

**Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 7:00 PM  
Town Hall Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**II. Public Comment (20 min.)**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

**Rationale:** Granby community engagement and attendance at BOE public meetings is welcomed. The Public Comment segment of the meeting agenda is set aside so the BOE may receive public comments. Procedurally, public remarks will be limited to about 5 minutes and citizens will be asked to identify themselves. Because the BOE is limited by the Freedom of Information Act to discussing only matters on the agenda, the BOE is not permitted to engage in a discussion of the comments presented.

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**III. Student Representative Reports (5 min.)**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

**Rationale:** Mr. Chase Alexander and Ms. Katie O'Neill, Student Representatives, will report on activities taking place at the high school.

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**IV. Reports and Discussion**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**A. Schools in the Spotlight (15 min.)**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

**Rationale:** Ms. Megan Proto, Teacher at Wells Road Intermediate School, and some of her students will present the classroom charter they all agreed to for this school year which is a promise made to one another as the classroom community is built.

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**B. FY25 Budget Update (5 min.)**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

**Rationale:** Board Chair, Monica Logan, will provide an update on the FY25 Board of Education Budget.

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**V. Business Requiring Action (5 min.)**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**A. Minutes**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**Rationale:** The Board will approve/amend the minutes of the April 3, 2024 Board of Education meeting.

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**VI. Committee Reports (20 min.)**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**A. Board Standing Committee Reports**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**1. Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communication**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**2. Finance/Personnel/Facilities**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**B. Other Board-Related Reports**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**1. CREC/CABE**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**2. Granby Education Foundation**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**C. Calendar of Events**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**D. Board Member Announcements**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**E. Action Items**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**VII. Superintendent's Report (5 min.)**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**Rationale:** Ms. Cheri Burke, Superintendent, will provide district updates.

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**VIII. Chairperson's Report (5 min.)**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

**Rationale:** Ms. Monica Logan, Board Chair, will share remarks.

{{RecommendedMotion}}

**IX. Adjournment**

{{Goal-}}

{{Attachment:}}

{{RecommendedMotion}}



Wells Road Intermediate School

CLASSROOM  
CHARTER


Room 17

A Class Charter is a collaborative set of “RULES” that students and teachers have all agreed on for the classroom.


We begin with how we want to FEEL in the classroom. It is a promise made to one another as the classroom community is built.

This co-creation helps everyone think about how they want to work with classmates and the teacher.

