

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes

November 29, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room

Present Board Members: Jenny Emery, Mark Fiorentino, Lynn Guelzow, Melissa Migliaccio, Sarah Thrall, Rosemarie Weber, Brandon Webster, and Maddie Attianese and Sarah Cusano (Student Representatives).

Superintendent Addley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed primary and high school students here this evening to present to the Board and also congratulated Melissa, Sarah and Brandon on their elections to the Board of Education.

I. Organizational Meeting – Election of Officers

Dr. Addley stated the first order of business is to elect the Chair for the Board of Education. Mark Fiorentino nominated Melissa Migliaccio for Board Chair. There were no other nominations. The Board voted 7-0 to elect Melissa Migliaccio as Board Chair. Melissa took over the meeting and called for nominations for Vice Chair. Melissa nominated Mark Fiorentino and Brandon Webster nominated Lynn Guelzow. Nominated board members gave new Board members a brief bio on themselves prior to the vote. The Board voted 4-3 to elect Mark Fiorentino as Vice Chair. Nominations were made for Secretary. Sarah Thrall nominated Rosemarie Weber and Lynn Guelzow nominated Brandon Webster. The Board voted 4-3 to elect Rosemarie Weber as Secretary.

II. Administrative Reports

II.A. Superintendent's Announcements

- Congratulations to the Board for being recognized as a CABE Board of Distinction, which is reflective of all the good work by the Board over the years.
- Congratulations to the girls' soccer team for winning the state championship and to the boys' soccer team for making it to the semi-finals and the field hockey team making it to the finals. Also congratulations to Brian Maltese, the new Athletic Director, on a successful fall season and to the football team for winning the milk jug trophy.
- Devyn Jennings, Grade 8, and Erin Keener, Grade 12, will be recognized at the Farmington Valley Superintendents' Award Luncheon this Friday. Rebecca Lobo will be the guest speaker.
- The Board of Selectmen voted to approve the teachers' contract at their last meeting. Thank you to Mark for presenting.
- The Hartland Board of Education signed the agreement designating Granby Memorial High School as the high school for Hartland students in Grades 9-12.
- The Governor has rolled back funds for ECS and excess cost equating to a deficit of \$78K.
- The FY19 budget is underway. The schedule of the budget meetings will be discussed later on the agenda.
- Two retirements are taking place at Central Services for which we will be posting and advertising. Karen Walther, Human Resources Coordinator, and Tom Steinke, Director of Facilities have been with the district for 17 and 20 years, respectively.
- The Superintendent's Community Forum was held last week. Six people attended. Issues discussed were high-performing students, strings program and budget.
- Accompanied Joy Cloukey, Teacher of the Year, at the Bushnell last week.
- The Bridges Program came to the middle school/high school recently and is part of the National Conference for Community and Justice. Representatives of the organization will work with the schools to train students.
- Christopher Tranberg did a terrific job presenting at the CAPE/CAPSS Conference on equity.
- The next Board Meeting will be held on December 6th and both subcommittees will meet that evening.

II.B. Student Representative Reports

- No Shave November is taking place today and tomorrow. Students put money in the jar of the staff member they want to see shave a design into their beard. The money will benefit Global Giving for Puerto Rico hurricane relief.
- The NHS holiday stocking drive will be going on until December 14th.
- The NHS Volleyball tournament will be held this Friday.
- French Honors society will be caroling at Meadowbrook on Monday, December 18th at 2:45 p.m.

- The girls' soccer team won the state championship defeating Berlin 3-0 and field hockey lost a hard-fought game 2-1 vs. North Branford in their final game.
- Winter sports are in full swing. Girls' basketball started Monday and the boys' basketball team is excited to start on Saturday welcoming the return of Coach Hansen.
- Turkey Trot was held on November 15th. Students raised \$807.10 in one minute for the Granby Food Share.

Melissa Migliaccio noted that Dave Emery received the NCCC Coach of the Year for statewide small to medium schools.

II.C. Schools in the Spotlight (15 min.)

Second grade students, Andrew Van Allen and Colleen Brady from Mrs. Venezia's class at Kelly Lane Primary School shared their collaborative science learning experiences at Holcomb Farm with high school students. Jacky Paton, High School Science Teacher, explained that NHS students emphasize their leadership through individual and group service projects. Granby Family Science Night began as an individual service project where high school students set up science stations Granby and Hartland primary school students. Steven Roes, High School Science Teacher, discussed a grant received by the Environmental Professional Organization of Connecticut (EPOC). High school students Madisyn MacDonald and Gina Sogliuzzo informed the Board in the spring, AP Environmental Science students took then first graders to place the plants and animals found at Holcomb Farm. In the fall, each high school student was assigned 5-7 second graders and went back to Kelly Lane to show footage from the trail cameras at Holcomb Farm. Students were given diagrams to report things they saw in the spring vs. fall. Mark Fiorentino inquired if this grant was going to continue. Ms. Venezia stated she would love this program to run again. Her students really enjoyed it and primary students look up to the high school students. Mark stated Holcomb Farm would also like to see it continue and he hopes Granby will follow up with them. Dr. Addley credited Pat Law and Gordie Bischoff for getting Granby involved in this project.

III. Public Comment

Melissa Migliaccio clarified the purpose of public comment on the agenda. There were no public comments this evening.

IV. Consent Agenda

IV.A. Minutes

A motion was made by Jenny Emery and seconded by Mark Fiorentino to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2017 Board of Education Meeting. This motion passed with two abstentions (Sarah Thrall and Brandon Webster) at 7:37 p.m.

