

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes
May 16, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

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

Absent Board Members: Brandon Webster

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

I. Administrative Reports

I.A. Superintendent's Announcements

- A sincere thank you to our bus drivers for making sensible decisions and keeping our students safe as they were on the road in the height of the storm on Tuesday. Thank you also to CREC for behind the scenes communication during the storm. None of the schools had any damage from the storms.
- Last week was Teacher Appreciation and School Nurses' Day – the Board's appreciation was relayed to our staff members. Thank you also to the PTO who are supportive of our teaching staff.
- The state budget for FY19 was released and Granby received approximately \$500 above what was budgeted for Education Cost Sharing. Overall for the town it was \$80K less than what was proposed by the last legislative budget.
- Thank you to Andrew and Tommy for playing golf with me and the police chief yesterday. Andrew and Tommy were the recipients of a PTO auction award for a day of golf with the superintendent.
- The hiring process is going very well at this point. There is a tremendous pool of talent this year.
- Received scores on SAT. The combined score was 1118, which was down from last year but still the second best score in the last 5 years.
- Last year the high school was ranked as the 19th best high school in Connecticut.
- There will be a Public Works event next week called "Fill a Public Works Truck". Thank you for your support. Items donated will be given to the Granby Food Bank.
- Registration for summer school is up to 133 students. There is a variety of enrichment opportunities.
- Kindergarten registration is still settled at 87. 91 was the original projection.
- May and June continue to be very busy months. See the website for details.
- Kelly Lane Family PE night will be held on the Kelly Lane grounds this Thursday.
- Equity task force work continues
- The next Board Meeting will be held on June 6th.
- Dr. Addley read Lindsay Gilton's experience for *A Day on the Hill* in March. Lindsay was also the recipient of a PTO fundraiser prize of "A Board of Education Experience" but was not able to attend a meeting due to her busy schedule.

I.B. Student Representative Reports

- AP tests are currently being held. They started last week and will end this week.
- Prom will be held on Friday. There was a senior meeting today to discuss expectations at the prom.
- Capstone projects will be presented May 30-June 3. Meghan Leonardi will be holding an art show exhibit on June 3rd at Holcomb Farm by one student. Money raised will go to the visual arts scholarship. Also, Dan DeGagne will be hosting a benefit concert next Friday - proceeds will go to the National Cancer Society. Harry Gilmore's Capstone, the importance of begin an organ donor, was presented during school today at a senior meeting
- The Arts Expo and Chorus Concert will be held on May 23rd.

I.C. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education Student Leadership Awards

Ms. Melissa Migliaccio, Board Chair, presented the annual Connecticut Association of Boards of Education awards to Carly DeMartino and Elizabeth Squier, middle school students, and Madeline Attianese and Sarah Cusano, high school students. Ms. Migliaccio spoke about each award recipient giving highlights of their school careers to the Board.

I.D. Schools in the Spotlight

Amber Wyzik, Media Specialist at Kelly Lane Primary School, and a couple of students from Mrs. Budlong's class shared the process for Grade 2 Capstone with the Board. The topic for the capstone project was community helpers. Students shared videos they narrated to the Board, one about the teaching profession and the other about pilots.

I.E. Business Manager's Report

Ms. Anna Robbins, Business Manager, presented the April statement of accounts. The statement shows a negative forecast of \$71K, which is better than the prior month. Special education expenditures are unfavorable \$280K and regular education is favorable \$209K. The \$163K decrease in the forecast for regular education is due to open purchase orders. Tuition to the town continues to show a favorable forecast of \$5K. The town has received \$4.2K to date for special education tuition. The special education excess cost grant is forecasted to be \$529K. Pay-for-participation is projected at \$41K based on spring sports participation. A special appropriation will be necessary from the general fund for a balanced budget at the Board of Selectmen's May 7th meeting and the May 29th Board of Finance meeting. Jenny Emery explained the history of understanding regarding the extreme volatility of special education costs. The BOE does not hold reserves and the BOF is following this closely. Administration has done a great job in pushing for savings and closing purchase orders where necessary. There could be more savings but a deficit should be anticipated as of June 30th. A motion was made by Jenny Emery and seconded by Mark Fiorentino authorizing administration to draft a memo requesting authorization for an additional appropriation of funds if needed on June 30 2018. This motion passed unanimously at 7:53 p.m.

