

**Regular Board of Education Meeting – Draft Minutes**  
**September 4, 2019, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room**

Present Board Members: Jenny Emery, Mark Fiorentino; Melissa Migliaccio, Sarah Thrall, Rosemarie Weber, Brandon Webster, and Dwaritha Ramesh (Student Representative).

Absent Board Members: Lynn Guelzow

Melissa Migliaccio called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

**I. Administrative Reports**

**I.A. Superintendent's Announcements**

- Mark Winzler, Interim Superintendent, stated the opening of school went very smoothly noting it was the smoothest opening he has ever experienced in his entire career including new teacher orientation (9 new teachers), professional development for teachers, and convocation.
- Mr. Winzler began service as Interim Superintendent on July 1<sup>st</sup> and has visited all schools a few times and attended all faculty meetings this afternoon since he was not able to attend convocation.
- Meet & greets for K-6 went well as did Freshman orientation.
- The custodial contract was ratified over the summer. Thank you to Lynn, Rosemarie and Sarah for their work on behalf of the Board.
- Summer programming was terrific this year. Looking forward to hearing the report this evening.
- Many projects completed over the summer and others are continuing to progress, such as, the playground shade at Kelly Lane and the MS/HS gas detection project.
- FY21 budget season began yesterday. Met with all administrators and distributed their budget worksheets and timeline.
- The district will be participating in Sandy Hook Promise/Safety Assessment & Intervention (SAI) training this month as part of an inter-district collaborative with Simsbury, Windsor Locks, Plainville, and the Master's School. SAI is a national violence prevention program which establishes and trains multidisciplinary teams within schools to identify, assess and respond to threats of violence.
- The HS vestibule project is progressing. Will meet with stakeholders on a weekly basis. This project is part of a safety grant.
- The high school project involving the music rooms, kitchen and tech ed areas must be filed with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) no later than June 30, 2020. The DAS only allows projects of this nature to be filed once a year.
- SBAC scores are still embargoed. There are positive gains in ELA; however, work to do in Math.
- Open houses begin next week. Please visit the school websites for more information.
- Mr. Winzler thanked the Board for having him return to the district to serve as Interim Superintendent stating he first served in this capacity in Granby 10 years ago when Alan Addley was out on medical leave for a few months.

**I.B. Student Representative Reports**

- School opening went very smoothly. Freshman are getting more acclimated to the high school.
- Sept 6<sup>th</sup> is the last day for to register for SATs in October.
- Open house will be held on Sept 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
- Senior planning meetings will be held on Thursday, 9/12 at 7:35 a.m. during PLC time and 9/19 at 6:30 p.m. All seniors are required to attend and parents may attend as well.

- Extracurricular clubs are kicking off this week. The Model UN club is kicking off on Friday this week; Chamber singer auditions will be this upcoming week; DECA will have their first meeting before school on 9/13; Robotics will meet on 9/12 at 7 p.m.
- The First Tech Challenge for the Robotics Club at the middle school is this this Saturday. Still looking for a lead mentor to replace Mrs. Kempf. The Granby Grunts will be present for outreach on Granby Day on 9/21, Simsbury fly-in on 9/22 and at the Air Museum on 9/28. Contact Dwaritha or Mrs. Bastiaanse at the high school if are interested in being a mentor.

### **I.C. Teaching and Learning**

Ms. Katie Busbey, Director of Summer Programming, and Jennifer Miller, Assistant Director of Summer Programming, reported on the Summer School Enrichment Academy and Camp Kelly held in July. Ms. Busbey stated there were huge changes to the program last year and this year was a year of adjustment. The Drama Academy occurred again at the end of June for Grades 4-9 in collaboration with The Hartford Stage. Thirteen (13) Open Choice students participated this year and 45 students overall. Students performed their play on Friday for parents. The Board inquired about the increase in Open Choice participation and what attributed to that and Ms. Busbey stated the brochure was given out at open houses which was a tremendous help and there was also a lot of follow-up with parents.

Ms. Busbey stated the Summer Enrichment Academy in July offered a wide range of programming for half-day or full-day and the District also partnered with the YMCA again this year. There were many options for all students from Kindergarten through high school. There were some new class offerings and the District also partnered with Newgate Prison and the CT State Museum Program for a class where students created trash cans which will be featured at Newgate Prison. 214 total students enrolled for summer programming with 41 Open Choice students and 71 special education students. 20 teachers staffed the Summer Enrichment Academy and Camp Kelly in addition to 4 teachers for reading and math labs, 1 occupational therapist, 1 physical therapist, 2 social skills camp teachers, 1 speech therapist, 16 high school volunteers, 2 Camp Kelly teachers, and teaching assistants.

