

**Regular Board of Education Meeting – Approved Minutes**  
**March 4, 2020 7:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room**

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

Absent Board Members: Dwaritha Ramesh (Student Representative)

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

**I. Administrative Reports**

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

- Good evening and it is wonderful to have a great crowd on a special evening. March is Board Appreciation Month and I would like to extend a thank you to all of our Board Members for their service on the Board. There were guests this evening, Kaya and Piper Wyzik, who gave out cards to the Board members.
- Tonight is the last BOE meeting for Christopher Tranberg, our Assistant Superintendent. We wish Christopher best of luck in his new position in Darien.
- Coronavirus: A letter was sent to parents last week. The district has been cooperating with all federal and state agencies. On Monday administrators met to discuss plans currently in place and they met with teachers today at faculty meeting regarding any concerns. The District is monitoring a trip scheduled to go out during the April break to Spain and Portugal.
- Congratulations to the middle school on their performance of *Alice in Wonderland* last week.
- Congratulations to Brian Rooney – FPS
- Currently working on the budget edition of the *Vision* which is scheduled to be delivered prior to the Public Budget Hearing on April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Read across America day was held on Monday. Dr. Grossman stated he had the pleasure to read to all Kelly Lane students during their lunch waves.
- On-line registration will be open to all schools since the on-line registration process went so well for Kindergarten registration in February.
- On Monday March 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Superintendent's Community Conversation in the Senior Center at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the FY21 budget and any other educational topics.
- Will present the FY21 Budget to the PTO on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 and to the middle school/high school PAC in April.
- Next week, first round interviews will begin for the Middle School Principal search. Thank you to Mr. Fiorentino for being the Board representative.
- A reminder the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting has been moved to April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- There will be a Budget Workshop next Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at Central Services and the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**I.B. Student Representative Reports**

- Winter coffeehouse was held last week.
- DECA Competition occurred today
- This sat and sun there will be a Robotics competition
- A high school dance will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> and a middle school dance will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The high school play *Mama Mia!* will be held next weekend March 13-15.
- Boys' basketball won last night and will play Canton on Friday for the NCCC championship.
- Girls' basketball lost to Stonington on Monday ending their season with a final record of 13-10.
- Wrestling State Opens were held this past Saturday and Devin Flagg represented Granby after placing second in the State Tournament.
- Loren Roy went to Boston on Saturday for the Frack and Field New England Competition.
- Girls' basketball Elsie Phillips and Samantha St. Pierre received All-Conference; Elsie Phillips also received All-State; and, Jaira Paine received All-State Academic.
- Boys' basketball had Rowan Heinze and Jack DeGray receive All-Conference and Rowan Heinze will be representing Granby at the State All Star Game.

## **I.C. Revision to 2020-2021 School Calendar**

The Board will discussed the following revisions to the 2020-2021 school calendar as follows: To move the first day of school from Tuesday, August 25, 2020 to Thursday, August 27, 2020; move first semester conferences from December 9-11, 2020 to November 30-December 2, 2020; add the Yom Kippur Jewish Holiday; and move the last day of school to Tuesday, June 8, 2021. Dr. Grossman stated there were concerns on the early opening and closing of school. Additionally, it was felt that conferences for elementary and secondary were too late in December and will be brought forward to earlier in the month. An amended motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by David Peling that the Granby Board of Education adopt revisions to the 2020-2021 school calendar moving the first day of school from Tuesday, August 25, 2020 to Thursday, August 27, 2020, adding the Yom Kippur Jewish Holiday and moving the last day of school to Tuesday, June 8th. This motion passed unanimously at 7:15 p.m.

## **II. Public Comment**

Ali Zafar, Granby, CT – Mr. Zafar inquired if future religious holidays would be considered on the school calendar. Melissa Migliaccio stated she appreciated this comment and stated it can certainly be discussed at a future meeting.

## **III. Consent Agenda**

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

A motion was made by Brandon Webster and seconded by Jennie Emery to adopt the consent agenda. This motion passed with one abstention (Mark Fiorentino) at 7:16 p.m.

## **IV. Old Business**

### **IV.A. Second Reading of Revised Policy 5114 - Student Discipline**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended revised Policy 5114, Student Discipline, to the Board for a second reading. Sarah Thrall stated she has not received any comments on this policy. This policy will move forward to the Board for approval at the next meeting on March 18, 2020.

