Meeting Called to Order

A regular meeting of the Members of the Board of Education of the Goshen Central School District, Orange County, New York, was held in the Board of Education Room at the Main Street School on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on a motion by Martha Bogart and seconded by Thomas Mullane where the board entered into Executive Session with the intent to return for the purpose of work history of particular employees.

Present: Mrs. Judy Green, President
Mrs. Martha Bogart, Vice-President
Mr. Jeremy Cassel
Mr. James Kimiecik
Mr. Thomas Mullane

Absent: Mr. Jason Pucci
Mrs. Allison Salte

Superintendent of Schools	Mr. Daniel Connor
Assistant Superintendent for Business	Mr. Robert Miller
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Personnel & Technology	Mr. Kurtis Kotes
Principals:	Mr. Robert McKiernan
Assistant Principals:	Absent
Elementary Coordinator (Interim)	Mr. Robert Siracuse (Interim)
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director	Mr. Gregory Voloshin
Buildings and Grounds Superintendent	Absent
Director of Transportation	Absent
Director of Pupil Personnel Services	Mrs. Deidre Hallinan
CSE Chairperson	Absent
Network Administrators	Mr. James Sterett

Members of the Faculty, Press and Citizens of the District

Mrs. Judy Green reconvened the regular meeting at 7:33 p.m. Mrs. Green led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent meditation.

Scholar-athlete representatives from fall and winter sports attended the meeting. Mr. Voloshin noted that some of these students qualified for state competition and some advanced to national competition. Joining Coach Monti in attendance representing varsity girls' soccer were: Kacie Borisewich, Catherine Hughes, and Deanna Villegas. The varsity girls' soccer team advanced to the state quarterfinals, making this team the most successful in Goshen's history for girls' soccer. The boys and girls cross-country teams were both state ranked teams. Representing these teams were: Louis Greco, Olivia Elston, Madison Montgomery and Liam Higgins. They were guided by Coach Lewis and Coach Furst. Kate Laskoski competed in indoor track along with Madison and Olivia. They were all state qualifiers. Ryan Ellefsen, under the guidance of Coach Killenberger, came in 2nd at the New York State wrestling meet. He became the highest placed finisher ever in Goshen's wrestling history. Mr. Voloshin and the Board congratulated all the student-athletes for their successes.

Correspondence

The board received the following correspondence: Goshen Gladiators' Gazette; March 2016 edition of Orange-Ulster BOCES "Building Connections"; OCSBA PowerPoint Presentation from the March 2, 2016 meeting; BOCES of New York Fact Sheets; and various newspaper articles.

Privilege of the Floor

Mrs. Green opened Privilege of the Floor.

President's Report

Mrs. Green commented that the *Hello, Dolly!* musical was wonderful. She gave credit to the many students and adults for their part in making it a successful production.

Legislative Report

Mrs. Bogart noted that the state budget proposals were released from the State Assembly and State Senate. Hopefully, they will have a proposed state budget by April 1st. Both proposals have in them an increase in state aid. Both have proposed removing the Gap Elimination Adjustment. Mr. Kimiecik inquired how much this would be. Mr. Miller and Mrs. Bogart estimated roughly $500,000.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Connor reported on the many activities that have taken place recently. Many of our students received the Sojourner Truth Award and were recognized in a ceremony at OCCC. Science Olympiad and Odyssey of the Mind teams competed this past weekend. Many won their competitions and will advance to state competitions.

Mr. Connor also noted that the annual faculty basketball game will take place on March 18th. Proceeds go to fund various activities such as the athletic t-shirt ceremony and Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Mr. Voloshin and Mr. O'Brien, 2nd year health/PE teacher and administrative intern, joined the Board to discuss with them the Wall of Distinction, a new project they would like to develop. The purpose of the Wall of Distinction is to salute and recognize former graduates of GHS who go on to do great things in the community and/or in their chosen profession or endeavors. It would be a great visual reminder of role models for current HS students. The plaques would have sketches of each inductee. The plaques would cover the large high school cafeteria wall. Also discussed were: inductee consideration requirements, timeline, Wall of Distinction committee, and the induction ceremony. The Board thanked Mr. Voloshin and Mr. O'Brien for their presentation.

