

William Vonder Haar commented that it is the recommendation of the Governance committee to immediately cease the printing and bulk mailing of the district's newsletter and that tonight's agenda should reflect this request as the effort is wasteful during this time of cuts to state aid. Some accommodations need to be made to those in the community without access to the internet which can be determined going forward but in this time of doing more with less it is imperative that discretionary spending cease.

Susan Cullen provided an update on the Committee of the Whole meeting that took place on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and whose minutes were available to the board on Board Docs and approved by the board earlier in the evening.

**Superintendent's Report**

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

- ✓ Presentations for Student of the Months of April were made for Central School, Liberty School and the Great Meadows Middle School.
- ✓ As part of the statutory Public Hearing on the Budget for 2019-20 school year, the Business Administrator gave a presentation on the budget and the financial impact of the budget in light of the aforementioned cuts in state aid for the school district.

This concluded the Superintendent's report.

**Public Comment – Public Hearing 2019-20 Budget**

There were multiple comments and questions regarding the 2019-20 budget. Some of the topics covered were the "overhead" of the district in relation to discretionary spending, staffing levels for 2019-20 and the transition plan. The validity of shared services was also questioned by the public as well as the topic of Path to Progress being put forth by the state legislature and the potential impacts to Great Meadows. Additional clarifications and comments made about the impact of the suspension of operations at the Liberty School and potential impacts and conflicts.

**Close of Public Comment – Public Hearing 2019-20 Budget**

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

**Public Comment – Agenda Items Only**

There were comments made about the information contained in the OPRA requests referred to in correspondence and there was also clarification provided to point out and disprove claims made as a result of work done in the district in accordance with the AHERA management plan. Additional comments were made about the timeline over which the decision about the functionality of the Liberty School was made. Clarifications were provided about the work done in 2018 by the Facilities Realignment Committee of the Board of Education.

**Close of Public Comment**

At this point a motion to rescind a matter that had already been approved by the Board of Education was offered by William Vonder Haar.

After a lengthy discussion and on the advice of legal counsel present at this meeting, it was the opinion of legal counsel that in order for the spirit of this motion to be consistent with Robert's Rules, such a motion needed to come from a voting member on the prevailing side of the matter being discussed. The voting results from that particular meeting and item were reviewed and the affirmative or prevailing votes from the motion being discussed for rescission were announced to clarify for those in attendance just what members would have to make a motion for the rescission of the matter at hand.

Hearing none a motion the matter was not considered.

**SECTION A**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Lori Prymak and second by Ed O'Melia, to approve the following **OPERATIONS** items A-1 through A-13 as amended.

There was a clarification provided on the mechanics of "banked cap" and its impact on future budget cycles.

The Motion carried in a roll call vote with Doug Smith voting nay to item A-8, William Vonder Haar voting nay to items A-8, and Courtney Wenthen voting nay to items A-8.

- A-1 Approval of Check Register(s) – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the bill list from March 20, 2019 through April 18, 2019 in the amount of \$2,141,004.30 (Check #'s 53654-53755) **ATTACHMENTS A-1**
- A-2 Approval of Check Register (Cafeteria Account) – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the bill list from March 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019 in the amount of \$19,640.10 (Check # 22542) **ATTACHMENT A-2.**
- 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) of February 2019. And March 2019. **ATTACHMENT(s) A-3**
- 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 February 28, 2019 and March 31, 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(s) A-3**
- 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 of as of February 28, 2019 in the amount of \$39,185.17 and as of March 31, 2019 in the amount of \$76,825.20 **ATTACHMENT(s) 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, approve the attached anticipated facility use report for the period 4/30/2019 through 6/30/2019 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, approve in accordance with Policy #5830 the following fundraising events in the Great Meadows Regional School District as attached: **ATTACHMENT A-7**

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

**A-8 Motion to adopt Approved Budget for 2019-2020 - BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the adoption of the 2019-2020 Great Meadows Regional School District Budget in the amount stated in this resolution that reflects an increase in total local school district taxation at the statutorily mandated cap of two percent (2%), and **does not utilize** a statutorily allowed use of accrued "banked cap" in the amount of \$207,572 resulting is a total General Fund local tax levy of \$14,472,254; and

**WHEREAS,** According to the State of New Jersey Department of Education's budget adequacy calculation, the school district has proposed programs and services in addition to the core curriculum content standards adopted by the State Board of Education; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education hereby adopts the Annual Budget for the 2019-2020 school year in the total amount of \$20,813,097; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that there should be raised for the General Fund \$14,472,254 for the ensuing School Year (2019-2020) with Budgetary Appropriations and Revenues to be as follows:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Great Meadows Regional Board of Education hereby approves the adoption of the 2019-2020 school district budget as set forth herein and approved by the New Jersey State Department of Education to be in effect beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Preliminary decrease in Current Expense is **-4.42%**.  
Preliminary decrease in Special Revenue is **-15.00%**  
Preliminary decrease in Debt Service is **-2.53%**