IV.B. Northwest Community Bank

A motion was made Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Mark Fiorentino for the approval of the Superintendent, Business Manager and Charles Hershon, Middle School Principal, to endorse checks and orders for the payment of money or otherwise withdraw or transfer funds in deposit with Northwest Community Bank for the student activity account for Granby Memorial Middle School. This motion passed unanimously at 7:39 p.m.

V. Old Business

There was no Old Business to report.

VI. New Business

VI.A. Draft Policy 4134 - Tutoring

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended Policy 4134, Tutoring, to the Board for a first reading. Rosemarie Weber stated this policy deals with the issue of what Granby teachers can and cannot do with regard to public tutoring outside school hours. The policy addresses this issue stating teachers cannot tutor students in their own class. This policy will go to the Board for a second reading.

VI.B. Draft 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 School Calendars

The Board discussed the draft proposed calendars for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Dr. Addley stated administrators have had a variety of discussions regarding the calendars. The start of school is being brought forward suggesting the first day of school during the last week in August. One of the major reasons is to get up and running for testing. These calendars comply with the regional calendar and follows many other districts. Dr. Addley informed the

Board by state statute districts should be allowing for 13 full days of professional development and Granby does not come close to that number. Jenny Emery stated she is in favor of getting an early start and Lynn Guelzow stated there would be advantage for high school students to get AP class time. Lynn also commented on having later start times for high school students. Dr. Addley stated the Board could have a discussion on start times. Mark Fiorentino indicated Choice students should be considered in this discussion. Dr. Addley suggested that a process should be in place to begin this discussion. The calendars will go forward to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

VI.C. Board Subcommittee Structure

The Board discussed committee assignments for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year for the Curriculum and Finance Subcommittees. Melissa Migliaccio asked Jenny Emery and Rosemarie Weber if they would still like to head up the Finance and Curriculum Subcommittees. She stated subcommittee assignments will be reviewed over the summer at the Board Retreat. There are currently two vacancies (one in each subcommittee). Brandon stated he would like to be on the Curriculum Subcommittee and Sarah stated she would also like to be on the Curriculum Subcommittee. For the remainder of the school year, Melissa Migliaccio stated Sarah will be on the Curriculum Subcommittee and Brandon will be on the Finance Subcommittee. Melissa also discussed the start times for each subcommittee and each subcommittee chair stated that a 5:30 p.m. start time was sufficient for each subcommittee.

VII. Miscellaneous

VII.A. Board Standing Committee Reports

VII.A.1. Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communication

This committee has not met.

VII.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities

This committee has not met; however, Dr. Addley stated this committee has been looking at the solar project and informed the Board that legislation was not able to get through regarding this project but just this week he received a request from Eversource for a contract to purchase LREC energy credits. This was not expected and it would require a commitment by December 5th to purchase which would cost an additional \$25K. There was a question if credits would be available next year and Dr. Addley stated he found out that the credits will be available next year. He stated he does not recommend purchasing the \$25K. Jenny Emery stated she is extremely disappointed in Eversource and our legislators for being unwilling and unable to be responsive to an initiative that would save many taxpayer dollars in Granby. The Board decided not to execute the agreement.

VII.B. Other Board-Related Reports

VII.B.1. CREC/CABE

Mark Fiorentino reported CREC met a couple of weeks ago. CREC is involved in collecting items for hurricane relief victims and stated he had a flyer with the details available if anyone would like one. With regard to state funding, Granby will be approximately \$500K short. The legislature has formed two different task forces - one on ECS funding and a second one on the special education funding. There is a CREC lobbyist summary available if any board members are interested. Mark stated the CABE/CAPPS Conference was very interesting. He attended workshops on transgender students, African/American students and the achievement gap and a Canton strategic plan presentation. Canton has a large open choice population and makes trips into Hartford twice a year. Dr. Addley stated Granby will be doing this on January 4th. He also informed Sarah and Brandon of a CABE workshop for new board members on December 8th.

VII.B.2. Granby Education Foundation

Jenny Emery stated she missed the last meeting as she continues to have a conflict. She stated she is supportive of the organization and is open to any board members who want to step in. The GEF is taking on strategic planning and it is going well. She also stated there is interest in attracting new energy around education in the community.

VII.C. Calendar of Events

Melissa Migliaccio stated the high school PAC Meeting is Dec. 4th; toys for tots dance at the middle school; middle school PAC Meeting on Dec. 13th; high school band concert on Dec. 14th; and, high school chorus concert on Dec. 21st. Melissa stated she will go to the high school PAC Meeting. Mark Fiorentino stated the middle school PAC Meeting will be devoted to parent training on Schoology.

Dr. Addley discussed the budget schedule. The 3-Board Meeting is Jan. 16th and the town is sticking to the schedule of Jan. 16th. The boards will not meet on Jan. 22nd as in prior years (which falls after the 2nd BOE meeting). The Plus One Budget typically takes two meetings, which would be Jan. 3rd and Jan 14th. He stated he would do his best to get the Plus One Budget completed by Jan. 3rd but asked for consideration for a special meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9th just in case. All board members stated they can attend a meeting on Jan. 9th if necessary.

VII.D. Board Member Announcements

Happy Birthday to Melissa!

VII.E. Action Items

Rosemarie Weber reported two action items this evening: Grant funding for Holcomb Farm programming and a process for researching later start times.

VIII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting

Melissa Migliaccio stated there was no need for an executive session this evening. A Motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Mark Fiorentino to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber
Board Secretary