

Leading Together: Celebrating Our Progress, Inspiring Our Future



Granby Public Schools | 2024–2025
Superintendent's Year-End Report

Student Achievement



Goals:

100% of Granby students make growth as measured on standardized assessments.

Increase math achievement across the district to post-pandemic norms. Strive for 80% at or above proficient in ELA and 70% at or above proficient in Math

Results:

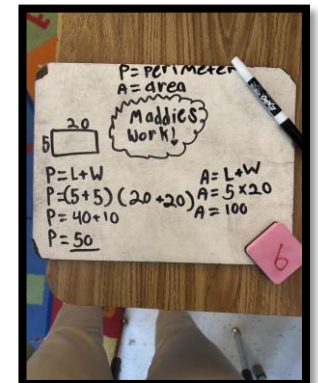
Highest math scores on the Smarter Balanced Assessment in Grades 6, 7 and 8 since before the pandemic.

Grade 8 and 9 PSAT scores are 20 points higher than last year.

Early data shows the current Grade 3 is a strong cohort of students achieving near 70% at proficiency or higher on both Math and ELA Smarter Balanced Assessments.

Focus on Achievement

- Certified Math Intervention Teacher at GMMS
- Focused training for Teaching Assistants to support small group instruction
- Student ownership of their performance data and goal setting
- Peer Learning Walks and observations
- Data teams at the grade level and building level to target instruction
- Revised intervention system (MTSS) with entrance and exit criteria
- P/SAT aligned department benchmarks and goals



Community Engagement & Communications

- Successfully Completed first two years of the District [Communication Plan](#)
- Published [Crisis Response Protocol](#)
- Developed and Shared [Communication Plan for Incidents & Emergency Response](#)
- Created and promoted a [Guide to Address School Concerns](#)
- Revised all [Library media websites](#) with searchable tools for book collections
- Publicized school successes via social media, district website, *Granby Drummer* articles and awards and recognition at BOE meetings
- Held Zoom and in-person community conversations for interested stakeholders



BOE BUDGET WORKSHOP



WEDNESDAY
MARCH 12, 2025

7:00PM

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING
BOE CONFERENCE ROOM & ON ZOOM



Click the QR Code or visit www.granbyschools.org for more information on the budget process

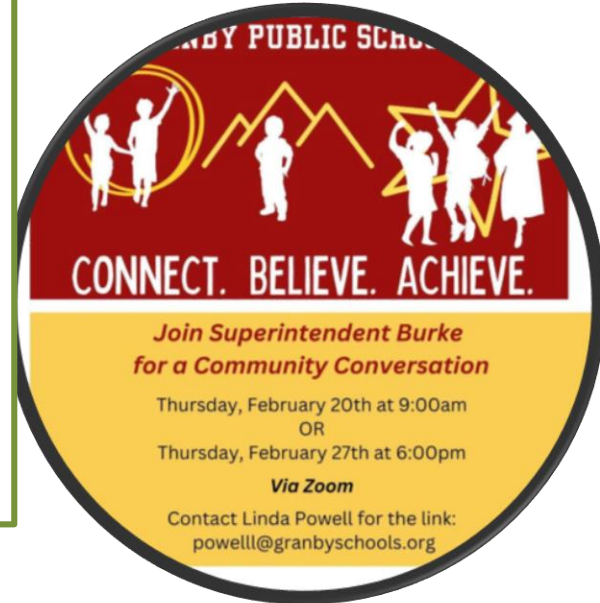


NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH

Mrs. Tanis



Having spent her entire career at the middle school level, Mrs. Tanis has a great sense of humour and a special connection with this age group!



GET READY FOR SOME FUN AT FAMILY BOOKS & BINGO NIGHT

At Kelly Lane Elementary School

Emceed by Mr. Whitten

\$20 for 10 cards
Cash or Venmo at the door.

Dress up as your favorite book character! Prize for best costume.



APRIL 3, 2025
6:00PM - 7:00PM

Exciting Prizes Fun and Games Delicious Snacks

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO GRANBY PTO



Meet the artists of this year's Granby P.S. holiday cards!



Board of Education Member
Karen Richmond-Godard

The Granby School Board advocates on behalf of our schools, students and community.
Thank you Ms. Richmond-Godard for your dedication to Granby!

Safety & Security

Reunification Plan Revised

- Year-long focus for the emergency management team
- Collaborated with Kim Myers, Regional School Safety Coordinator from CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation

School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

- Developed in collaboration with Granby Police Department
- Community-wide survey, presentations and conversations
- Positive response to add the SRO Program
- Adopted by the BOE at the February 5, 2025 BOE Meeting
- FY26 Budget supports SRO Program
- Implementation 2025-2026 School Year



Why does Granby need a School Resource Officer (SRO)?