Mr. Connor mentioned that the 75th Anniversary celebration of C.J. Hooker School will take place on April 2nd.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Report

Mr. Miller noted that Christina Gore, the District's Communications Specialist, developed a nice article on the website explaining the issue of PILOTs in this budget cycle.

He also noted that he is still waiting for a report of the results of Cooper & Arias' audit of separation payments, retirement incentive payments, longevity and tenure.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Personnel & Technology Report

Mr. Kotes did not have a report.

Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the consent agenda as presented.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

Deborah Chandler

Approve resignation: Deborah Chandler, food service helper, effective March 11, 2016.

Christal Berkeley

Approve resignation: Christal Berkeley, food service helper, effective February 27, 2016.

Rondell Gauthier-Peters

Approve medical leave of absence: Rondell Gauthier-Peters, special education teacher aide, is requesting a medical leave of absence under the Family Medical Leave Act, if eligible, effective approximately February 29, 2016 through on or about March 28, 2016.

Stephanie Cecere

Approve appointment: Stephanie Cecere, substitute teacher aide, at a salary of $9.00/hr., as needed, not to exceed 29 hours per week, effective March 15, 2016.

Create position – 1:1 Teacher Aide

Approve creating position: 1:1 teacher aide position at Goshen Intermediate School. This position is being created to meet the requirement of a student's IEP. This position is for 5 ¾ hrs. /day with a salary of $12.82/hr.

Create position – Teacher Aide

Approve creating position: teacher aide position at Goshen Intermediate School. This position is being created to meet the requirement of a student's IEP. This position is for 5 hrs. /day with a salary of $12.82/hr.

Christine Kelton

Approve extra compensation: Christine Kelton, ENL teacher at a salary of $77.72/ period, per GTA contract, effective March 9, 2016 to June 30, 2016. She is currently an ENL teacher in the District. Ms. Kelton will be teaching an extra class to meet the needs of ENL students.

Matthew Laroe

Approve extra compensation: Matthew Laroe, special education teacher at a salary of $77.72/ period, per GTA contract, effective March 9, 2016 to June 30 2016. He is currently a special education teacher in the District and is becoming certified in ENL. Mr. Laroe will be teaching an extra class to meet the needs of ENL students.

CSE/CPSE Recommendations

CSE/CPSE

Committee on Preschool Special Ed	02/29/16;120664/Classified Preschool
Committee on Preschool Special Ed	02/29/16;119680/Ineligible
Committee on Special Education	03/01/16;115270/Classified
Subcommittee on Special Education	03/07/16;113574/Classified

2016-2017 Student Calendar

On a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the 2016/2017 student calendar as presented with the addition of the designation of parent/teacher conference days denoted as well.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

NHS Trip to Presidential Inauguration – Washington, D.C.

On a motion by Jeremy Cassel and seconded by Thomas Mullane, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the High School National Honor Society trip to the Presidential Inauguration from January 18, 2017 through January 22, 2017. The Board reserves the right to cancel or reschedule any school-sponsored trip or activity in the event of any emergency condition outside of the control of the School District, in its sole discretion.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

New AP Biology Textbook

On a motion by Martha Bogart and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the Principles of Life by Hillis, Sadava, Hill & Price as a component of the High School AP Biology course.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

Spanish Translation Services – Jennie Nicholson

On a motion by Jeremy Cassel and seconded by Thomas Mullane, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education enters into an agreement with Jennie Nicholson to provide Spanish Translation Services for special education students effective for the 2015-2016 school year, in the amount of $15.00 per hour.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