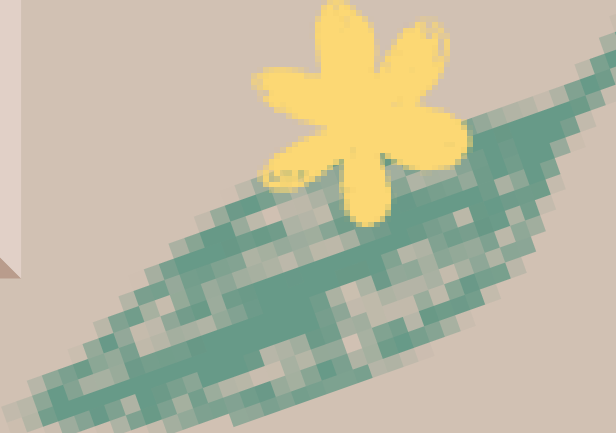



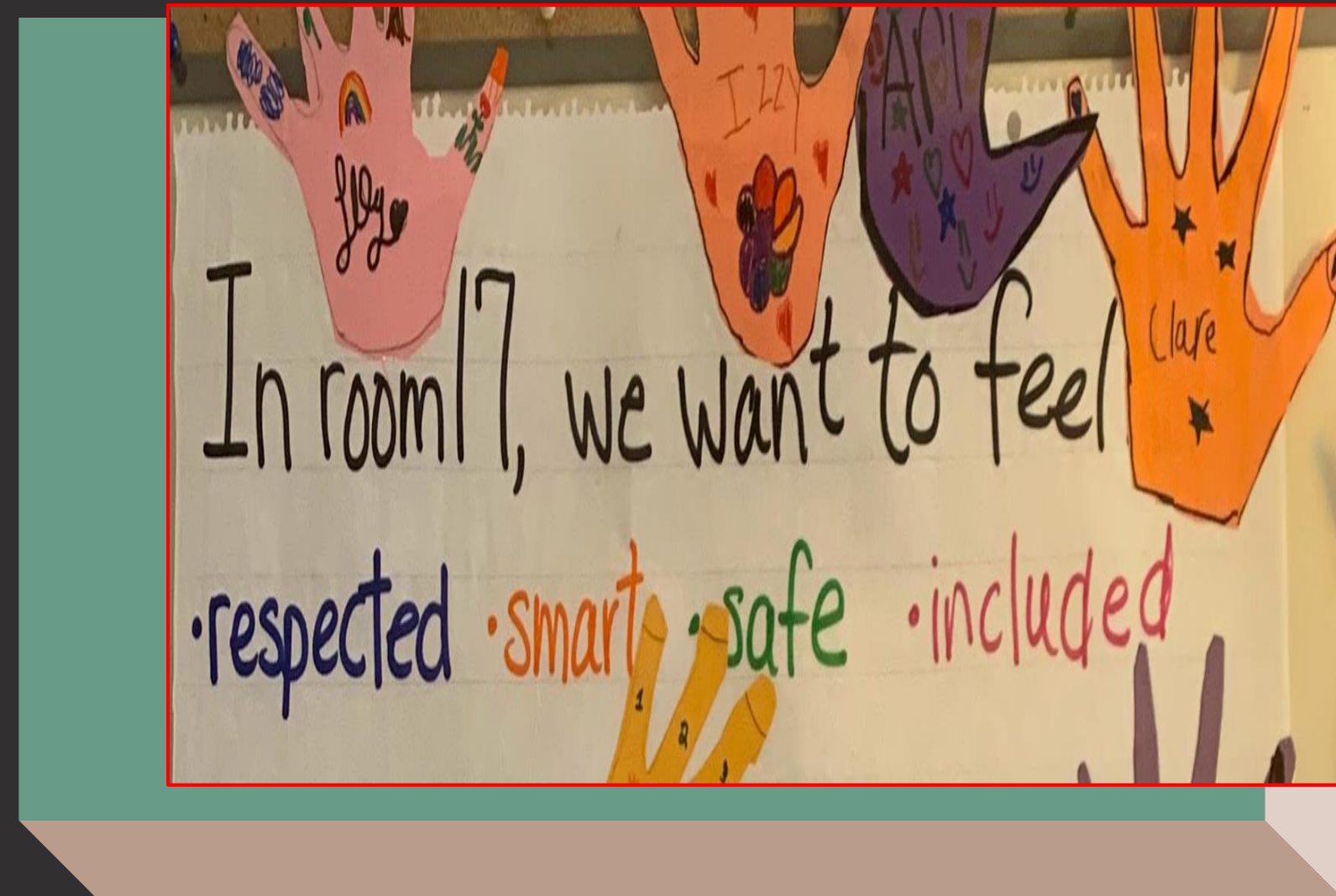


When there is a climate of emotional support and warm relationships between teachers and students, and students among one another, there is an increase in productivity and wellbeing, greater likelihood of academic success, and better outcomes for students as they become adult community members.



Social and emotional learning (SEL) is an integral part of education and human development. SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.









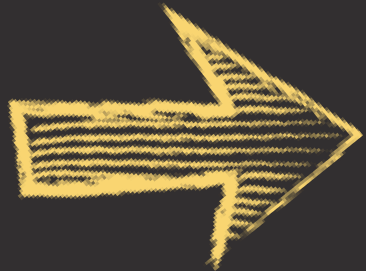



Think about feeling words.



Define and discuss.



Narrow down and find the right word.

