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EAST GREENBUSH CSD: KEEP ALL ACADEMIC BUILDINGS OPEN

Board of Education determines all five elementary schools will remain open; approves new program to save taxpayers \$358,000

East Greenbush CSD Superintendent Dr. Angela Nagle and the Board of Education last evening conducted the final meeting as part of the 2012 School Closure and Consolidation study and made a determination that each of the Districts' five elementary school buildings will remain open. The decision by the Board comes after an extensive public comment period and the formation of the Community Focus group, which previously discussed the opportunities and challenges associated with the eight scenario options identified by the 2012 study. Following the determination, Dr. Nagle expressed an interest in moving forward with the Board and District officials to find alternative cost-saving measures.

"I would like to thank the Board of Education, the Community Focus group, teachers, parents and the community at large for an honest dialogue throughout the School Closure and Consolidation Study process," said Dr. Nagle. "Our goal throughout has been: how can we best attain budget savings without compromising the nurturing education, and the depth of education, provided to our children? With the determination to not close any of the Districts' five elementary schools, the Board of Education and administrators are ready to look at alternative cost-savings measures as we develop the 2014-15 budget."

Dr. Nagle cited the discussion and decision to open The Center for Therapeutic Academic Excellence Program (CTAEP), also approved at last evening's Board meeting, in September 2014. In addition to an estimated cost savings of \$358,255 to the district, Dr. Nagle also highlighted other positive outcomes of opening CTAEP:

- Students would now be placed in their home school district;
- Local job creation;
- Utilize current vacant space;
- Exceptional opportunity for the District to develop its own program – superior in service; and
- Students can graduate from a program located in their own district.

Creating CTAEP, Dr. Nagle cited, will allow students to receive their education among their peers in a supportive, therapeutic setting. CTAEP focuses on educating students with their typical peers to the fullest extent possible while providing them with the academic and emotional support necessary to pursue post-secondary education. Students will receive academic instruction that will lead to a Regent's diploma.

“With the opening of CTAEP, the District will see an immediate cost savings of over \$358,000. That's a significant step toward our goal of finding other measures to hold the line on school taxes while continuing to provide exceptional academic and program services to our students and community.

“The Board of Education will be reconvening on October 23 to adopt the Districts' budget calendar. Between now and then, I look forward to working with the Board and District staff to continue to find and analyze cost saving measures as we look toward the 2014-15 budget.”

Editor's Note: [Click here to read the 2013 report from the Community Focus group.](#)

For more information on the East Greenbush Central School District, [please visit our website.](#)

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