

Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes

September 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Central Services

Present Board Members: Jenny Emery, Mark Fiorentino, Lynn Guelzow, Melissa Migliaccio, Steve Royer, Ronald Walther, and Rosemarie Weber.

Ronald Walther called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. Administrative Reports

I.A. Superintendent's Announcements

- Enrollment is higher than our projections – we are down just 8 down students where we had projected a decline of over 30. Kindergarten enrollment is at 119 and PK-12 at 1,866. Increases are at the primary level.
- Summer construction and maintenance projects include replacing concrete walkways in front of the high school building and Route 10 side; constructed an office for the middle school assistant principal; renovation of the reception area at Central Services; additional primary school murals; painting of middle school lockers. Some repairs were also made to the athletic fields with no cost to the town.
- The Governor's budget eliminates ECS funding in 85 towns. With that looming, Granby has its challenges. Education funds could lose \$4.7M (over \$5M with the municipal side). A Three-Board Meeting was held last night and it was not overly optimistic. We are holding off on any non-essential district spending until there is a more accurate financial picture. We have indicated a return to the town of \$352K and have deferred an additional \$150K of facility and technology spending. Another Three-Board Meeting will be held in the future.
- The state released another round of security grants. Granby will need to decide if we want to participate.
- New teacher orientation was held 2 weeks ago for 13 new staff members including a new assistant principal and new athletic director. Dr. Addley also welcomed Christopher Tranberg, Assistant Superintendent.
- Spring 2017 test results are in and will be presented at a future board meeting. Granby continues to show areas of strength and weakness.
- Hartford Magazine ranked Granby 9th out of 50 towns in education.
- A reminder of a few things happening in the district this year: program improvements in mathematics; new mentoring for primary school (i.e., Big Brother/Big Sister with community members); 1-to-1 carts; teacher partnerships; middle school teaming concept; and the high school will focus on the NEAS&C accreditation visit.
- Teacher professional development days went well. There were three work days up front instead of 4 this year.

I.D. Teaching & Learning

Christopher Tranberg, Assistant Superintendent, introduced the directors of the summer school programs: Katie Busbey, Summer School Director; Lindsay Zuck, Drama Academy Director; Kristin Rice, Camp Inventions Director; and, Jennifer Miller, Special Education and Camp Kelly Director. Next steps for the program are to examine the decline in enrollment as well as continue to adjust curriculum. The Board inquired about the staff/student ratios and Ms. Busbey explained that the teachers are hired before students sign up for the program. Dr. Addley stated that many of the students who attend the program are on an IEP which must be met by attending an extended year program. The cost of the program is \$360 for a non-special education student. The Board inquired if a flexible spending account could be used for summer school tuition. This will be looked into. The cost of all the summer programs is \$74K and \$14K is offset by tuition. Lynn Guelzow questioned whether the non-special education camp programs were needed, especially if they are run at a substantial loss. Jennifer Miller presented on the Special education extended school year program. Tutoring is also offered with this program for Grades K-12. At Camp Kelly this year 20 students participated. Additionally, 21 students participated in the social skills group.

II. Public Comment

Beth Cherubino, PTO President, gave the board an update as to what the PTO is doing this year. Alan thanked Beth and the PTO Executive Board for their contributions to the district.

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 at 7:58 p.m. with two abstentions (Lynn Guelzow and Steve Royer abstained from voting on the June 21, 2017 minutes).

IV. Old Business

IV.A. Superintendent's Contract

Ron Walther stated there is no signed contract. This item will be discussed at a later date.

V. New Business

V.A. CABA Board Recognition Award

The Board discussed and decided to apply for the Level Two CABA Board Recognition Award.

VI. Miscellaneous

VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports

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

This Subcommittee met this evening and discussed the opening of school and the beginning of the year with orientations and trainings; 39 curriculum projects were completed over the summer by 67 teachers; partnering with CREC to shift science standards curriculum from traditional to more of an engineering, math, science standard; 3 policies were reviewed and all were moved to the full Board; update on policy revisions for the year was shared; and, an AP environmental science book was reviewed by Lynn Guelzow.

VI.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities

This Subcommittee has not met.

VI.B. Other Board-Related Reports

VI.B.1. CREC/CABA

Melissa Migliaccio can no longer cover this topic. Jenny Emery and Mark Fiorentino will work together to cover it.

VI.B.2. Granby Education Foundation

Jenny Emery has a conflict and cannot continue to report on the GEF. The Board will need to have a representative for the GEF.

VI.C. Calendar of Events

Ronald Walther reviewed the calendar of events. He stated he would not be able to attend the HS PAC meeting. Jenny Emery will try to attend and Mark Fiorentino will attend the MSPAC next Wednesday. The GEA negotiations committee will meet tomorrow night at 5:30 p.m.

VI.D. Board Member Announcements

There were no Board Member announcements.

VI.E. Action Items

Class size guidelines; actual class sizes K-5; GEA contract copies; flexible spending account used for summer school.

VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting

A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Jenny Emery to go into an Executive Session to discuss a final review of the Superintendent's contract. This motion passed unanimously at 8:14 p.m. The Executive Session adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Guelzow
Board Secretary