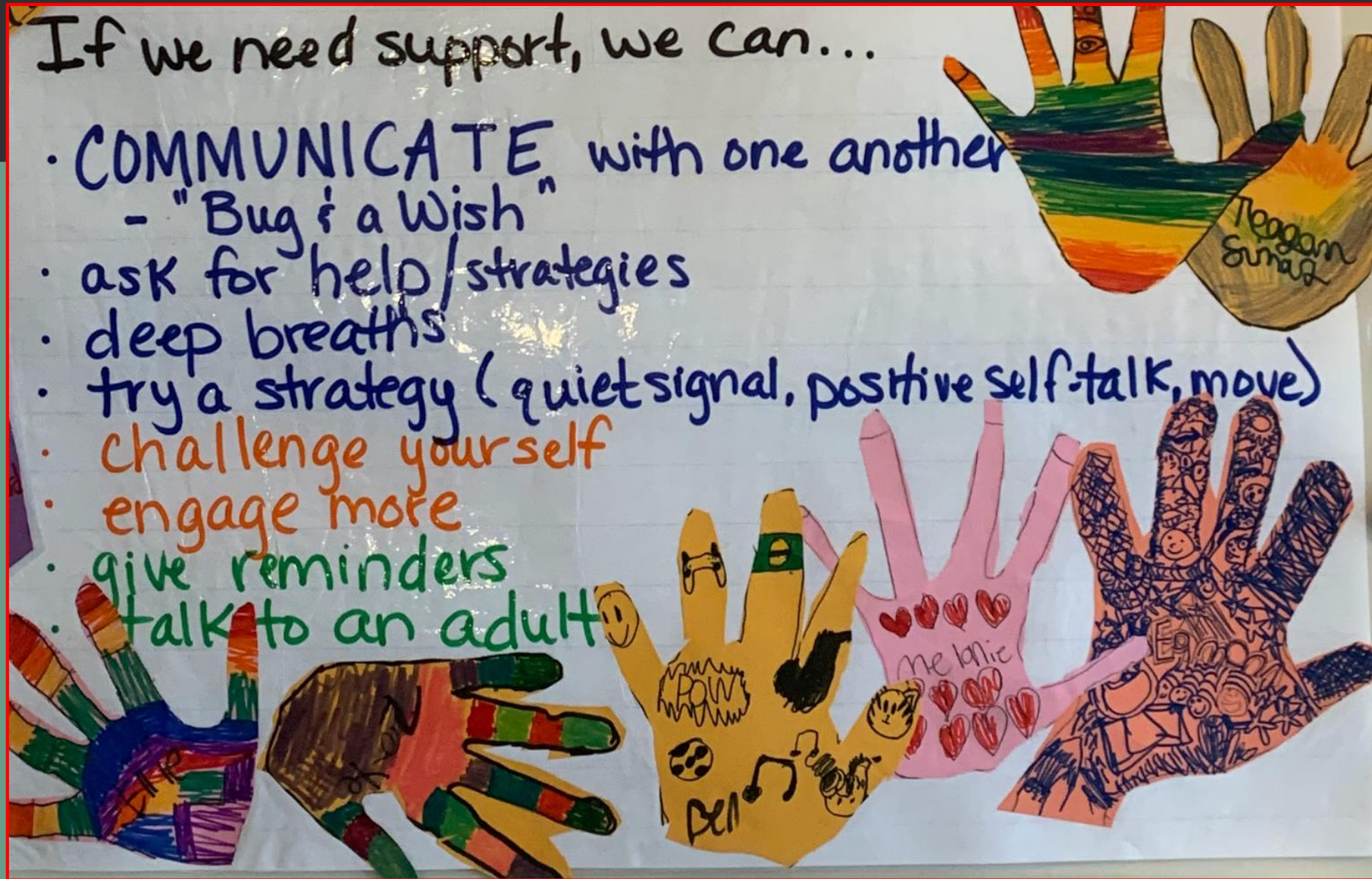
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- listen to one another follow directions
  - treat one another with kindness
  - Compliment one another
  - never say, "This is easy."
  - Keep 4 on the floor
  - Keep our bodies in our own space
  - invite one another to play/work together
  - "YES!"
  - celebrate mistakes
  - Support & share strategies
  - tuck in our chairs
  - give everyone a chance to share
- 
- 
- 

What can we do to get to the way we want to feel?

Be specific.

\* \*  
If we need support, we can...

- COMMUNICATE with one another
  - "Bug is a Wish"
- ask for help/strategies
- deep breaths
- try a strategy (quiet signal, positive self-talk, move)
- challenge yourself
- engage more
- give reminders
- talk to an adult



Focus on solving the problem.

