*The minutes presented within this document are a summary of the discussion that took place at the Board of Education meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports please click the following link: **March 4, 2026 - Regular Meeting Recording**.*

GRANBY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Granby, Connecticut
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes
(subject to approval)

The Granby Board of Education's regular meeting was held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Granby Town Hall Meeting Room, located at 15-B N. Granby Road, via the Zoom Meeting Platform and live on the GCTV network.

PRESENT: Board members: Monica Logan, Donna Nolan, Heather Lombardo, Ann Woods, David Peling, Ed. D, and Andrew Billig. **ABSENT:** Liz Barlow

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Cheri Burke, Assistant Superintendent Jenn Parsons, and Director of Finance and Operations - Nickie Stevenson.

Call to Order and Welcome:
Board Chair Monica Logan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairperson's Report:
Chair Logan, on behalf of herself and Liz Barlow, offered a sincere apology to the community regarding the recent incident. She expressed regret for the distraction it has caused and for drawing attention away from the important work of the Board of Education and the proposed Board of Education budget. Chair Logan stated that both she and Liz Barlow have always been allies of the LGBTQ+ community and noted that the questions and comments referenced were not intended to be offensive. She also clarified that no Board member requested that the raw livestream recording be edited or destroyed. Chair Logan concluded by stating that she is committed to continuing the important work of the Board.

Chair Logan reviewed important context regarding Board of Education meetings, noting that the Board convenes to receive reports from the Superintendent, approve budgets and contracts, and conduct necessary business to ensure Granby Public Schools operate effectively. She emphasized that Board meetings are business meetings held in public, not public hearings.

She also briefly reviewed the legal standards surrounding FOIA and the requirement to follow the posted agenda after public comment. Residents may contact and engage with Board members via email or other means outside of business meetings and may also provide comments at that time.

Following the Chairperson's Report, Donna Nolan addressed the Board. Ms. Nolan stated that members of the community were offended by the comments that were made and noted that the fact that Josh Elliott stated he was not offended did not negate the concerns of others.

She also referenced an email request from a Board of Education member asking that the video be taken down and edited. Ms. Nolan compared the situation to a student expulsion hearing, noting the importance of accountability for one's actions.

Ms. Nolan further stated that, in her view, members of the Republican Party want what is best for the town and believe that both individuals involved should step down, as she stated they do not represent what they want on the Board.

Public Comment:

Please note that the following are brief recaps of each individual's statements. For the full statements, please refer to the link above to view the meeting in its entirety and hear the full public comment statement.

1. Cathy Watson, 11 Evergreen Drive, Granby - She addressed the Board regarding WFSB's reporting on the matter. She spoke about the importance of determining the accuracy of the information being reported and referenced concerns regarding GCTV's editing of the raw footage. Ms. Watson emphasized the importance of seeking the truth and stated that establishing the facts should be the focus before placing blame on anyone.

2. Ali Zafar, Granby - He thanked Donna Nolan for her statement. He expressed the view that the Democrats do not have ownership over the recent "hot mic" issue and stated that the situation had been made political by the DTC statement that was released. He also commented on what he described as hypocrisy by the group, noting that Monica or Liz feel they are not bound by rules or that they need to be held accountable for their actions.

3. Beth Carrol, Quail Lane, Granby - She stated that she has not received responses to information she requested over the past six to nine months regarding the budget. She noted that she has submitted a FOIA request for her budget-related questions. She also stated that she will be attending the upcoming budget workshop and expects the Board to provide answers to her questions. She also read an excerpt from a 9th-grade English book that was sexually explicit, and she expects better from all.

4. Lynn Krauss, 20 West Granby Road, Granby - She stated that she found the book read by Beth Carrol to be appalling. She thanked Donna Nolan for her statement and emphasized the importance of accountability and transparency for all Board of Education members. She also noted that all groups matter, particularly when speaking from one's position on the Board.

