

**Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes**  
**February 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Senior Center**

Present Board Members: Mark Fiorentino, Lynn Guelzow, Melissa Migliaccio, Sarah Thrall, Rosemarie Weber, and Brandon Webster and Dwaritha Ramesh (Student Representative).

Absent Board Members: Jenny Emery and Jack DeGray (Student Representative)

Melissa Migliaccio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**I. Administrative Reports**

**I.A. Superintendent's Announcements**

- Thank you to all the high school girls and parents for coming to the meeting this evening as well as the media.
- The middle school held a successful STEAM Day this past Friday with over a dozen community vendors sharing their work.
- Wells Road will have their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and 4<sup>th</sup> grade band concerts on Thursday at 7 p.m. The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade chorus and band concerts were last week and they were fantastic!
- Test results came in last week and Granby scored tremendously well.
- Visited Granby High School yesterday and watched the Unified Sports team in action.
- Had a great day with the Granby women seniors today.
- The Board of Finance will meet on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and will finalize the budget guideline.
- Will meet with the Department of Administrative Services on Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> for the ongoing building projects.
- Pre-Kindergarten applications are begin accepted.
- Kindergarten registration is officially open. An on-line registration is available this year.
- A Mid-Year New Teacher Celebration will be held next Thursday at Abigail's 3:30-5:30 p.m. Board members are welcome to attend.
- There is no school on February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> for a short February break.
- A Superintendent's Community Conversation will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Central Services.
- The next Board Meeting will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. State Legislators will be in attendance.

**I.B. Girls' Field Hockey and Soccer Championship Teams**

Melissa Migliaccio stated Granby is celebrating two women's state sports championships in one season. Granby's student athletes are musicians, NHS members, mathematicians and all-around great kids. She congratulated the teams and thanked them for what they have brought to the town. Mark Fiorentino stated he has had the privilege of coaching some of the girls here tonight in other sports and their work goes way beyond what they have done on the athletic fields. Rosemarie Weber stated the teams make the Board proud on how they display themselves on and off the field. Thank you for being great role models. Championship jackets were awarded to each player.

**I.C. Student Representative Reports**

- This week is National School Counselors' Appreciation Week. Thank you to all of our Guidance Counselors.
- A Food for Thought program is being run by Student Council. Various snacks are available for all students and donations are accepted to keep the program going.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents' Night was held last night for incoming Freshmen and their families.
- A successful Job Shadow Day was held on Monday. Several students participated.
- A Robotics bake sale will be held on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 outside Geissler's.

- Cub Scouts will be visiting the high school on February 10<sup>th</sup> for a short demonstration by the Granby Grunts.
- Singing valentines will be sold by Chorus this week and will be performed on February 11<sup>th</sup>.
- French Honor Society will sing at Meadowbrook after school on February 11<sup>th</sup>.
- French students depart on their trip to Quebec on 2/13 and return on 2/16.
- On February 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a dinner for first responders hosted by NHS.
- There will be a Winter Coffeehouse on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. in the High School Commons. Great bands will perform. It is a fun night.

### **I.D. Teaching and Learning**

Ms. Julie Groene, Director of Guidance and High School Assistant Principal, provided a school counseling update for the Board. Ms. Groene stated the report looks into the program and is an overview of where things are and where the department will be moving forward. She outlined the current staffing levels at the middle school and the high school and stated ASCA guidelines are not-to-exceed 250 students per counselor. The Guidance Department recently welcomed Ms. Mara Henze as the College and Career Center (CCC) Assistant and also mentioned Mr. Stanwood CTE Coordinator who collaborates with Ms. Henze. Ms. Groene informed the Board of the three domains of school counseling: 1) Personal/Social; 2) Academic; and, 3) College/Career. She reviewed “guaranteed points of contacts for Grades 6-12” and in the middle school, for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, there are small group meetings with counselors as well as classroom lessons throughout the year for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade and individual high school transition meetings for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. During the high school years, there are individual course registration meetings for Grades 9-12; Wellness classes for Grades 9 and 10; and, junior planning. Other contacts are individual meetings with students of concern who are identified through developmental guidance lessons; student-generated meeting requests; and individual appointments referred by staff/administration/peers/parents. Ms. Groene spoke about academic assistance at the middle school and high school, such as, student intervention team; homework club and peer tutoring. She explained to the Board that personal/social support ties in to academic support and how there is a lot of anxiety for students to get good grades. With regard to the CCC and future directions, the Guidance Department will work to ensure increased systemic use of the CCC throughout Grades 9-12 for college planning as well as collaborating with the CTE Coordinator to increase internships and job shadow experiences. Ms. Groene shared a strategic success plan for school counseling to include a strategic improvement plan for the department; increased integration of Naviance at the middle school; and, a pilot workshop model for the CCC in 2020-2021. Ms. Groene thanked Christopher Tranberg for allocating time for curriculum revision for the Department this summer. The Board asked questions regarding current caseload, the balance of personal/social issues with academic and career issues, Job Shadow Day, and CTE programming.