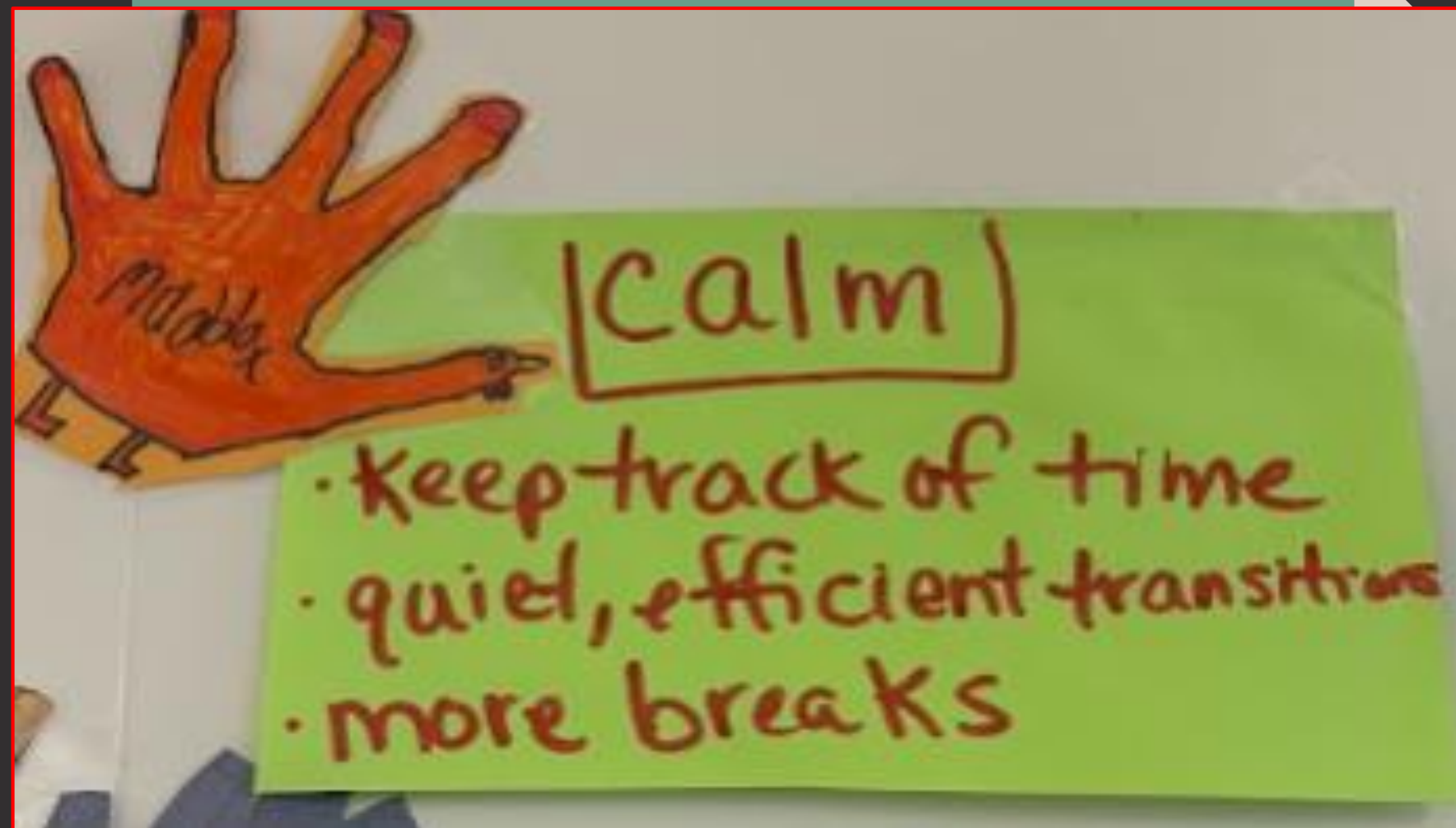


Return to the charter.



Make the plan actionable.

\*



A living, breathing, working document.



Make the Charter part of the daily culture and language.



Reflect and revise.