5. Monte Horst, 15 Tennyson Dr. - He addressed the Board regarding the importance of transparency and accountability for Board of Education members, emphasizing the need to acknowledge and own their mistakes. He compared the situation to what would occur if students engaged in similar behavior, noting that students would be held accountable for their actions.

6. Rebecca Mikas, 14 Stonewall Dr. - She commended the excellence of the drama and fine arts programs, as well as the dedication of the teachers and coaches, noting that they do an outstanding job. She raised a question regarding how the needs of the drama program are being met and stated that, while she supports athletics, she expressed concern that the budget

does not appear to equitably support fine arts and drama. She further noted that the booster club cannot be expected to fund all program needs.

7. Mike Flannigan - He stated that he had met with an attorney and is requesting a copy of emails regarding the GCTV video recording. He expressed concerns about the purpose of certain instructional materials, which he described as potential indoctrination of students. He also stated his opinion that the budget is "padded" and commented that the Democrats ignored legal requirements and acted in a partisan manner.

8. KC Petruzzi - 54 N. Granby Rd., Granby - She addressed the Board regarding the proposed Board of Education budget, emphasizing the importance of maintaining adequate staffing for special education needs and supporting the social-emotional learning needs of students. She encouraged community members to participate in the upcoming budget vote in April.

9. Jay - He is a former 2012 graduate and stated that in his experience, the staff at GMHS was ridiculous and embarrassing. The staff also allowed bullying within the school. Why, if the student population is going down, why is the budget increasing. He further stated that Monica and Liz should step down immediately.

10. Corrine DeGallo, 3 Strawberry Fields, Granby - She is in support of Monica and Liz. She stated that she believes context and track record are important, noting that both are strong allies of the LGBTQ+ community. She expressed the view that resignations are not warranted based on the incident and urged everyone to consider the facts before drawing conclusions.

11. Kyle Reyes - He pledged $1,000 to the drama club for a bus to the Halo Awards. He stated Monica and Liz need to have consequences, and that it is a double standard. It's not ok to make discriminatory statements and then refuse to acknowledge the mistake. He would like a formal apology and resignation.

12. Valerie Eastwood, 10 Haven Drive, Granby - She addressed the Board in support of Monica and Liz. She stated that she agrees accountability is important and expressed the view that both individuals have demonstrated accountability through their apologies.

13. Anna S., 15 Old Orchard Rd. - She is in support of Monica and Liz, and that banter on a "hot mic" should not erase all of their years of service and hard work, and the matter certainly shouldn't be addressed through all of this hostility.

14. Ellen Thomson, 250 Salmon Brook St. - She is in support of Monica and Liz. She asked the question; What Slur? She stated that by asking and saying gay is not an insult. They are both sincere and hardworking individuals, and she appreciates all of their hard work over the years, and that they are certainly not bullies and shouldn't be treated as such.

15. Michael Fitzgerald, 25 Strawberry Fields. - He spoke regarding the proposed budget and noted that opinions differ on the level of support the Board has received from the community. He emphasized the importance of a collaborative Board and expressed concern that some individuals are using loaded or manipulative language in discussions.

16. Ben Perron - He addressed the Board regarding the "hot mic" incident. He noted that, having served on the Board for 12 years, he is offended by the current situation involving the Board

of Education. He stated that this behavior does not reflect the values of Granby and emphasized that everyone should have an equal seat at the table and set a positive example.

17. Mike Kamerenko - He stated that Monica and Liz should step aside, noting that he did not consider Monica's apology to be genuine. He also expressed concern that the Board does not adequately address bullying issues in the schools, and he has mentioned this issue several times at different meetings. He also raised a concern regarding the schools' no longer accepting cash.

18. Bill Glueck (Zoom) - He agreed with the statements of Mike Kamerenko and Beth Carrol. As President of the Taxpayer Alliance, he stated that he will be attending the upcoming budget workshop. He emphasized that families of faith should be equally protected alongside the LGBTQ+ community and expressed the view that the Board should operate more collaboratively rather than adversarially. He further noted that, in his opinion, there is significant hostility from the Democrats.