	Appropriations	Revenue	
	Budget	Local Tax Levy	Other Sources
General Fund	19,899,914	14,472,254	
Local Sources			192,000
State Aide			5,215,660
Health Care Adjustment			
Banked Cap			
District Sources			20,000
Fund 20	280,783		
Grants & Entitlements			280,783
Fund 40 – Debt Service	632,400	444,104	161,568
District Sources			26,728
Sub Total	<b>20,813,097</b>	<b>14,916,358</b>	<b>5,896,739</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,813,097</b>	<b>20,813,097</b>	

**A-9 Acknowledgement of non-binding Send Receive Tuition Reconciliation Status- BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, School Business Administrator(s) of Great Public School District (GMRSD) and Hackettstown Public School District, Operations Committee of GMRSD and the Finance and Facilities Committee of the Hackettstown Public School District, acknowledge the status of the non-binding send/receive tuition reconciliation as of July 1, 2019 as presented below:

<b>Reconciliation</b>	As of July 1	As of July 1	As of July 1
<b>Year Ending</b>	19-20	20-21	21-22
6/30/2015			
6/30/2016	\$ (246,784)		
6/30/2017			
*6/30/2018			
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ (0)		
(*) Unaudited			

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

- A-10 Approval of Joint Resolution for Participation of Transportation Services with Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative (2019-20) -- BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the Joint Resolution for Participation of Transportation Services with Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for Transportation Services for the 2019-20 School Year.
- A-11 MOTION to approve FY19 NJSIG Safety Grant Submission and Acceptance: BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the School Business Administrator, authorize the submission of the FY19 NJSIG Safety Grant Application in the total amount of \$5,700.00 and hereby accept the award of funds upon subsequent approval of the application. The funds for this grant are to be disbursed in accordance with the provisions of the grant.
- A-12 Approval of Supplemental Check Register – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the supplemental bill list from April 29, 2019 in the amount of \$129.00 (Check # 53756 – Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Class Trip CEN2MAY19 – Balance Sheet 10-151)
- A-13 Approval of acceptance of Donation - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the acceptance of a donation of a "Little Library" from Eagle Scout Max Crowder to be placed at Central School.

**SECTION B**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Lori Prymak, second by Ed O'Melia, to approve the following **HUMAN RESOURCES** item B-1 through B-13 as amended exclusive of B-2 and B-12 .

There were some questions and clarifications provided on item and B-2 and B-12. Comments were also made that the annual appoint of staff should be bifurcated so as to allow members to provide a more nuanced vote on certain aspects of the annual reappointment of staff.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote, with Doug Smith voting nay to item B-10 and William Vonder Haar voting nay to item B-10.

- B-1 Acceptance of Resignations – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept resignations for the 2018-2019 school year, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**
- B-3 Approval of Acting Shared Service Director of Special Services – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Kevin O'Leary as Acting Shared Services Director of Special Services for the remaining 18-19 school year, effective March 27, 2019.
- B-4 Approval of Co-Curricular Appointments - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve co-curricular appointments for the 2018-2019 school year, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**
- B-5 Approval of Additional Title I Club/Advisor Hours - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve additional Title I Club/Advisor hours for the 2018-2019 school year, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**
- B-6 Approval of Homebound Instruction Provider Replacement- BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Christine Santoro as a replacement homebound instruction provider for a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School student as needed effective March 5, 2019 for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.
- B-7 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. **(ATTACHMENT)**
- B-8 Approval of Involuntary Transfers from Liberty School to the Middle School – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve involuntary transfers from Liberty School to the Middle School, effective July 1, 2019, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

**B-9 Approval of Involuntary Transfers from the Liberty School to Central School– BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve involuntary transfers from the Liberty School to Central School effective July 1, 2019, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**

**B-10 Approval of 2019-2020 District Staff - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve district staff for the 2019-2020 school year, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**

**B-11 Motion to Approve the Following Resolution**

**WHEREAS,** N.J.S.A. 18A:28-9 provides that a board of education may “reduce the number of teaching staff members employed in the district whenever, in the judgment of the board, it is advisable to abolish any such positions for reasons of economy or because of reduction in the number of pupils or of change in the administrative or supervisory organization of the district or for other good cause;”

**WHEREAS,** for reasons of economy and as a result of District restructuring, the Board finds it advisable to eliminate the following positions for the 2019-2020 school year through a reduction in force;

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Great Meadows Board of Education as follows:

1. That upon recommendation of the Superintendent the following positions have been eliminated as a result of a reduction in force:
  - i. (1) BD Teacher;
  - ii. (1) Media Specialist;
  - iii. (2) Resource Room Teachers
2. That the affected employees will promptly receive appropriate notification of their employment status; and
3. That the Superintendent is authorized to provide the necessary notification to the affected employees.

