

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes
November 7, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

Present Board Members: Jenny Emery, Mark Fiorentino, Lynn Guelzow, Melissa Migliaccio, Sarah Thrall, Brandon Webster (via phone), Rosemarie Weber, and Dwaritha Ramesh and Maddy Wilson (Student Representatives)

Absent Board Members: None

Melissa Migliaccio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

I. Administrative Reports

I.A. Assistant Superintendent's Announcements

- Dr. Addley extended a warm welcome to our colleagues from Pakistan as well as to Mike Dombrowski, and his student who will present to the Board this evening.
- The professional development day yesterday was a full day of equity programming with presentations given by our colleagues from Pakistan as well as staff members.
- FY20 budget is well underway and meetings have been conducted with almost every administrator at this point. The CPPAC modifications can be reviewed at the next Facilities Subcommittee Meeting.
- Contract for the Granby Association of School Administrators will be on the November 19th Board of Selectmen agenda.
- Late bus at the middle school/high school has been well received. Conscious of the distance students are walking now that it is dark and adjustments are being made where necessary.
- Mentoring program has started at the primary school level.
- Rolled out the STOPit program and it is in transition at the moment. So far has been well received by administration and students.
- Thank you to the members of the PTO. The recent Jog-a-Thon raised over \$27,000. This money is filtered back through student programming.
- Nicole Waicunus from the UConn Talented & Gifted Program will present at the middle PAC Meeting on November 14th at 7:00 p.m.
- Solar meeting at the Department of Administrative Services has been rescheduled from November 14th to December 12th.
- Veterans Day will be celebrated at Kelly, Wells and the middle school on Monday next week. The high school had their celebration today.
- A Superintendent's forum is scheduled for November 14th at 6:00 p.m. at Central Services. This is an opportunity for community members to share ideas.
- Two students were selected for the Farmington Valley Superintendents' Award, Elliot Hosack (8th Grade) and Katherine Hosack (12th Grade). Elliot and Katherine are siblings. Congratulations to their family.
- The CABE/CAPSS Convention will be held next week on Friday and Saturday. Thank you to Board members for participating.

I.B. Student Representative Reports

- First quarter ended on Friday.
- The deadline for early action college applications was November 1st.
- It is sports tournament season. Girls' soccer, boys' soccer, volleyball, and field hockey are all in tournament playoffs.
- The World Language Honors Society was held last night. Maddy was inducted into the Chinese Honor Society and Dwaritha was inducted into the French Honor Society.
- There was a Veterans Day assembly today during advisory. Maddy and Dwaritha stated they love this day and find it very interesting to talk to veterans.
- The Fall Coffeehouse is Saturday at 7 p.m. High school bands perform to raise money for the Music Dept.
- Model UN had a NYC trip on Oct. 23rd. The group met with the UN ambassador from Brazil this year. Students will represent Brazil at the Model UN conference in December in Hartford.
- DECA held their fall leadership conference trip and attended business leadership seminars.
- The Robotics club attended University Day at Wolcott High School and obtained useful notes for the season.

I.C. Teaching & Learning

Mr. Michael Dombrowski, High School Social Studies Teacher, and one of his students, Andrew Bean shared their experiences with the blended learning model at the high school. Mr. Dombrowski thanked the Board for the new furniture and shared a before and after picture of the classroom. He stated the class is set up as a flex model where half the time the students are in class and half the time students learn on-line. The double period days are the remote days and students can go to the media center, commons or see Mr. Dombrowski in his classroom. Schoology is the platform being used for assignments and course updates. Mr. Dombrowski stated he was trained on project-based learning in another district and uses that in his classroom. He created a survey and sent it out to the class after the first quarter to get feedback on the course. Andrew Bean was asked by Melissa Migliaccio what he thinks of the course as well as if it is what he expected. Andrew stated he loves the setup of the class as he is able to work collaboratively with other students. He also stated he loves the fact that he can work at his own pace.

I.D. Teacher Delegation from Pakistan

The teacher delegation from Pakistan share cultural and educational experiences with the Board. They shared videos showing the beautiful landscapes of Pakistan, clips of visitors to Pakistan and a video of their school, Foundation Public School. The Board inquired what differences were observed by the delegation. Ms. Sumaira Asad shared that in the United States, school buildings are built for a purpose here along with fields whereas in Pakistan they are smaller buildings. She also stated there is not as much technology provided to students in Pakistan and that students are restricted to technology only 1 period per day. When asked what types of things would they bring back to Pakistan from the United States, they stated X block, clusters, makerspaces, and mixed age groups.

II. Public Comment

Laura Matheos, 7 Candlewood Lane, Granby, stated she had made an inquiry to the Board and would like to know when she will receive a response. Dr. Addley stated he would give her an update by tomorrow.

III. Consent Agenda

III.A. Minutes

A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Jenny Emery to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed with two abstentions (Brandon Webster and Melissa Migliaccio) at 8:07 p.m.

III.B. International Field Trip to Costa Rica

A motion was made by Jenny Emery and seconded by Mark Fiorentino to approve the international field trip to Costa Rica during the 2019 April vacation. Dr. Addley stated Ms. Leeayn Burke, Science Teacher at the high school, is proposing the trip and it is a science-based educational trip. No school days will be missed and it will either be a 6-day or 8-day trip. This motion passed unanimously at 8:11 p.m.

IV. Old Business

IV.A. Second Reading of Revised Policy 5141.5, Reports of Suspected Abuse

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended revised Policy 5141.5, Reports of Suspected Abuse, to the Board for a second reading. Rosemarie Weber stated no comments were received. This policy will go to the Board for a third reading and approval at the next meeting.

IV.B. Second Reading of Draft Policy 6163.3, Live Animals in Classroom

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended draft Policy 6163.3, Live Animals in Classrooms, to the Board for a second reading. Rosemarie Weber stated no comments were received. This policy will go to the Board for a third reading and approval at the next meeting.

IV.C. Revision to 2019-2020 School Calendar

The Board discussed the approval of a revision to the 2019-2010 school calendar moving the April recess from April 6-10, 2020 to April 13-17, 2020. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Jenny Emery to adopt the revised calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. This motion passed unanimously at 8:16 p.m.

V. New Business

V.A. Elementary School Improvement Plan - Wells Road

Dr. Anna Forlenza-Bailey, Principal of Wells Road Intermediate School, presented her 2018-2019 School Improvement Plan to the Board. Dr. Bailey informed the Board the Vision, Mission & District Achievement goal for Wells Road is to continue the development of a positive school culture by decreasing the number of office referrals between white and non-white students by 25%. The Student Achievement Goal is to increase SBAC

scores in Grades 3-5 from 72% to 80% in math by utilizing district structures to monitor students' progress, provide enrichment opportunities, and define common expectations for implementing the Eureka math program. Dr. Bailey stated the Instruction Goal is to provide opportunities for students to take ownership for their learning by using learning targets of the lesson, identifying instructional strategies that support students' learning, and utilizing feedback from district and school learning walks.

V.B. Secondary School Improvement Plan - High School

Mr. Michael Dunn, Principal of Granby Memorial High School, presented his 2018-2019 School Improvement Plan to the Board and stated the entire plan is to improve equitable opportunities for students. Mr. Dunn informed the Board the Vision, Mission & District Achievement goal for the high school aims to engage teams in adjusting practices to increase enrollment in college-level courses, engage in collaborative and proactive practices and partner with the CT Center for School Change and the Bridges Program to strengthen the Advisory Program. He stated the Student Achievement Goal is for all students to meet GMHS learning expectations by increasing the benchmark on PSAT/SAT and the Instruction Goal is to provide effective feedback based on clear learning targets and opportunities to apply it using action steps, such as, focus learning walks around standards-based learning targets, support student-centered coaching, and establish teams to reduce inconsistencies in formative assessment, homework, grading, and communication.

V.C. Child Nutrition Program Agreement

The Board discussed the approval of a Child Nutrition Program Agreement as recommended by the Finance/Personnel/Facilities Subcommittee. A motion was made by Jenny Emery and seconded by Rosemarie Weber to approve the Child Nutrition Program Agreement as recommended by the Finance/Personnel/Facilities Subcommittee. Anna Robbins, Business Manager, stated this is the first year the state is requiring the district to do this and that the 15-page document does not all relate to Granby. The same rules apply that Granby has always followed but it is in a different format. Granby does not participate in other programs listed except for the school lunch and school breakfast programs. Ms. Robbins stated this is a process the Business Office typically submits on the computer but now the state is asking for written approval. The guidelines for this program are the same guidelines followed by the state, which will be approved later in the year. This motion passed unanimously at 8:46 p.m.

VI. Miscellaneous

VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports

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

Rosemarie Weber stated the subcommittee met this evening and discussed Ross Greene and the establishment of core teams which will help mentor teachers be knowledgeable in the process of Collaborative Proactive Solutions to help teachers implement in their classrooms. Also discussed the professional development day on Tuesday; Math update; summits in Math and ELA – the summits were a combination of administrators and teachers (K-8) and coaches. Reviewed strategy maps being created in the summit teams and moving the challenges forward in a systemic way. Two policies were reviewed, 4118.11 Nondiscrimination, which is a revised policy and will go forward to the Board and Policy 6142, Basic Instructional Program, which needs additional statutory language and will remain in subcommittee. Three new texts will also be reviewed: Discovering Art History, French I and II and Science and Society. A new course, Chemistry of Art, was approved by the Subcommittee. This was a club previously. A discussion on the identification of talented and gifted students will be continued at the next meeting.

VI.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities

This Subcommittee did not meet.

VI.B. Other Board-Related Reports

VI.B.1. CREC/CABE

Mark Fiorentino stated that CREC Council has not met since the last meeting.

VI.B.2. Granby Education Foundation

Jenny Emery stated the next meeting is November 19th.

VI.B.3. Start Time Study

Lynn Guelzow stated this committee met last week. A survey will be going out to parents, teachers and students on the impact of changing the high school start time. The other groups are looking at the athletic side of things. Many other towns are looking at the exact same thing. It was a productive meeting.

VI.C. Calendar of Events

Melissa Migliaccio mentioned the PAC Meeting on Nov. 14th with Nicole Waicunas being the guest speaker. She suggested a time change for the Superintendent's Forum.

VI.D. Board Member Announcements

There were no Board member announcements this evening.

VI.E. Action Items

Going forward, the Board would like to see a more specific number regarding the percentage of improvement in looking at numbers for student achievement in the school improvement plans.

VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting

A motion was made by Sarah Thrall and seconded by Lynn Guelzow to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and collective bargaining issue. This motion passed unanimously at 9:00 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber
Board Secretary