19. John Meyers (Zoom) - He spoke to the Board regarding the "hot mic" incident. He stated that if Monica's apology is qualified with a "but," it cannot be considered a genuine apology.

20. Vince (Zoom) - He stated that he would like the BOE's budget to be presented line by line, like the Board of Selectmen's budget, to gain credibility and transparency through the budget process.

21. Tony Flanigan (Zoom) - He spoke to the "hot mic" incident. The language used was inappropriate, and the tone suggested it was not an isolated event. The questions he has are: Why was it removed? Who removed it? Who altered the video? He said Granby residents deserve a Board with accountability, leadership, and integrity.

22. Mike Fusick (Zoom) - He stated that none of his children will be attending Granby Public Schools and that this behavior by Monica and Liz is unacceptable, and the leadership is horrendous. There is such a lack of a moral compass. They need to be held accountable.

23. Elizabeth Bouley (Zoom) - She was happy to hear support for the Drama Club. Thanked Kyle for his donation for the bus. She encouraged everyone to come out and purchase tickets to see the latest production at GMHS of The Little Mermaid.

On a motion by Monica Logan and seconded by Heather Lombardo, the Board took a brief recess at 8:42 p.m. and reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

Student Representative Reports:

- Madison's Updates:
    - A lot of involvement from the student body for Read Across America on 3/2 at Kelly Lane and Wells Road.
    - Little Mermaid - tickets are on sale now.
    - There will be a blood drive on 3/11.
    - They will be raising money for food banks on 3/27 at 7:00 at the Granby cafeteria
    - SAT's are coming up for Juniors.

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- Sophia's Updates:
    - Winter sports - state games have started for Boys basketball, Girls basketball, and Girls Swim.
    - New JV Lacrosse coach.

Reports and Discussion:

- **FY 27 Superintendents' Proposed Budget Presentation:**
    - Click **HERE** to view the Budget Book presented - please note this information is also posted on the Granby Public Schools website, along with live links that are updated regularly.
    - Superintendent Burke wanted to thank Nickie Stevenson and Megan Siegel for all of their hard work in preparing the budget book. She also thanked student Simone Lohr for her artwork that was featured on the cover of the book.
    - Superintendent Burke reviewed key sections of the budget book and highlighted improvements that were made to enhance clarity and ease of reading.
    - Please email all questions to either Cheri Burke and/or Monica Logan. There is also an ASK GPS email on our website where you can also direct your questions.
    - The next meeting will be the Budget Workshop on March 11th at the Granby Senior Center at 7:00 pm.

Business Requiring Action:

- **Director of Finance and Operations Report:**
    - Nickie Stevenson, Director of Operations and Finance, presented the request for reallocation of Capital Funds. Click **HERE** for the memo.
    - On a motion by Donna Nolan and seconded by Andrew Billig, the request for reallocation of Capital Funds was approved.

- **February 18, 2026, Board of Education meeting minutes:**
    - On a motion by Heather Lombardo and seconded by Donna Nolan, the February 18, 2026, meeting minutes were approved. Ann Woods abstained.

Board Standing Committee Reports:

- Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communication - The next meeting is on April 1, 2026.
- Finance/Personnel/Facilities— This committee met tonight. Donna Nolan shared the agenda and what was discussed: the January 2026 budget report, reallocation of capital funds, and the Q & D report.

Other Board-Related Reports:

- CREC/CABE - No Updates.
- Granby Education Foundation - No Updates.

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Superintendent's Report:

- Superintendent Burke spoke to the recent weather challenges. The last day of school will be on June 17th.
- She attended a Business Leaders Breakfast with the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce with our Student Representatives, Madison and Sofia. The students did a lot of networking and were able to meet other women in leadership roles.
- The Little Mermaid production will soon take place, and tickets are currently on sale.

Action Items:

There were no action items presented.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Donna Nolan and seconded by Andrew Billig, the Board of Education adjourned with all in favor, no discussion, at 9:45 pm.

Recording by:
Michelle L. Crowley
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent