

**Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes**  
**November 20, 2019, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room**

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

Absent Board Members: Dwaritha Ramesh (Student Representative)

Mark Winzler called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**I. Organizational Meeting - Election of Officers**

Mr. Winzler called for nominations for the position of Board Chair and stated no second is needed. The by-laws for the Granby BOE call for written votes for Board elections. After the Board Chair is elected, the meeting is handed off to the newly elected Board Chair. Rosemarie Weber nominated Melissa Migliaccio for Board Chair. There were no other nominations. Votes were as follows: Brandon Webster (Melissa Migliaccio); Rosemarie Weber (Melissa Migliaccio); Mark Fiorentino (Melissa Migliaccio); Dave Peling (Melissa Migliaccio); Melissa Migliaccio (Melissa Migliaccio); Jenny Emery (Melissa Migliaccio); and, Sarah Thrall (Melissa Migliaccio). Melissa Migliaccio was elected Board Chair. She stated she looks forward to working with the Board again to continue their good work and listening to the community.

Melissa Migliaccio asked for a nomination for Vice Chair. Dave Peling nominated Mark Fiorentino for the position of Vice Chair. Votes were as follows: Melissa Migliaccio (Mark Fiorentino); Jenny Emery (Mark Fiorentino); Sarah Thrall (Mark Fiorentino); Mark Fiorentino (Mark Fiorentino); Dave Peling (Mark Fiorentino); Rosemarie Weber (Mark Fiorentino); and, Brandon Webster (Mark Fiorentino). Mark Fiorentino was elected as Board Vice Chair.

Melissa Migliaccio asked for a nomination for Board Secretary. Sarah Thrall nominated Rosemarie Weber for Board Secretary. Votes were as follows: Mark Fiorentino (Rosemarie Weber); David Peling (Rosemarie Weber); Brandon Webster (Rosemarie Weber); Rosemarie Weber (Rosemarie Weber); Jenny Emery (Rosemarie Weber); Sarah Thrall (Rosemarie Weber); and, Melissa Migliaccio (Rosemarie Weber). Rosemarie Weber was elected as Board Secretary.

**I.A. Board Chair Subcommittee Assignments**

Subcommittee assignments and Chairs of the Subcommittees were appointed by Melissa Migliaccio as follows: 1) Finance/Personnel/ Facilities Subcommittee will be Jenny Emery, Mark Fiorentino and Dave Peling with Jenny Emery appointed as the Chair; and, 2) Curriculum/Policy/Technology/ Communications Subcommittee will be Brandon Webster, Rosemarie Weber and Sarah Thrall with Sarah Thrall appointed as the Chair.

**II. Administrative Reports**

**II.A. Superintendent's Announcements**

- Mark Winzler, Interim Superintendent, welcomed Wells Road Intermediate School students and staff who were in attendance to present for Schools in the Spotlight this evening.
- Congratulations to the Board again for receiving the CABA Level Two Leadership Award. Each Board member is eligible for one free workshop.
- Christopher Tranberg did a great job presenting with consultants from the Center for School Change on Equity at the CABA/CAPSS Convention on Saturday.
- The high school vestibule project is moving along but a bit behind schedule. Hopefully the project will be complete by mid-January.
- Veterans day celebrations were held and well attended by local veterans. Mr. Winzler thanked Rosemarie Weber for attending the celebration at the middle school to honor her service.
- Kelly Lane students celebrated World Kindness Day last Wednesday sharing acts of kindness.

- A new Physical Education Teacher, Jill Kozieradzki, from Waterbury Public Schools has been hired and will begin in Granby on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Budget meetings have been completed at all of the schools. Dr. Jordan Grossman, Superintendent-Elect has attended meetings with cabinet members and also attended a meeting on Monday with administrators. Dr. Grossman will present the Plus One Budget to the Board on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The next Board Meeting will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup>. A reminder that the Curriculum Subcommittee will not meet on December 4<sup>th</sup> but will meet on December 18<sup>th</sup> instead.
- There will be an early release on November 27<sup>th</sup> and no school on November 28-29 for the Thanksgiving recess.

## **II.B. Student Representative Reports**

- The Fall Coffeehouse will be held this Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> in the high school commons.
- The GMHS band concert will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and GMHS chorus concert will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.
- Field hockey won their semi-final game in double overtime against Westbrook. The final game will be held this Saturday at 10 a.m. in Wethersfield.
- The girls' soccer team is competing right now to play in the championship game this Saturday.
- Both boys' soccer and girls' volleyball lost their games last Friday in the quarterfinals.
- Boys' and girls' basketball tryouts will be held the first week of December.
- The Boosters Club is contributing to rain covers for the bleachers on the turf fields which is being organized by the boys' soccer coach Dave Emery.
- Any team that makes it to the finals from now on will get a coach bus due to the Boosters' efforts.
- Boosters is also attempting to enclose the upper stands of the stadium seating to allow the microphone and audio equipment to remain there without damage.
- The salad bar has returned to the high school and students can get salads, sandwiches or wraps.

Mark Fiorentino added the football team will be playing on Friday night at home. If they win they will secure a playoff spot.

Additionally, Melissa Migliaccio shared with the Board that Dave Emery led the entire boys' soccer team in a fall clean-up on Saturday for a Granby family who recently lost their dad. Afterwards, the Emerys had the entire team to their house for dinner. She also shared that the Board received an email from a parent on the Gilbert/Northwestern football team. There is an autistic player on the team and the parent complimented that not only was our JV team exemplary by letting him tackle the quarterback but they all congratulated him after the game by patting him on the back. The parent stated she has rarely seen that type of sportsmanship.