II. Public Comment

Susan Patricelli Regan stated she and her husband Bill have lived in Granby for 15 years. She stated she is here this evening to convince the BOS and community to initiate a marketing plan for the town. There needs to be a plan to value the town's assets, increase revenue and reduce costs without jeopardizing the quality of life of the town. The future of the Kearns school could be a center of excellence for special education. Demolition would cost \$500K. The building could be sold as-is but the value is yet to be determined by the Town Manager's office. There are no major renovations required to bring the current building up to code as it was used for similar educational services. The town currently spends a lot of money on special education driven by a federal mandate to provide such service at the expense of municipalities. During summer months, the building could be utilized for a senior center or summer youth program. A report was written by a Kearns School Study Committee. Ms. Patricelli stated she brings this to the BOE's attention, as she feels they are a very fiscally responsive Board and should address this matter sooner rather than later.

III. Consent Agenda

III.A. Minutes

A motion was made by Jenny Emery and seconded by Rosemarie Weber to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed unanimously at 7:59 p.m.

IV. Old Business

IV.A. Third Reading and Approval of Policy 5113 - Attendance

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended revised Policy 5113, Attendance, with noted changes to the Board for a third reading and approval. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Sarah Thrall that the Granby Board of Education adopt revised Policy 5113, Attendance, as recommended by the Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee with noted changes. This motion passed unanimously at 8:02 p.m.

V. New Business

V.A. Annual Facilities Report

Mr. Shannon Sullivan, Director of Facilities, presented the Annual Facilities Report to the Board. Shannon began the position in Granby on March 1st of this year. He reviewed the projects currently being worked on at each school as well as district-wide improvements, such as, school dude capital forecast, emergency repairs and emergency roof repairs. He reviewed challenges looking ahead for the FY19 school year. Jenny Emery inquired if staffing levels were sufficient for his department. Mr. Sullivan stated he does not see changing anything this summer; however, he will be gauging staffing throughout the summer and as the year starts in September.

V.B. BOE Summer Retreat and 2018-2019 Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed the summer Board Retreat and reviewed the meeting schedule for 2018-2019. With regard to potential agenda items for the retreat, Melissa Migliaccio required the Board e-mail her, Alan or Linda and topics they would like to discuss. She also suggested a half-day agenda for the Board Retreat. The Board will consider this depending on the number of agenda items.

V.C. First Reading of Revised Policy 5113.2 - Truancy

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended revised Policy 5113.2, Truancy, to the Board for a first reading. Rosemarie stated no comments were received thus far and this policy will go to the Board for a second reading at the next meeting.

V.D. First Reading of Draft Policy 5145.15 - Directory Information

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended draft Policy 5145.15, Directory Information, to the Board for a first reading. Rosemarie Weber stated this is a new policy and that every district needs a policy of what is included in directory information. She has not received any comments thus far and this policy will go to the Board for a second reading at the next meeting.

V.E. First Reading of Revised Policy 5145.4 - Nondiscrimination

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended draft Policy 5144.4, Nondiscrimination, to the Board for a first reading. Rosemarie Weber stated this policy has been revised due to statutory language, specifically, a footnote was added at the bottom of the policy. She has not received any comments thus far and this policy will go the Board for a second reading at the next meeting.

VI. Miscellaneous

VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports

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

Rosemarie Weber stated this subcommittee has not met.

VI. Miscellaneous (Cont'd)

VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports

VI.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities

Jenny Emery reported this subcommittee met this evening to discuss a performance bond for CREC. Legal counsel reviewed and advised there is no need to continue to require CREC to post a performance bond which would save the BOE \$12K. This was endorsed by the Subcommittee. Questions raised on the addendum to the contract regarding using Granby buses over the summer were discussed and resolved. The Subcommittee took action to endorse an amendment to the bus contract, which will produce \$6K in revenue and keep bus drivers employed during the summer. Also reviewed breakfast and lunch prices, which will go up 10 cents/meal as well as reviewed language of the food services contract amendment. The amendment will move on to the full Board for approval on the consent agenda at the next meeting.

VI.B. Other Board-Related Reports

VI.B.1. CREC/CABE

Mark Fiorentino reported that CREC met today but he was unable to attend.

VI.B.2. Granby Education Foundation

Jenny Emery reported GEF meets Monday.

VI.B.3. Start Time Study

Dr. Addley reported the Start Time Study Committee has been established and formal communication will go out to the Committee by the end of the week. Sarah Thrall inquired if any students are on the committee and Dr. Addley stated not at this point but he is not opposed to it.

VI.C. Calendar of Events

Melissa Migliaccio stated it is a busy time of year with many end-of-year events on the calendar.

VI.D. Board Member Announcements

There were no Board member announcements.

VI.E. Action Items

There were no action items this evening.

VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting

A motion was made by Lynn Guelzow and seconded by Rosemarie Weber to enter into an Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's contract. This motion passed unanimously at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber
Board Secretary