## **V. New Business**

### **V.A. FY21 Administrative Budget Presentation**

Dr. Jordan Grossman, Superintendent of Schools, presented the FY21 Administrative Budget to the Board. He thanked teachers and administrators in helping to guide him through the work for the budget. He also thanked Anna Robbins and Christopher Tranberg for their work on the budget as well. Dr. Grossman reviewed the Board of Education Budget Goals as well as budget priorities for administration. Dr. Grossman presented enrollment for the District from FY21 through FY25 and noted a change from the Plus One enrollment to the numbers in this presentation stating Hartland students were not included in the NESDEC enrollment report. He also informed the Board that he has added one additional section of Kindergarten for FY21. Dr. Grossman reviewed the per pupil expenditure (PPE) for Granby and Granby's PPE will be at \$16,237 next year which is lower than 126 other districts out of 166 districts in Connecticut. He discussed revenue and stated the revenue received by the Board of Education goes to the town and noted the District is receiving more funds budget to budget; however, in actuality the town will receive \$50K less. Dr. Grossman reviewed the decrease from the Plus One Budget of 3.69% to the proposed budget of 2.92% and informed the Board of some of the reductions, such as, line item decreases in repairs and maintenance, curriculum presenters/writers, various clubs, supplies, conferences, and dues and fees. With regard to additional personnel, the budget includes a net of +4.49 FTE which accounts for 2.0 FTEs being moved from the Q&D budget to the operating budget. Included in the budget is a 1.0 FTE Math Interventionist at Wells Road, an additional Kindergarten Teacher and Teaching Assistant to name a few. He reviewed some highlights and notables of the budget, such as, Chinese instruction expanded to Grade 8 at the middle school and the Strings Program being expanded to 4<sup>th</sup> Grade at Wells Road. Small Capital highlights were reviewed for Transportation (purchase of 4 pre-owned buses); Building Maintenance; Furniture & Equipment; and Technology.

Melissa Migliaccio stated the Plus One Budget is a high-level look and tonight was a first look at what will become the BOE budget. She thanked Dr. Grossman and appreciated the fact that it is coming under the 3% guideline. Jenny Emery stated she will forward questions after reading the budget book but had a couple of questions tonight. She inquired if Dr. Grossman is comfortable with the BOE class guidelines. Dr. Grossman stated he is comfortable with the guidelines set forth and how they are compared to the DRG; however, he would not be comfortable with 20 students in a Kindergarten classroom. Jenny Emery inquired if the salary percentages presented in the

presentation are actual percentages individuals are getting. Anna Robbins stated the percentages are impacts to the budget as opposed to individual increases. Jenny Emery also stated she would like to know what is not in the budget and is concerned that some items may be cut unnecessarily. This question will be answered at the Budget Workshop next week.

David Peling inquired what the Accountability Index is. Dr. Grossman stated the State of Connecticut measures the District on indicators from student performance, to absenteeism, to AP scores, etc. and that the state has a formula and points are given for each indicator.

Brandon Webster thanked the administration for putting the budget together and stated he would like more info on various clubs that were cut. More details on this will be given at the Budget Workshop.

Mark Fiorentino stated an incredible job is done on how Granby achieves what we do with what we have and he appreciates the fact that all line items were analyzed, i.e., the \$36K in cuts to repairs and maintenance.

Questions from the Board should be sent to Dr. Grossman, Anna Robbins and Linda Powell by noon on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **VI. Miscellaneous**

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

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

Sarah Thrall stated this Subcommittee met this evening and reviewed the Assistant Superintendent Monthly Report as follows: Began transition for Interim Assistant Superintendent; worked with math teachers for the math curriculum over the summer; submitted Open Choice Grant; met with FVHD to address Social/Emotional Learning of students; and, 29 students in the graduating class achieved a Seal of Bi-literacy. Reviewed highlights of Teaching & Learning updates; reviewed Gifted & Talented identification process (available on-line); reviewed PLC 2.0; Curriculum Writing Committee who are using our archived curriculum software (EduPlanet); STEAM Committee and infusing college pathways; Equity Team; counseling update – in process of developing a strategic plan. Also reviewed two policies which will stay in Subcommittee for further review and discussion.

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

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

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

The GranBee will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. See Linda if you would like to sponsor a team there is a \$100 early registration fee prior to March 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

Melissa Migliaccio stated there is a Budget Workshop next Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Follow Instagram for the performing arts and robotics. Sarah Thrall stated the Crepe Soiree is a great event if you can make it.

### **VI.D. Board Member Announcements**

Jenny Emery thanked Christopher Tranberg for his service and his fresh perspective and new initiatives which started in Granby due to his good work.

Mark Fiorentino informed the Board of the UConn Homer Baggage Scholar Program which honors students who achieve a 4.0 for two semesters with a full load of courses for the 2019 calendar year. GMHS had 7 graduates who attained this achievement. The Board talked about possibly putting an agenda item regarding celebrations on the agenda once a month. David Peling suggested creating a “brag list” on the website for parents and alumni to enter information about their students or themselves.

### **VI.E. Action Items**

- 1) Send budget questions to Jordan Grossman, Anna Robbins and Linda Powell by noon on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>
- 2) Alumni tracking

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

A motion was made by Melissa Migliaccio and seconded by Dave Peling to enter into an Executive Session to discuss a student discipline matter. This Motion passed unanimously at 8:15 p.m.

The Board entered into an Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. At 8:25 p.m., the Board returned into regular session. A motion was made by Rosemarie Weber and seconded by Jenny Emery that the Granby Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to expel Student "B12019-20" for 180 days from Granby Memorial High School, as well as all buildings and grounds and activities of the Granby Public Schools for violation of School Board Policies #5114, Student Discipline and #5131.6, Drug & Alcohol Use for unauthorized possession, sale, distribution, use or consumption of tobacco, drugs, narcotics, or alcoholic beverages including being under the influence of any such substances. This motion passed unanimously at 8:26 p.m. The Board adjourned Executive Session at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Weber  
Board Secretary