

**Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room**

Present Board Members: Kristina Gilton, Monica Logan, Donna Nolan, David Peling, Sarah Thrall, and Rosemarie Weber

Absent Board Members: Whitney Sanzo

Sarah Thrall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**I. Administrative Reports**

**I.A. Chairman's Corner**

Sarah Thrall, Board Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting as well as those joining on Zoom. She also welcomed State Champion Jacob Shine who will be recognized this evening.

**I.B. Track and Field State Championship Presentation**

Track and Field Coach, Justin Piwonski, presented a State Championship banner and jacket to Jacob Shine, Senior, at Granby Memorial High School who is the state champion in discus for track and field. He shared Jacob joined track as a sophomore with no prior discus experience. He stated a lot of people say they work hard but Jacob certainly did. Coach Piwonski stated he could not be prouder of Jacob and he looks forward to what he will achieve at Amherst College in the fall.

**I.C. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

- Congratulations to our high school seniors who graduated on Friday June 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> grade moving-up ceremony was held on June 8<sup>th</sup> as well as transition sessions for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders going to Wells Road and 5<sup>th</sup> graders heading to the middle school next year.
- This week, 5<sup>th</sup> grade students presented their wax museum projects which depicted historical figures, artists, writers, entertainers, and musicians and they were amazing.
- As of 3:45 last Wednesday, students and staff began their summer vacation.
- Construction of the high school roof will begin this week. Materials have already been delivered and the contractor is staging the project.
- The administrative team will meet this week to complete their year-end reflections and begin action planning for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Summer Enrichment and intervention programming will run July 10-28 with two sessions from 8-10 a.m. and 10:15-12:15 p.m. Extended School Year and credit recovery summer programming will run July 5-28.
- The College Explorations Summer Program will run June 20-22 (2-3 college visits each day).
- Communication was sent out last week informing the community that Dr. Taylor Wrye, Principal of Granby Memorial Middle School, has accepted an administrative position in another school district. Next steps for filling this position will be communicated to the community by incoming Superintendent Cheri Burke sometime in July. The district wishes Dr. Wrye well in his new position.
- Meet and greets for PK through Grade 6, as well as Freshman Orientation, will be held on August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The first day of school will be on August 29<sup>th</sup>, which will be an early release, and there will also be an early release on Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The first Board of Education Meeting is scheduled to be held on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**I.D. Business Manager's Report**

Ms. Anna Robbins, Business Manager, presented the May Statement of Accounts and stated the full-year forecast shows an anticipated overbudget condition of \$589 which is better than the previous month by \$115K. The favorable forecast for regular education of \$116K due to being underbudget \$116K is \$74K less than the previous month. The forecast for special education remains overbudget at \$705K but the variance from the prior month is favorable \$41K. Changes in contracted services, legal services and out-of-district tuition contribute to the favorable variance. Revenue to the town is projected to be favorable \$418K. The Special Education Excess Cost Grant continues to be favorable but slightly higher than last

month at \$358K. Revenue from other towns is favorable as well as pay-for-participation. Special education tuition from Hartford is expected to be received before year end. The Q&D Fund is stable and is trending positive for the remainder of the year and is \$191K better than budget due to lower expenses but mostly due to higher revenue for the per pupil tuition for the Open Choice Program as well as qualifying for a bonus for having a high percentage rate. Rosemarie Weber stated the Finance Subcommittee reviewed the Statement of Accounts this evening.

## **II. Public Comment**

Mike Mercier, 26 Notch Road, stated he pays a lot of money in taxes for public education and does not like to pay for someone to teach students that a boy can be a girl and a girl can be a boy. He stated his disappointment as to how this situation is being handled.

Mike Kramarenko, Notch Road, demanded the resignation of Pauline Greer and stated coming of age videos are fine; however, showing transgender/gay pride was not acceptable. He also shared his disappointment regarding a 5<sup>th</sup> grade moving-up ceremony which was televised; however, he was told it was not going to be televised as some parents did not want their children videotaped. He later found out it was televised. Mr. Kramarenko also congratulated Jacob Shine on his state champion title for discus.

## **III. Consent Agenda**

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

A motion was made by Donna Nolan and seconded by David Peling to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed unanimously at 7:23 p.m.

## **IV. Old Business**

### **IV.A. Building Committee Update**

Donna Nolan provided an update from the Building Committee and stated one last item remains open on the Culinary Arts project. It should be closed out by the end of July and the project can be signed off by the Board of Education as complete in September. With regard to the A/C at the high school, there are some modifications that need to be made and there is also some delay in equipment but the project will move forward once it is received. Ms. Nolan also shared the Wells Road HVAC project is on target. With regard to the roofing project at the high school, they are awaiting a permit from the town and some contract issues that need to be resolved; however, materials have been delivered and contractors are gearing up and ready to go.

## **V. New Business**

### **V.A. 2023-2024 BOE Meeting Schedule**

The Board discussed the meeting schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. Board of Education Meetings will be held on the first and third Wednesday of the month except for the second meeting in June which will be held on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. August 28<sup>th</sup> is the tentative date for the Board Retreat and Facilities Tour. Budget workshops are listed as well as the dates for the referendum.

## **VI. Miscellaneous**

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

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

This subcommittee did not meet. Approved minutes are in the packet.

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

Rosemarie Weber stated this subcommittee met this evening and discussed the statement of accounts; Donna Nolan gave an update on the facilities projects; discussed contract negotiations for next year and approved one request for a 1-year leave of absence which was approved.

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

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

Kristina Gilton stated that there are no CREC Council meetings over the summer.

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

There was no report on the Granby Education Foundation this evening.

**VI.C. Calendar of Events**

Sarah Thrall stated the calendar of events is short due to school being out but highlighted a few things, such as, summer programming, meets and greets and Freshman Orientation

**VI.D. Board Member Announcements**

Sarah Thrall thanked all of the Board members for their commitment as Board Members and gave them all a little gift to show her appreciation.

**VI.E. Action Items**

There were no action items to report.

**VII. Executive Session**

The Board entered into an Executive Session to discuss a confidential attorney/client communication as well as the administrative position vacancy at Granby Memorial Middle School. A motion was made by Sarah Thrall and seconded by Monica Logan that the Granby Board of Education enter into an Executive Session to discuss a confidential attorney/client communication as well as the administrative position vacancy at Granby Memorial Middle School. A motion was made by Donna Nolan and seconded by Monica Logan to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the regular Board of Education Meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 8:07 p.m.

**VIII. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Monica Logan and seconded by Rosemarie Weber to adjourn the regular Board of Education Meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Nolan  
Board Secretary