# Family Connections

- Homework
- SEL Lessons and updates
- Weekly Parent Communication

In room 17, we want to feel

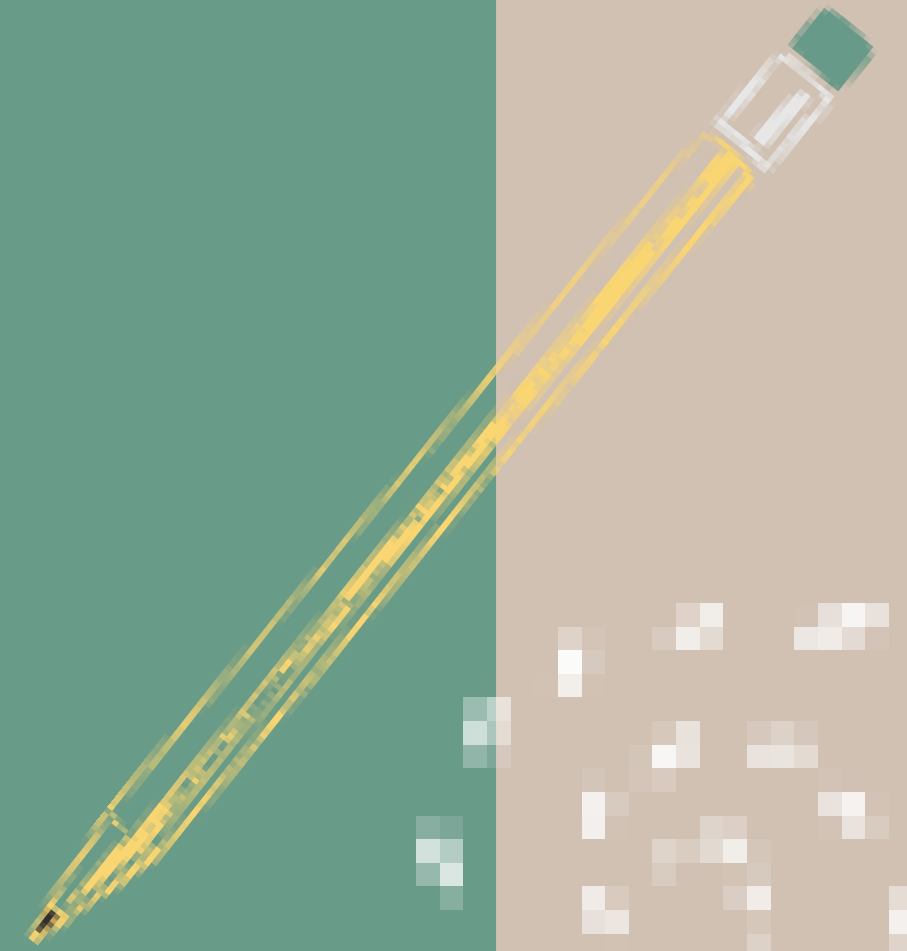
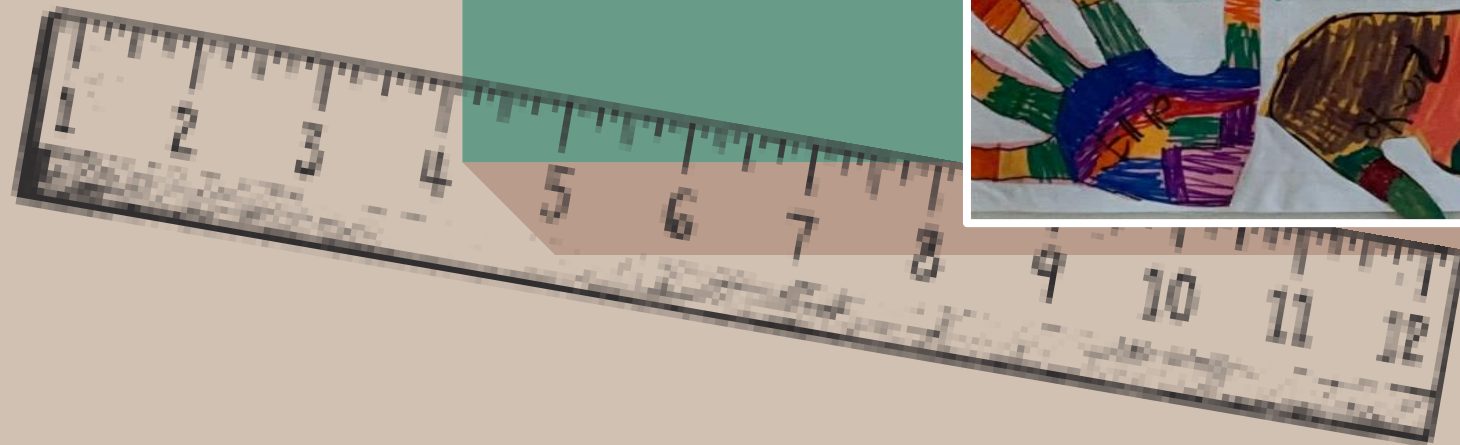
· respected · smart · safe · included

So we will...