The Granby Police Department and Granby Public Schools aim to:

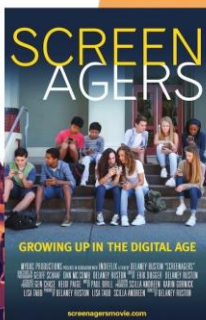
- Create and maintain a safe school environment
- Establish a cooperative relationship between students and police
- Prevent juvenile delinquency
- Promote positive interactions between students and police officers

Safety & Security

Focus on student mental health

- ❖ Together with Director of Student Counseling, presented to the Board of Directors for Farmington Valley YMCA to explore mental health collaboration
- ❖ Emphasize screen-free schools with advisory lessons, screenagers showing and education and awareness campaign for students and parents
- ❖ Collaborate with Farmington Valley Health District to:
 - Train all Granby staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid
 - Certify all Grade 11 and 12 students in Teen Mental Health Training
 - Offer online vaping and substance abuse prevention class for at-risk youth
- ❖ Therapy dog visits to Kelly Lane and the B.E.A.R. Transition Academy
- ❖ Create safe spaces with new Structured Resource Room & Alternative Learning Center at GMHS
- ❖ CREW implemented at GMMS
- ❖ Staff Wellness Day in January 2025

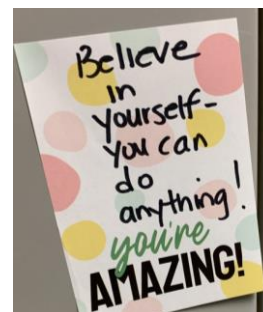
Screenagers: Growing Up in Digital Age



Join us on April 8th at
6 PM for a viewing at
Granby Memorial High
School Auditorium.

If you intend to attend, please fill out [this](#)
google form.

If you would like or need child care, please
complete [this](#) additional Google form.



Mental Health FIRST AID
from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

**teen MENTAL
HEALTH FIRST AID**

When we first started the
MHFA training, I didn't

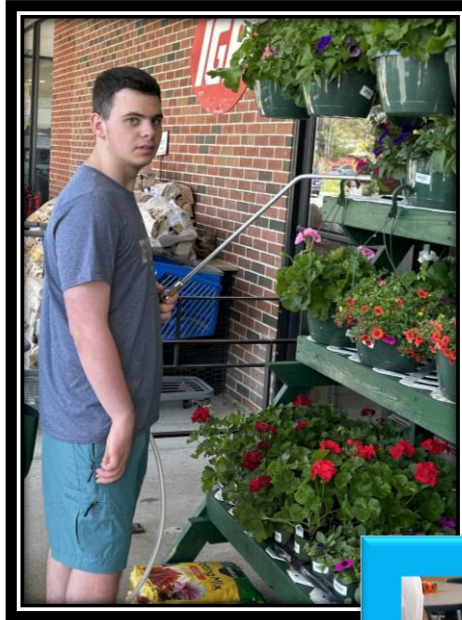
WHY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Build a powerful community of teens ages 14-18 by teaching them how to support a friend or classmate with the evidence-based teen Mental Health First Aid (TMHFA) course.



Special Education & Program Development

- Reorganized Department to include Department Chair for Elementary and Department Chair for Secondary to oversee programs and provide site-based support.
- Launched three (3) new specialized programs:
 - ❖ RISE
 - ❖ Alternative Learning Center
 - ❖ PAVE
- Successfully brought students back to Granby Public Schools from out-of-district placements.
- Grew the B.E.A.R. Transition Academy to include students from neighboring communities.
- Pilot for Structured Resource Room Support for behavior and social and emotional regulation.
- Renegotiate bus contract to save money and improve routes for students attending out-of-district placements.



Central Office & Administration Reorganization

Central Office

Eliminated: Grants Manager position & Out-of-District Coordinator position

Added: Human Resources Administrative Assistant position &
Department Chair *stipends* for existing Special Education positions (at schools)

Granby Memorial High School

Eliminated: Assistant Principal position

Added: Stipend for existing School Counselor position (Director) & Dean of Students position

Efficiencies and Solution-Oriented Practices

Facilities Department:

- Over \$85,000 in savings with program efficiencies/ in-house work
- Restructured Department to provide high level of targeted service
- Skills and expertise of Department Supervisor and crew immeasurable

Human Resources:

- Streamlined hiring and recruitment efforts
- Negotiated Administrator and Secretary Union Contracts
- Reorganized staff to optimize district capacity
- Expanded 403b options for staff (no cost to district)



Finance Department:

- Over \$750,000 in savings with renegotiated transportation contracts (FY24-26)
- Reduced cost of student accident insurance by 50% with renegotiated contract
- Increased revenue for special education services by adopting CREC rates
- Established Non-Lapsing Fund for Board of Education

Capital Improvement Plans

- Developed 10-year Capital Improvement Plan
- Researched and identified solution for GMHS track and field concerns
- Athletic Field Complex design for future consideration and budgeting
- Complete study of Granby Memorial Middle School to present to Capital Program Priorities Advisory Committee for consideration to renovate/build new
- Safety and Security walkthroughs and planning for infrastructure updates



