

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes
April 18, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

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

Melissa Migliaccio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. Administrative Reports

I.A. Superintendent's Announcements

- Welcome to staff and students from Wells Road who are here to present to the Board tonight.
- Board of Finance voted unanimously after the budget hearing on April 9th to move the budget forward to the town referendum on April 23rd, 12-8 p.m. The total operating and capital budget increase is 2.78% and the FY19 mill rate is 1.98%.
- SBAC testing begins on Tuesday next week at Wells Road for Grades 3-5.
- Congratulations to the 8 DECA members who will be traveling to Atlanta, GA this Friday for the DECA International Career Development Conference.
- Congratulations to Kim Narcisco, who was awarded a free trip to Barcelona, Spain, through Fund for Teachers to participate in a Creativity Workshop to acquire strategies that foster creativity, engagement and a love of writing in the classroom.
- The rescheduled community forum on the use of opioids is being held this evening at the Senior Center. This forum is a collaboration with three towns, Granby, East Granby and Hartland.
- The GranBee will be held on April 27th. There are currently 29 teams formed. The GEF is looking for a few more teams.
- Summer school registration opened on April 1st. The program has been re-vamped and there are some exciting opportunities for students. To-date there are approximately 58 students signed up.
- Kindergarten registration is at 85 students. The number projected in the budget book is 91 students and the new projected number after Kindergarten registration is 103.
- Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring an author day at Wells Road today. Students met with, Sarah Albee, a non-fiction children's author.
- The school security grant for \$900K supported at the Board and town level has been executed by the State. \$150K will be contributed to the grant (\$75K from this year's budget and \$75K from the town security grant).
- Nature's classroom for 5th grade students will be held the end of May. Sixth graders had a great time on their Nature's Classroom trip and returned in time before the snow.
- There will be a Fill a Public Works Truck campaign in collaboration with the town Public Works Department. A public works truck will be parked at each of the schools May 22-24. Items collected will support the Granby Food Bank.
- Will be interviewing for an Accounts Payable position to begin around June 1st to help with end-of-year duties.
- Participated in the minority recruiting fair which had a good turnout. The District is ready for hiring.

I.B. Student Representative Reports

- Tomorrow morning during PLC there will be a fundraiser for Bandit's Place. This is a capstone project.
- Tim Nolan's capstone project, a Powder Puff Football Game, will be held on Friday night, under the lights. \$3 admission for spectators. Proceeds will go to the Athletic Booster Club.
- There will be a field trip to Harvard next Saturday for the Global Health Leadership Conference. This conference will focus on social issues affecting access to healthcare.

- Athletic records: Boys' lacrosse is 4-2; girls' lacrosse is 7-1; tennis is 3-0; baseball is 6-0; softball is ; and golf is
- Prom will be held on May 18th at the Riverview in Simsbury. Friday is the last day tickets will be sold.
- AP tests are coming up. Sign-ups were held today during advisory.
- Congratulations to:
 - Maddie McGee for being selected to the 2017-18 CHSCA All State Girls Basketball Team and to Dan Degagne for being selected for All-State Boys' Ice Hockey.
 - Naviah Barrow for being chosen for the CREC Leadership Institute this Summer.
 - Noah Greer and Caleb Budnick on their selection as CAS Excellence in Arts Awardees
 - John Grindal, Marile Marzo, Charlotte McMillan and Grace Hoeckele for being awarded Honorable Mentions by the Connecticut Student Writers, who will be recognized at an awards night in May.
 - The Granby Grunts Robotics on winning the Entrepreneurship Award at the NE District Regional at Hartford Public High School over the break.
 - The GMHS Science Olympiad on their Competition at UCONN last weekend.

I.C. Business Manager's Report

Ms. Anna Robbins, Business Manager, presented the March statement of accounts stating there is a negative forecast of \$251K, which is \$97K worse than the prior month. Special education expenditures are projected to be unfavorable at \$297K, which is \$57K less favorable than last month. Regular education expenditures are favorable at \$46K. Special education changes are due to a combination of a favorable variance in transportation and unfavorable variance in tuition. Revenue to the town shows a favorable forecast of \$5K. The special education excess cost grant is forecasted to be higher by \$29K due to the expense of high-cost students. The overall unfavorable forecast is the best estimate at this time. It was originally contemplated to ask the town for a special appropriation from the general fund; however, it has been decided to wait until the April numbers are in to get a more accurate number. Rosemarie Weber inquired about pay-for-play revenue for this year and Ms. Robbins stated it is slightly down. Jenny Emery stated the Finance Subcommittee reviewed this tonight.

I.D. Schools in the Spotlight

Ms. Laurie Smith, Media Center Specialist at Wells Road Intermediate School and some students presented an innovative approach to restructuring the media center called "Genrefication". Students informed the Board Wells Road went to genrefication to make it easier to find books to read and explained how the books were sorted, coded and how space was found for each genre. The students labeled over 2000 books. The students stated the system is working great and students are trying new books. There are also more areas to sit and work and students feel they had a big part in the new design.

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 Sarah Thrall to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed with two abstentions (Melissa Migliaccio and Rosemarie Weber) at 7:29 p.m.

IV. Old Business

IV.A. Second Reading of Revised Policy 5113 - Attendance

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended Policy 5113, Attendance, to the Board for a second reading. Rosemarie Weber stated there have been no comments on this policy. This policy will go to the Board for a third reading and approval at the next meeting.

V. New Business

V.A. Suffield Agriscience Consulting Committee Nominations

Ms. Laura LaFlamme, Director of the Suffield Regional Agriscience Center, gave the Board an overview of the Center and stated there are currently 141 students in the program. There is a large animal facility, small animal lab, mechanics shop, greenhouse, floral lab, aquaculture lab, and food science lab on the campus. She stated enrollment is trending upward. Granby will not have any graduates at the Center in 2018 and there are two acceptances for next year. Ms. LaFlamme explained the Consulting Committee to the Board and the duties of the representatives. New nominee, Aimee Gilbert, stated she is excited to share her expertise in farming and agriculture with the Consulting Committee. Alan Addley inquired about entrance criteria with regard to special education as well as the Center's percentage of special education students. Ms. LaFlamme explained she is not able to see IEP or 504 information for prospective students; however, she is able to see grades and attendance. She stated she did not know the current percentage of special education students. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Lynn Guelzow that the Granby Board of Education approve the nominations for Eric Ducharme's extended three-year term and Aimee Gilbert's three-year term as Granby Representatives for the Suffield Agriscience Consulting Committee. This motion passed unanimously at 7:51 p.m.

VI. Miscellaneous

VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports

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

Rosemarie Weber stated this subcommittee has not met.

VI.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities

Jenny Emery reported this subcommittee met this evening and discussed the savings in special education transportation; the healthy food certification which will come to the Board at the next meeting to continue participation; and, bus usage by CREC over the summer. The committee does not have all of the answers to their questions but, if all questions are answered appropriately, this will be brought forward to the full Board.

VI.B. Other Board-Related Reports

VI.B.1. CREC/CABE

Mark Fiorentino stated CREC Council met today. With regard to a legislative update, lobbyists are not expecting any issues will get addressed in this session and there will be no budget deal for at least a couple more weeks. Still waiting for revenue projections.

VI.B.2. Granby Education Foundation

Alan Addley reported he attended the GEF meeting on Monday evening. Most of the meeting revolved around the GranBee. There are currently 29 teams and the GEF is hoping to get 36. Cindy Garrey is retiring this year and Linda Touchette will be taking her place on the GEF Board. There was some discussion about the ongoing financial model for the success of DECA as the GEF typically does not do repeat grants. The PTO put a grant in for a hip-hop dance unit.

VI.B.3. Start Time Study

Melissa Migliaccio stated Alan Addley has brought forward a timeline for this study to start the high school and middle school later and the elementary schools earlier. She asked the Board for a volunteer to be a representative on the committee. Lynn Guelzow stated she will be the Board representative. Dr. Addley stated he attached his article just submitted to the Drummer. Ms. Migliaccio asked the student representatives their thoughts. Sarah Cusano stated it would be a positive thing to do as it is hard to balance everything especially if you play sports and get home late from a game. Maddie Attianese stated she has heard teachers have concerns if they have younger kids as well as coaching may also be a concern for them.

VI.C. Calendar of Events

Melissa Migliaccio stated the budget vote is this Monday from 12-8 p.m. The GranBee is 4/27 and the next Board Meeting is May 2nd. Alan Addley stated looking ahead to June, the Board typically has separated the Boardwalk and Retiree Luncheon from the Board Meeting at night. Melissa Migliaccio has a scheduling conflict for June 6th so he inquired if the Board would be available either Monday, June 11th or Wednesday, June 13th. It was decided that June 11th would be the date for the Boardwalk and Retiree Luncheon.

VI.D. Board Member Announcements

Melissa Migliaccio stated there were all positive comments on the BOE budget at the public hearing. She encouraged every Board member to support this budget on April 23rd from 12-8 p.m.

VI.E. Action Items

There were no action items this evening.

VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting

A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Lynn Guelzow to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a collective bargaining issue. This motion passed unanimously at 8:07 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber
Board Secretary