**B-13 Approval of P/T Summer Office Clerks - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Jessica DeNicola at a rate of \$12.60/hour, Beth Hendershot and Norine Hansen at a rate of \$12/hour as P/T summer office clerks “as needed” for school secretaries.

**SECTION C**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Lori Prymak seconded by Susan Cullen, to approve the following **EDUCATIONAL/GOVERNANCE** items C-1 through C-9 as amended.

There was a comment and clarification provided about item C-4.

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**C-1 Approval of 2018-2019 Field Trips - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve field trips for the 2018-2019 school year, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**

**C-2 Approval of 2018-2019 Workshop Attendance - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve workshop attendance for the 2018-2019 school year, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**

**C-3 Approval of Annual Memorandum of Agreement - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the 2018-2019 Annual Memorandum of Agreement between the District and the Independence Police Department and New Jersey State Police.

**C-4 Approval of Discontinuance of Post Office Sent Newsletter - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the discontinuance of the Post Office sent newsletter.

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

- C-5 Approval of Revised 2018-2019 School Calendar - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised 2018-2019 school calendar to include May 24, 2019 as a "closed" school day giving back 1 inclement weather days, attached by reference. **(ATTACHMENT)**
- C-6 Approval of the Adoption of the Danielson Specialists Evaluation Model for 2019-2020 School Year- BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, adopt the Danielson Specialists Evaluation Model for all certified staff for the 2019-2020 school year, at no cost to the District.
- C-7 Approval of Adoption of the Kim Marshall Principal Evaluation Model – BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, in accordance with the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for Children of New Jersey Act, and upon recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby adopts the Kim Marshall School Leadership Evaluation Model instrument as approved by the New Jersey Department of Education and without any modifications as the instrument for the evaluation of principals for the 2019-2020 school year, at no cost to the District.
- C-8 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 in a 1<sup>st</sup> reading: **(ATTACHMENT)**

**R2260 Affirmative Action Program For School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure**

- C-9 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 1642**  
**R 5530**  
**P&R 5600**

**Earned Sick Leave Law (M) (New)**  
**Substance Abuse (M) (Revised)**  
**Student Discipline/Code of Conduct (M) (Revised)**

**Other Business**

The matter of potentially recording future meetings in either voice or video format was discussed.

**Hackettstown Report**

Recent topics from the last meeting include grade based transportation, the continuing repairs of the Auditorium and the achievements of the robotics team at a recent competition. Also May 24<sup>th</sup> has been determined as a "give back" day as a result of not using all of the snow days built into the calendar.

**Independence Township Report**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Liberty Township Report**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Public Comment/New Business**

There were questions and comments on matters involving the suspension services at Liberty School and matters related to the district correspondence from earlier in the meeting. There were also other comments asking if other uses for the school or facility had been investigated by the Board of Education. There were also comments made about contingency plans that were answered by district administration.

**Close of Public Comment**

**Motion for Executive Session**

Motion was made by Ed O'Melia, seconded by Courtney Wenthien to enter Executive Session for the purposes of discussion of HIB, personnel and potential litigation matters within the district that are to be discussed under executive session.

Motion carried in a voice vote.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 10:29 PM.

**Motion Re-Open Public Session**

Motion was made by Lori Prymak, seconded by Ed O'Melia to re-open the Public Session at 11:49 PM.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

**GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday April 29, 2019**

**SECTION B – (Tabled Items)**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion by Lori Prymak, second by Susan Cullen, to approve the following **HUMAN RESOURCES** item B-2 .

Motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**B-2 Acceptance of Separation of Agreement - BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the separation agreement with Employee #1000388.

Motion was made by Lori Prymak, seconded by Susan Cullen to approve the following.

**MOTION to acknowledge receipt of Superintendent's H.I.B. Report:** Acknowledge receipt of the Superintendent's H.I.B. Report as presented.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Motion by Lori Prymak, seconded by William Vonder Haar, to adjourn at 11:53 PM.

Motion carried in a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy Havlusch