Jen Miller presented on Camp Kelly and stated the reading and math labs saw an increase with 42 students attending this year compared to 24 last year. These labs provide direct instruction for students with specific needs in small group settings. Students who are 1-2 years behind their peers are eligible to attend the reading and math labs. Camp Kelly ran for 5 weeks with consistent classroom routines and expectations. Additionally, 17 students participated in the Social Skills Camp this year which was expanded to 4 weeks to better support students in the transition/work within enrichment opportunities.

Ms. Busbey stated a survey was sent out again this year and of the few people who responded, families stated that their child enjoyed the program. A comment was made on the brochure and how it was categorized this year. With regard to future planning, Ms. Busbey stated she would like to begin developing class ideas and teacher recruitment; continue collaboration with outside agencies; have more promotion for middle and high school classes; and look at enrollment offerings to adjust offerings. Chris Tranberg stated the marketing will need to be a little different for the secondary offerings next year. He thanked Ms. Busbey for all of her work in developing this program.

## **II. Public Comment**

Bill Regan, 62 Hungary Road. Mr. Regan made a public comment to the Board about special education stating he has a different perspective in that he has been driving special education students in Simsbury for the last 10 years. He stated he does not know how the facilities that special education students attend are monitored or evaluated but that each Connecticut town or regional BOE should be able to negotiate collectively either via a fee for services or on how each student progresses. Tax dollars are spent on an ever increasing special education budget with little or no end in sight unless the BOE and others take a proactive approach to the problem and engage the parents to become more of a part of the solution.

## **III. Consent Agenda**

### **III.A. Minutes**

A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Jenny Emery to adopt the consent agenda. Melissa Migliaccio thanked the negotiating team of Rosemarie Weber, Sarah Thrall and Lynn Guelzow. This motion passed at 8:41 p.m. with three abstentions (Sarah Thrall from the 6/19/19 minutes and Mark Fiorentino and Rosemarie Weber from 8/7/19 meeting).

## **IV. Old Business**

### **IV.A. Second Reading of Draft Policy 6159, Individualized Education Program**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended Policy 6159, Individualized Education Program, to the Board for a second reading. Christopher Tranberg stated in the last legislative session, some language is now required regarding autism disorders. This policy will be brought forth with corrections at the next meeting for a third reading.

## **V. New Business**

### **V.A. CABA Board Recognition Award Application**

The Board discussed applying for the CABA Board Recognition Award again this year. Melissa Migliaccio stated Granby has received this award from CABA the last 11 years and she is in favor of applying for the award stating the Level Two criteria is met handily by the Board. The Board agreed to apply for the CABA Award again this year.

## **VI. Miscellaneous**

### **VI.A. Board Standing Committee Reports**

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

This Subcommittee met this evening and discussed the Assistant Superintendent's report including SBAC and SAT embargoed scores; training in district for Pre-AP pilot program; administrator's retreat; farm-to-school program; and an update on summer curriculum writing. Also reviewed a Google classroom tutorial to learn the information and tools available. All students will move to Google classroom from Schoology by the end of this year. Lastly, a listing of all policies to be reviewed this upcoming year was also discussed.

#### **VI.A.2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities**

This Subcommittee will meet before the next Board Meeting. Mark Fiorentino stated the facilities tour held before school opened was great and the facilities staff does a terrific job. Mark Winzler stated the facilities staff takes great pride in their work and it shows across the district. Jenny Emery stated the Building Committees have been appointed by the BOS and she is hopeful that a chairman is selected for each Committee soon so work can begin.

## **VI.B. Other Board-Related Reports**

### **VI.B.1. CREC/CABE**

CREC Council has not met.

### **VI.B.2. Granby Education Foundation**

Jenny Emery stated she is happy to continue in this role; however, making all of the Board Meetings is a challenge for her.

### **VI.C. Calendar of Events.**

The BOE Candidate Forum will be held on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Workshops for the Superintendent Search Committee meet on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> and Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m.

### **VI.D. Board Member Announcements**

With regard to the Superintendent Search, Melissa Migliaccio stated the survey closes on Friday. A parent/community focus group was held this evening. The application deadline for applicants is September 11<sup>th</sup>. Any questions related to the search should be directed to either Melissa Migliaccio or Mark Fiorentino.

### **VI.E. Action Items**

There were no action items this evening.

Before adjourning the meeting, Dwaritha Ramesh, Student Representative, inquired about the difference between Pre-AP and honors courses for underclassmen. Christopher Tranberg stated the main goal is high expectations for all students and this is way to meet one of the districts equity goals. Melissa Migliaccio inquired if students get a weighted GPA and Christopher Tranberg stated courses are weighted as an honors course.

## **VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting**

There was no need for an Executive Session or Non-Meeting this evening. A motion was made by Melissa Migliaccio and seconded by Jenny Emery to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber  
Board Secretary