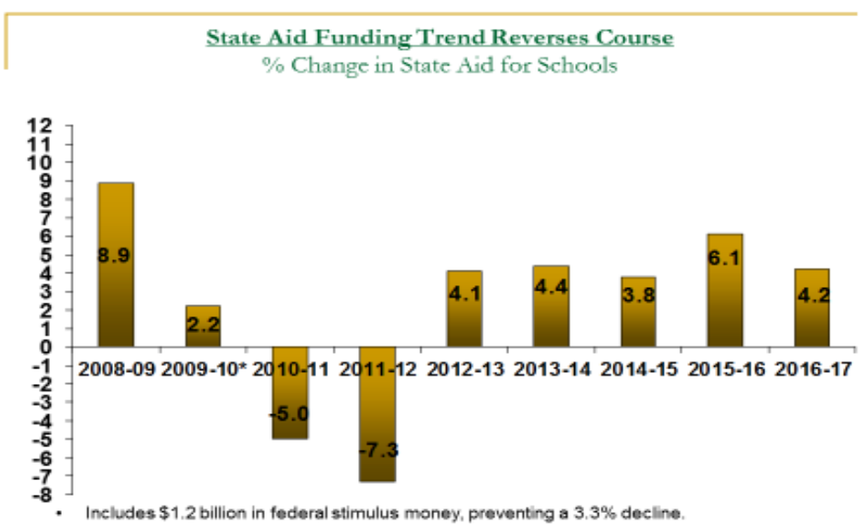
Tax Certiorari – GAM Property Corp.

On a motion by Martha Bogart and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, that the Board of Education authorizes its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute two Consent Orders in tax certiorari proceedings captioned GAM Property Corp. v. Town of Goshen and Goshen CSD, and it is FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Order.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

2016-2017 District-Wide Salaries & Benefits Preliminary Budget

Mr. Miller presented the District-Wide and Salaries and Benefits Preliminary Budget for Fiscal 2016/2017 as of March 14, 2016.



Goshen Central School District State Aid Loss of Revenue Trend:

	State Aid	Year-to-Year Increase / Decrease
2009 – 2010	**$ 13,706,460**	**($ 207,089)**
2010 – 2011	**$ 12,023,280**	**($ 1,683,180)**
2011 – 2012	**$ 10,763,773**	**($ 1,259,507)**
2012 – 2013	**$ 11,367,442**	**603,669**
2013 – 2014	**$ 12,087,115**	**719,673**
2014 – 2015	**$ 12,713,300**	**626,185**
2015 – 2016	**$13,439,718**	**726,418**
Governor's Proposal 2016 - 2017	**$14,140,614**	**700,896**

Governor's Tax Cap Proposal
Effective for 16-17 School Year
NYS has a Property Tax Cap not a 2% Cap

- If District proposes a **tax levy at or below the "maximum allowable levy"** then the budget will be approved if voters pass the budget by a **simple majority** (50% of the votes + 1 vote).
- If District proposes a **tax levy above the "maximum allowable tax levy"** then the budget will be approved if voters pass the budget by a **super majority** (60% of the votes). If the District chooses this option, it requires a statement on the ballot indicating the required tax levy before exclusions exceeds the "Tax Levy Limit".
- If voters reject their District's budget proposal, the District can adopt a contingent budget or put the same or revised budget up for vote a second time. However, it is important to note that if residents reject their District's budget proposal a second time, the District would need to adopt a contingent budget and the District's tax levy would be capped at the prior year's tax levy – a cap of zero % increase. Also, the budget would be subject to contingent budget requirements (ex. Administrative Cap in effect and non-contingent expenses removed).

Mr. Miller expressed that the District was looking to present a budget that is under the maximum allowable levy, thereby needing a simple majority to pass.