## **II.C. Business Manager's Report**

Ms. Anna Robbins, Business Manager, presented the October statement of accounts. The BOE continues to show a negative forecast \$196K. Special education expenditures are projected to be unfavorable \$318K and regular education expenditures are expected to be favorable at \$122K. Spending in the regular education category is on target. Salaries and benefits represent 76% of the budget and show a slightly favorable forecast. The Quality & Diversity Fund shows a favorable forecast based on a decrease in magnet school tuition and higher attendance at Asnuntuck and the Suffield VoAg Program. Revenue to the town reflects additional revenue for regular education tuition from other towns at \$40K but excess cost funding from the state is expected to be lower than budgeted by \$65K. Ms. Robbins stated it is still early in the year. Jenny Emery stated the Finance Subcommittee reviewed the numbers this evening and had a robust discussion about the volatility of special education. She stated there are a number of kids participating in the Asnuntuck program for welding and agricultural program at Suffield and the bad news is it's higher than we budgeted for but the good news is that students are interested in attending these programs.

## **II.D. Schools in the Spotlight**

Fourth Grade students in Mrs. Pestana's class at Wells Road Intermediate School shared with the Board what they have learned about why the topography changes across the United States and showed how they actively engage in scientific exploration to take ownership of their learning. Amy Lupoli, Elementary Science Coach, stated the unit studied was primarily on National Parks. Students informed the Board how questions are asked and students take notes. The question was then asked, "How does topography change across the U.S.?" Students explained how they performed activities in class and found out that wind and erosion changes topography. Students did a lab on erosion using sand to simulate land erosion; a lab on water erosion using chips; and a lab using a straw to simulate wind erosion by blowing on sand through a straw. Additionally, students performed a lab for mass and speed and also learned how an oxbow is formed and shared a model with the Board to show it is formed. The students interviewed some of their classmates in Mrs. Pestana's class about science and shared some of those comments with the Board.

## **III. Public Comment**

There were no public comments this evening.

## **IV. Consent Agenda**

### **IV.A. Minutes**

A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Jenny Emery to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed at 7:45 p.m. with one abstention (Dave Peling).

## **V. Old Business**

### **V.A. Third Reading of Revised Policy 6111 - Calendar**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended Revised Policy 6111, Calendar, to the Board for a third reading and approval. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Sarah Thrall to adopt Revised Policy 6111, Calendar, as recommended by the Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee. The addition to this policy allows the Board to set the graduation date. This motion passed unanimously at 7:46 p.m.

## **VI. New Business**

### **VI.A. First Reading of Revised Policy 4212.42, Testing and Training for School Bus Drivers**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended Revised Policy 4212.42, Training and Testing for School Bus Drivers, to the Board for a first reading. The major change to this policy was in the title of it. It was renamed because there were some items added to the policy that were not in there before, such as, drug testing for subcontractors and training in using an epi-pen. Jenny Emery noted the title needs to be changed on the second page of the policy. Sarah Thrall inquired if the number to this policy had to change as well. Rosemarie Weber stated she will get in touch with Christopher Tranberg and ask him.

## **VII. Miscellaneous**

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

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

Rosemarie Weber stated this subcommittee did not meet.

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

Jenny Emery reported this Subcommittee met this evening to discuss the statement of accounts; fee structures with regard to costs of Pre-K and pay-for-play; upcoming budget dates were reviewed and the Three-Board Meeting will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup>; and received an update on the building projects and a memo on solar which has gone to the Board of Selectmen and a process that the Board of Selectmen has laid out for reviewing that project.

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

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

Mark Fiorentino reported CREC gave a brief legislative update. Starting in February, a shorter version of the legislative session will begin. Discussions might include legislation on shared services, model school climate policy, a push to change vaccination law to remove non-medical, later school start times, and some discussion on policies for undirected play (recess). Melissa Migliaccio stated the Board will follow the legislation on school start times closely since this topic was recently reviewed by the Board.

Mark Winzler stated the keynote speaker at the CABE/CAPSS Convention was very riveting. His name was Dr. Derrick Gay and he spoke about equity and inclusion in a way that opened people's eyes. Mr. Winzler stated he will share a link to the video if provided by CABE. He also noted the attendance at the conference this year appeared to be down and that it may be due to budget cuts for districts.

Mark Fiorentino stated he will meet with CABE representatives to see what the time constraints are for a legislative group and will join if he feels he has the capability to do so.

Jenny Emery stated she reads all of the literature CABE sends out and that CABE is a very accomplished organization and that the Board should find more opportunities to be involved.

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

Jenny Emery reported she is happy to be involved but if another Board member would like to be a Board liaison that would be fine. As an Ex-Officio Board Member you would actively serve on the Grant Committee to ensure that items funded by the GEF should not be funded by the BOE.

## **VII.C. Calendar of Events**

Melissa Migliaccio reported next regularly scheduled meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> and there will be no Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting as Chris will be out of town. Mark Fiorentino asked Linda Powell to check on the MS PAC meeting as it may be different than what is listed on the calendar.

## **VII.D. Board Member Announcements**

Melissa Migliaccio wished a Happy Thanksgiving to the Board, students and their families. Mark Fiorentino mentioned STEAM Day is scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup> and there is a need for volunteers.

## **VII.E. Action Items**

- 1) Rosemarie Weber to check on policy number with Chris Tranberg.
- 2) Mark Winzler to provide a link for the keynote speaker from CABE/CAPSS Convention.

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

There was no need to enter into an Executive Session/Non-Meeting this evening. A motion was made by Jenny Emery and seconded by Rosemarie Weber to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber  
Board Secretary