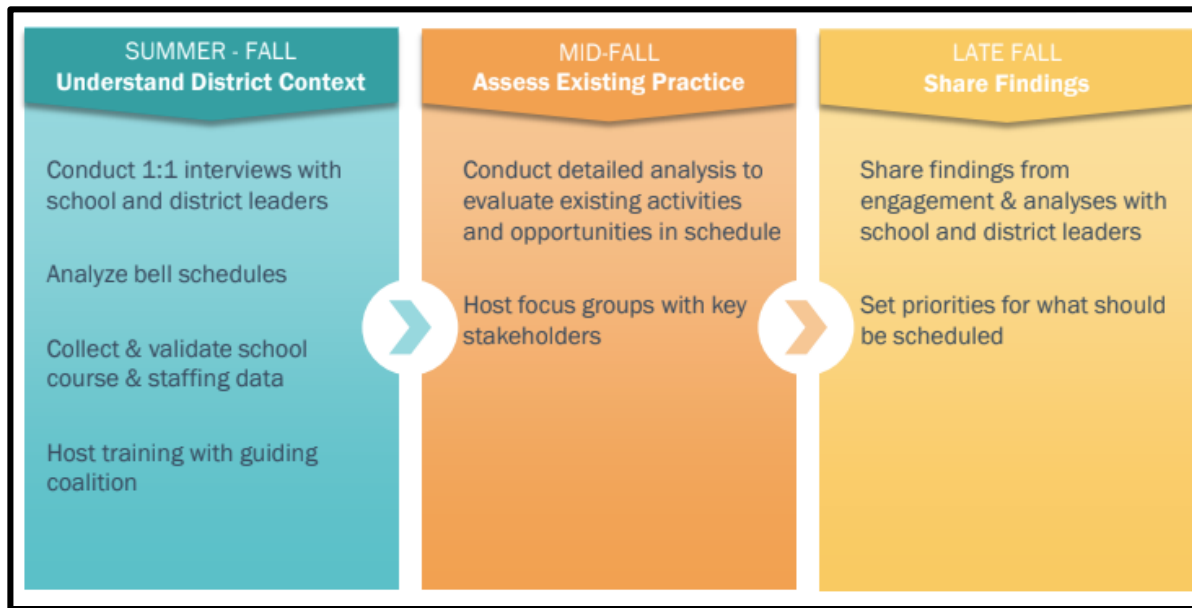
Develop GMMS & GMHS Aligned Schedule

Work with consultant group to:

- ❖ Meet with focus groups of students, staff and administrators from both schools
- ❖ Collect data on instructional minutes and current practice
- ❖ Analyze bell schedules, course offerings and staffing data
- ❖ Train and support the guiding coalition work group

Goals for the work:

- ❖ Align bell schedules at both schools
- ❖ Prioritize embedding content specific collaboration time within the school day
- ❖ Maximize academic intervention programming
- ❖ Manage low-enrollment and single-section classes



- ★ Increased instructional time at GMHS by more than 70 hours
- ★ Significantly increased access to instructional support and intervention at GMMS
- ★ Alignment for staff and students to flex across campus buildings
- ★ Increased collaborative opportunities for all staff within the school day

Celebrations



SUPERINTENDENTS TO WATCH

Superintendent Burke was the only Superintendent in New England recognized as an up and coming Superintendent to Watch



Granby Public Schools is the only school district in the Farmington Valley to have 100% of staff trained.



Hartford Foundation
FOR PUBLIC GIVING

Awarded a \$5,000 grant for families in need of support with preschool tuition.



GMHS awarded an INNOVATION grant



Invited to submit a proposal for Middle School and High School Schedule alignment work at National Level.

Superintendent Burke spoke on panels for new Superintendents at both UCONN and Central CT State University and has been asked to have an intern next year.

Goals

Student Achievement:

- Present data to BOE in September with details for short- and long-term goals for continued growth in all areas.

Community Engagement and Communication:

- Final year of the Communications Plan to include Parent Square adoption
- Develop Strategic Plan for 2026-2031
- Focus on branding and marketing school district

Safety and Security:

- Full implementation of SRO Program
- Use of Small Capital Fund for infrastructure updates and improvements to alarm panels and keying system

Goals

Special Education and Program Development:

- Continue to monitor student needs to adjust programming
- Focus on teacher and administrator training for unique behavior needs and academic challenges
- Publish and share a strategic plan for the Special Education Department to target growth of programs and potential development of off-site location

Capital Improvement Plan:

- Work collaboratively with Town of Granby Boards to secure funding for priority projects

Aligned Schedules:

- Assess first year implementation and adjust accordingly
- Further develop opportunities for shared resources
- Expand course offerings
- Maximize collaborative planning opportunity for all staff

