



Date: January 7, 2026

To: Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee of the Granby Board of Education

From: Jennifer M. Parsons, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Subject: January Monthly Update

School Climate

In December I provided an update on recent school climate legislation changes to the board of education and SEPTO. As mentioned in those presentations, schools have been analyzing their school climate data, meeting with their school climate teams and drafting improvement plans. These plans were posted online prior to the end of December. Additionally, a small team has been working to operationalize the use of the Challenging Behavior reporting and response forms. Schools will review and implement protocol for this in the new year. Given the legislative changes, we will be developing a series of parent communications to share with families and the community in the new year. In the meantime, schools are working to implement minor and major behavior systems as well as positive reinforcements. Behavioral and attendance data is monitored to inform instruction and decision making. It is important to remember that while “challenging behavior” and “bullying” may have specific definitions, any and all behavior will be addressed when observed or reported.

Secondary Scheduling

As we work to revise and monitor the secondary schedules, we are implementing year one goals and beginning to plan the work on the goals for year two. We recently paused and surveyed staff on implementation and to ask if they have any ideas for moving forward. When our Scheduling Guiding Coalition met this month they reviewed the survey data and categorized the comments for discussion. We found a few areas for review in the category of district design and several tweaks that can be made at the building implementation level for the first goals: aligning the schedules and providing collaborative time within the school day. We ended the meeting by discussing how to move forward with the year two goals regarding interventions and student supports and scheduling classes to allow for maximum utilization.

Looking Forward

Time this past month has been spent looking forward to what the future holds for Granby students and staff. Not only have we been actively involved in strategic planning with the entire district leadership team, but we also spent time with a consultant compiling “ed specs” or educational specifications around a potential middle school renovation/rebuild. We meet with each team at the middle school to learn what educational needs would be for their spaces to meet the current instructional demands. I am confident that we have a comprehensive picture of what would be needed from the educational side should we move forward. Another way we have been looking forward has been to utilize grant funds (both Title IV and a competitive matching grant we were awarded) to start the design of the Innovation Space at Granby Memorial High School. We envision this classroom that attaches to the current technology education and broadcast studio to be a collaborative space for design thinking, interdisciplinary work and maker space type activities. Our College and Career Advisory Board, run by the Practical Arts Department at the high school, recently met with industry leaders and provided insight into what work spaces for the future should contain. We will be looking for additional funding sources and grants to augment this project.