Galleria PILOT Loss
Effect of Loss of Galleria on 2016-2017 Budget

2015-2016 PILOTS	2016-2017 PILOTS
$3,548,360	$412,932

Difference: $3,135,428

Now moves to 2016-2017 Tax Levy Line from PILOT Line

Tax Cap Formula

Prior Year Tax Levy		44,997,483	
Tax Base Growth Factor	times (x)	1.0253	
		46,135,919	
Prior Year Pilot	plus (+)	3,548,360	
		49,684,279	
Prior Year Exclusions	minus (-)	789,374	
Adjusted Prior Year Levy		48,894,905	
Allowable Growth Factor		1.0012	
		48,953,579	
PILOTS for Coming Year	minus (-)	412,932	
		48,540,647	
Available Carryover		0	
TAX LEVY LIMIT		48,540,647	
Coming School Year Exclusions:			
Capital Exclusion	plus (+)	498,070	
TRS Exclusion	plus (+)	0	
ERS Exclusion	plus (+)	0	
Maximum Allowable Levy		49,038,717	9.0%

Maximum Allowable Tax Levy Calculation

Tax Levy Limit	$ 48,540,647
+ Coming Year 2016-17 Exclusions	$ 498,070
Maximum Allowable Tax Levy	$ 49,038,717

Galleria PILOT Loss
Effect of Loss of Galleria on 2016-2017 Budget

Assessment Change
Affects Middletown and Goshen School Districts

Before Galleria and Target
True Value: $229,371,000

After Galleria and Target
True Value: $170,628,000

- Estimated effect on Goshen School District Tax Bill: 1.89%
- Drop in assessment alone

Galleria and Target Proposed Assessment Change

BEFORE
True Value: $229,371,000

Assessed Value: $50,691,000	Middletown 35% $17,843,000	
50,331,000 - Galleria 360,000 - Target	Goshen 65% $32,848,000	Galleria $32,493,800 Target $354,200

AFTER
True Value: $170,628 - Galleria and Target
$169,0000 - Galleria ONLY

Assessed Value: $37,709,000	Middletown 35% $13,198,150	
37,349,000 - Galleria 360,000 - Target	Goshen 65% $24,510,850	Galleria $24,156,650 Target $354,200

Assessed Value	Tax Rates	Tax Dollars
32,848,000	102.03	$3,351,481
24,510,850	102.03	2,500,842
	Difference	**850,638**

Effect on Tax Rates	850,639/449,974	**1.89%**

Updated 12/31/15

******ALL ABOVE FIGURES ARE ESTIMATES**

Galleria PILOT Loss
Solution

1. Keep 2016-2017 Budget as close to 2015-2016 Budget as possible
2. Keep 2016-2017 Tax Levy under the Tax Cap
3. Appropriate any additional State Aid beyond Governor's Proposal to lower Tax Levy below Tax Cap

Budget: Where we are 3/14/16

	2015-2016		Draft 2016-2017	Draft Contingent 2016-2017
Appropriations	67,196,457		67,778,271	67,778,271
Revenue				
Fund Balance	980,434		980,434	980,434
Tax Levy	44,997,483	***8.9%***	49,025,812*	44,997,483
PILOTS	3,548,360		412,932	412,932
State Aid	13,439,718		14,140,614	14,140,614
Other	4,230,462		3,218,479	3,218,479
Total	67,196,457	***0.9%***	67,778,271	63,749,942
Budget Gap - Estimated Revenue/Expenditure reduction needed to balance budget to meet tax cap.			0	4,028,329
Total				

**** Under Tax Cap***
**** Assumes No New Positions***

Galleria PILOT Loss
Estimated Effect as of 3/14/16

	Estimated Tax Levy Impact	Estimated Bill Impact * (For Most People)
Loss of PILOT	6.5%	__
Tax Base Growth Factor	2.5%	2.5%
Assessment Change	__	1.9%
Total Estimated	9.0%	4.4%

* Assumes direct correlation between Tax Base Growth Factor and Tax Bill
* Assumes no change in Equalization Rate or other Assessments

Mr. Kimiecik inquired as to whether the Galleria is part of the tax base growth. Mr. Miller advised that the tax base growth factor is given to us by the State, but he will follow-up with the State on that query.

History of Aid Lost to Gap Elimination Adjustments

2010-11:	**($1,474,322)**
2011-12:	**($2,517,350)**
2012-13:	**($2,146,042)**
2013-14:	**($1,672,268)**
2014-15:	**($1,351,255)**
2015-16:	**($ 837,157)**
2016-17: (Proposed)	**($ 552,944)**

Proposition No.2 – Bus Purchase

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Goshen Central School District, Orange County, New York is hereby authorized to purchase four (4) 64-passenger or larger school buses, at a maximum estimated cost of $110,625 each; four (4) 20 passenger or larger school buses, at a maximum estimated cost of $45,775 each; for an aggregate maximum cost of $625,600; and that the sum of $625,600 or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in installments; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

Discussion during the budget presentation centered on minimizing the effect of the loss of the Galleria PILOT on the budget and taxpayers. Mr. Miller noted that the elimination of the Galleria PILOT now moves to tax bills but at a much lower assessment. This lower assessment affects people's tax bills. Its affect is roughly 1.89% on the 2016-2017 budget. This is an estimate at this time since the town does not set the assessments until May 1st. Mr. Kimiecik suggested taking another half million out of St. Dominick's since the enrollment has gone down significantly to help minimize the effect of the Galleria PILOT. Mr. Miller noted that the St. Dominick's budget expenditures are all set in the same year as their revenue, so it has no effect on the tax levy in the same year. He also noted that the State can change its mind and add more students even though the trend is for fewer enrollment. Mr. Kimiecik suggested that the District set aside monies that have historically gone into the reserves to help minimize the effect on taxpayers since this is an exceptional year. Mr. Miller advised that even though we may have been able to do that in the past, it may not be feasible this year because situations vary year-to-year and we may run into some unanticipated expenses. Mr. Connor noted that making a budget so tight with little or no room puts you at a disadvantage. Mrs. Green expressed that she understands Mr. Kimiecik's point on the reserves, but noted that putting money in reserves ultimately benefits the taxpayer even though the tax situation this year may require more taxes. Mr. Connor mentioned that these are preliminary numbers and that things like removing the Gap Elimination Adjustment may help minimize effect on taxpayers. It is still early. Mrs. Green suggested that Mr. Connor follow-up with Mr. Depew, Town Supervisor of the Town of Wallkill, for a more firm estimate of the assessment.

The Board thanked Mr. Miller for his presentation.

Placing Propositions on the Ballot for Annual Vote & Election

On a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following resolution to place proposition on the ballot at the annual vote and election on May 17, 2016.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

Bus Proposition

On a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, that the Board of Education of Goshen Central School District, Orange County, New York is hereby authorized to purchase four (4) 64-passenger or larger school buses, at a maximum estimated cost of $110,625 each; four (4) 20-passenger or larger school buses, at a maximum estimated cost of $45,775 each; for an aggregate maximum cost of $625,600; and that the sum of $625,600 or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in installments; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

Notice of Annual Public Hearing on Budget & Annual Meeting

On a motion by Martha Bogart and seconded by Jeremy Cassel, that the Board of Education of the Goshen Central School District, Orange County, New York, hereby authorizes and directs the District Clerk to give notice to the qualified voters of the School District of the Annual Public Hearing on the Budget and Annual Meeting, School District Election and Vote.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

Privilege of the Floor

Mrs. Green opened the second Privilege of the Floor.

Board Member Issues

Mrs. Bogart reported that a recent Orange County School Board Association meeting a presentation was made on the seriousness of inappropriate texting. The result of this presentation was that most school boards will need to review and possibly require some changes to their current policies.

Mr. Kimiecik requested a copy of the BOCES ranking by salaries.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. on a motion by Thomas Mullane and seconded by Jeremy Cassel.

AYES 5 NAYS 0 Motion carried.

Mrs. Green thanked everyone for attending.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Farrell
District Clerk