

## **Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes**

**October 18, 2017, 7:00 p.m.**

**Town Hall Meeting Room**

Present Board Members: Jenny Emery, Mark Fiorentino, Lynn Guelzow, Melissa Migliaccio, Steve Royer, Ronald Walther, Rosemarie Weber, and Maddie Attianese and Sarah Cusano (Student Representatives).

Ronald Walther called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

### **I. Administrative Reports**

#### **I.A. Superintendent's Announcements**

- Budget update: As the District waits for a state budget, we are holding off on non-essential spending. A plan to deal with possible budget cuts is being drafted.
- CABE/CAPSS Conference November 17-18. Representatives from Granby will talk about equity.
- A Superintendent's Community Forum will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7:00 p.m. addressing budget priorities, district goals as well as an open forum.
- Teacher of the Year, Joy Cloukey, will be honored at the Bushnell on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Christopher Tranberg will accompany her in my absence due to a Board Meeting that night.
- There will be no school for students on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- SAT participation rates for the graduating class of 2016 and 2017 which were 89% and 100%, respectively.

#### **I.B. Student Representative Reports**

- Homecoming week: The first outdoor pep rally was held last Friday. The Homecoming Dance was later that day and record number of students (429) attended.
- This week is spirit week: Monday PJ Day; Tuesday Cancer Awareness Day (everyone wears pink); Wednesday Decades Day; Thursday Class Colors Day; and, Friday USA Day.
- Sports records thus far: Girls' soccer 11-1; boys' soccer 11-0-1; field hockey 11-1; football 2-3; volleyball 8-6; boys' cross country 10-3; and, girls' cross country 11-2.
- The annual college fair was held today. 133 colleges set up in the community gym for sophomores, juniors and seniors.
- On Tuesday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be a blood drive from 8am-1pm. Community members are welcome.
- The high school drama play, *Our Town*, will be held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m.; November 4<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.
- The National Honor Society induction ceremony will be held next Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

#### **I.C. Business Manager's Report**

Ms. Anna Robbins, Business Manager, presented the September statement of accounts. There is a negative forecast of \$504K. Special education expenditures are unfavorable at \$417K and regular education expenditures are projected to also be unfavorable at \$86K. Although the special education forecast is unfavorable, the district was able to achieve savings by combining transportation for out-of-district students and will continue to look for more savings. Additional savings have been identified in instructional purchased services due to a new copier service and maintenance agreement as well as favorable variances due to turnover in personnel. There is a potential for \$686K revenue in the Excess Cost Reimbursement line item for high-cost students which varies as the needs change. Jenny Emery stated this report was reviewed in the Finance Subcommittee Meeting this evening.

#### **I.D. Schools in the Spotlight**

Ms. Susan Henneberry, Principal, Mr. Chuck Hershon, Assistant Principal, and Mrs. Grace Matthews, English Teacher, along with Elizabeth Squier, 8<sup>th</sup> Grader and Elizabeth Dunn, 7<sup>th</sup> Grader spoke about the new advisory program at the Middle School.

### **II. Public Comment**

There were no public comments this evening.

### **III. Consent Agenda**

#### **III.A. Minutes**

A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Lynn Guelzow to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed unanimously at 7:29 p.m.

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### **IV.A. Third Reading of Policy 4118.211/4218.211 - Retaliation and Whistle Blowing**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended draft Policy 4118.211/4218.211, Retaliation and Whistle Blowing, to the Board for a third reading and approval. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Lynn Guelzow to adopt Policy 4118.211/4218.211, Retaliation and Whistle Blowing, as recommended by the Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee. This motion passed unanimously at 7:30 p.m.

##### **IV.B. Third Reading of Draft Revised Policy 5131.6 - Drugs & Alcohol**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended draft revised Policy 5131.6, Drugs & Alcohol, to the Board for a third reading and approval. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Melissa Migliaccio to adopt revised Policy 5131.6, Drugs & Alcohol, as recommended by the Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee. This motion passed unanimously at 7:31 p.m.

##### **IV.C. Third Reading of Policy 6142 - Basic Instructional Program**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communication Subcommittee recommended Policy 6142, Basic Instructional Program, to the Board for a third reading and approval. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Lynn Guelzow to adopt Policy 6142, Basic Instructional Program, as recommended by the Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee. This motion passed unanimously at 7:31 p.m.

#### **V. New Business**

##### **V.A. Secondary School Improvement Plans**

Ms. Susan Henneberry, Principal of Granby Memorial Middle School, and Mr. Michael Dunn, Principal of Granby Memorial High School, presented their respective school improvement plans to the Board. Ms. Henneberry reviewed the goals of the middle school: to develop a cohesive three-year team-based middle school where students are assigned to academic teams which includes four academic teachers plus one resource teacher; literacy; and to personalize learning. Lynn Guelzow asked what the span of reading levels that teachers face in the classroom. Mr. Dunn discussed the goals for the high school. His goals include personalize learning, writing, and improving feedback.

##### **V.B. FY18 Budget Update**

The Board discussed new developments pertaining to the FY18 Budget. Ron Walther asked the administration to start looking at reductions. There is a list given to the Finance Subcommittee from minor to significant items. The list is currently being reviewed. A reduction to line items that is currently unencumbered will not be seen until the Board requests the funds are removed from that particular line item and some will not show up as they will be deferred, such as, small capital. Cuts range from \$500K to \$1.3M and the district is already working towards implementing the first level. Ron Walther stated that town leadership will get together early in November to discuss what the plan will be and hopefully there will be a reasonable budget at that time. Dr. Addley stated the savings he presented will be effective December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **VI. Miscellaneous**

##### **VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports**

###### **VI.A.1. Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communication**

This subcommittee has not met.

###### **VI.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities**

This subcommittee met this evening. Solar effort remains on hold; reviewed the education support personnel practices – to document in a more formal fashion the relationship with Teaching Assistants; and reviewed a summary of a project that was completed for a review of all of our facilities - this is a planning tool used to manage buildings and will form recommendations through the large capital process and help in the budget process. Tuition and fees to be increased in the next budget year were not discussed this evening. Administration will begin the process and this will be discussed at a future meeting.

## **VI.B. Other Board-Related Reports**

### **VI.B.1. CREC/CABE**

Mark Fiorentino reported that CREC Council met today and discussed how the state is experiencing an influx of students and families affected by the hurricanes. A donation center will help provide services and supplies. There is optimism that a budget will be done in the next couple of days; however, even if it does get approved it will take at least a couple of weeks to implement it. The current budget is trying to make municipalities as whole as possible. The implementation of a law for expelled students may be on hold at the State level for now.

### **VI.B.2. Granby Education Foundation**

Jenny Emery reported the GEF did not meet but they are working on a strategic plan.

### **VI.C. Calendar of Events**

Ron Walther highlighted the next Board Meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>, the high school PAC Meeting and middle school PAC Meeting. It was requested to add PTO meetings to the calendar of events.

### **VI.D. Board Member Announcements**

There were no Board Member announcements.

### **VI.E. Action Items**

There were two action items: 1) range of grade levels at the middle school that teachers face in the classroom and 2) Khan Academy participation rates.

## **VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting**

Ron Walther stated there was no need for an executive session this evening. A motion was made by Melissa Migliaccio and seconded by Rosemarie Weber adjourn the meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Guelzow, Board Secretary