### **II. Public Comment**

Susan Patricelli Regan, Granby. Susan and her husband Bill Regan started a 501(c)3 Family Foundation, the Sylvia Davis Patricelli Fine Arts Scholarship in memory of her mother, a very famous artist. She stated it is an award given to a graduating senior pursuing a major in fine arts. She and her husband Bill have always been supportive of the Board of Education, a very talented, professional, capable dedicated group of people.

### **III. Consent Agenda**

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

A motion was made by Mark Fiorentino and seconded by Sarah Thrall to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed at 8:13 p.m. with one abstention (Brandon Webster).

## **IV. Old Business**

### **IV.A. Second Reading of Revised Policy 4131 - Staff Development**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommends draft Policy 4131, Staff Development, to the Board for a second reading. Sarah Thrall stated she has not received any comments. This policy will go to the Board for a third and final reading at the next meeting.

## **V. New Business**

### **V.A. FY21 Quality & Diversity Budget**

Dr. Jordan Grossman, Superintendent, presented the FY21 Quality & Diversity (Q&D) Budget to the Board and stated he is looking forward to working with the Board of Finance (BOF) on Monday to find out the budget guideline and he is confident that the Superintendent's Budget will come within this guideline. Dr. Grossman stated the Q&D fund helps the Board to meet the requirements for students to interact with students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds. Granby Public Schools has been a part of the Open Choice for over 40 years. Funds are deposited into a revolving account managed by the BOF. The District receives \$12,500 for every student in Kindergarten if the District meets the 4% threshold and gets an additional \$8K per student. Granby has fulfilled those requirements for the past several years. Dr. Grossman stated the Open Choice Academic and Social Support Grant is not part of the Q&D Budget and Granby will receive approximately \$87K for the 2020-21 school year. The Q&D Budget includes magnet and vocational school tuition; summer enrichment academy; clubs (Robotics and DECA) and club stipends; enrichment programs (Bridges/Homework Club); UConn Gifted and Talented Program; and the Granby Equity Team. The District is slated to receive the bonus money again next year projecting 88 students with a 4.71% participation rate. The enrollment for magnet/vocational schools was reviewed and it was noted the trend for an increase in vocational/agricultural and a decrease in magnet school tuition. Brandon Webster inquired how many Open Choice students participate in clubs. Mr. Christopher Tranberg stated 100% of elementary students, 80% of middle school students and mid-70% for high school students participate.

## **VI. Miscellaneous**

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

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

Sarah Thrall reported this Subcommittee met this evening to discuss the school counseling presentation; school garden - teachers are incorporating into the curriculum; mid-year meeting for new teachers; 2020/21 Panorama Survey to be sent out in March; Policy 5114; Internal Review Board for AP Capstone - parents are notified of surveys; approved new text for French; undergoing review of on-line vocabulary software.

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

This Subcommittee did not meet.

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

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

Mark Fiorentino reported CREC has not met and that he will miss the next meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

The Granby Education Foundation has not met since the last meeting.

### **VI.C. Calendar of Events**

Melissa Migliaccio stated please attend any of the events listed if you can. The budget will be presented on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Linda Powell will send a refresher e-mail for budget dates. Mark Fiorentino will run the meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> due to Melissa Migliaccio's absence.

**VI.D. Board Member Announcements**

Mark Fiorentino stated he will be out of town for the next meeting and will let Linda know if he can call in.

**VI.E. Action Items**

There were no action items to report.

**VII. Executive Session/Non-Meeting**

A motion was made by Sarah Thrall and seconded by Rosemarie Weber to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. This motion passed unanimously at 8:37 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber  
Board Secretary