



**Date:** April 1, 2026

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

**From:** Jennifer M. Parsons, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

**Subject:** April Monthly Update

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### **Secondary Scheduling**

Our Year 2 Work Group has been busy researching and proposing shifts for the upcoming year around second year goals regarding interventions and student supports and scheduling classes to allow for maximum utilization. The Work Group will be presenting to the Guiding Coalition this week their plan for aligning and strengthening supports and structures to allow students to receive informal help from teachers as well as be scheduled for more intentional systemic support for learning and accessing resources. One example of this will be planning for a type of specialized study hall called a learning center with a focus on supporting executive functioning or receiving guidance in a specific content area. These shifts require no additional resources at this point beyond creatively scheduling the staff available. Additionally, the group will suggest section size guidance for the teams creating the secondary schedules and suggesting that the high school leadership team take a deeper dive into courses that potentially conflict and consider running alternating year electives in order to preserve the breadth of courses offered while honoring staffing needs. The middle and high school are well underway with selecting courses and setting up the schedule for next year.

### **Supporting School Climate**

Granby, via the assistant superintendent, was recently selected to participate on a regional work group facilitated by EdAdvance to advise the state school climate consultant on the needs of districts implementing the new school climate policy. Collaboration in this area allowed districts to share resources and support the state in creating guiding documents for all schools in Connecticut. Granby is well underway with implementing the revised school climate policy, working with restorative practices, and implementing the challenging behavior forms and language. School climate teams are ensuring all school staff are up to speed on the changes that have been made and we are looking to share additional information with families in the coming months. On March 20, our last professional learning day, all staff participated in a choice session focused around SEL topics such as trauma informed teaching, running restorative circles, mindfulness, tips and tricks for creating supportive learning environments and proactive problem solving.

### **Reimagining Teaching and Learning**

The work with the strategic plan has really picked up in the past two months. A solid draft has been developed by the working group and will be reviewed by the District Leadership Team next week before coming to the Board in May. Multiple stakeholder groups have had insight into the development through surveys, participation and community forums. We are excited to share with you the work in the coming months and the team feels it will be an excellent vehicle to carry us through the next few years and unite the initiatives across the district, from operations to instruction. This exciting work has been augmented by Learning Walks, a visit to all four schools in one day by a group of teachers that results in actionable feedback for school teams.