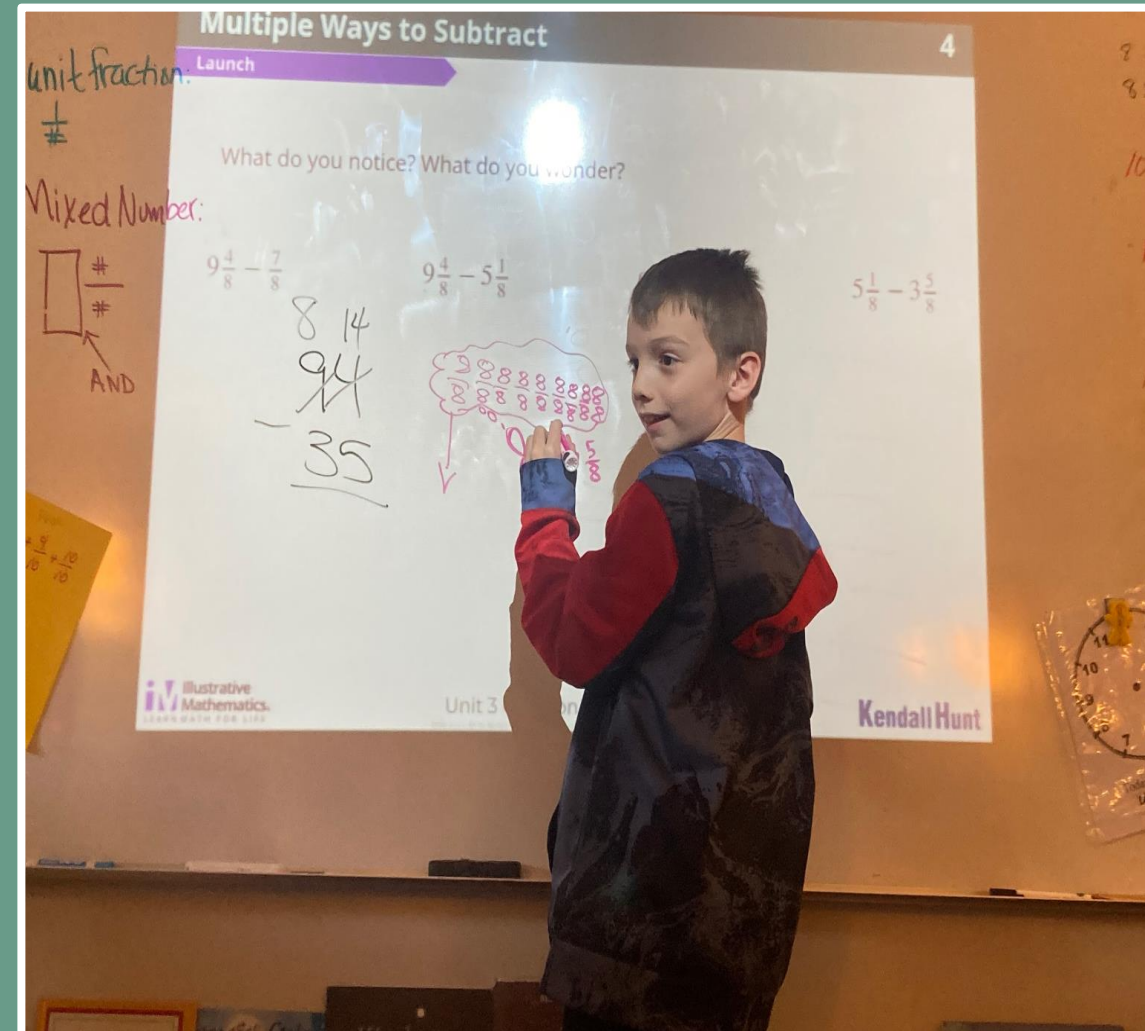
- listen to one another follow directions
- treat one another with kindness
- Compliment one another · celebrate mistakes
- never say, "This is easy." · support & share strategies
- Keep 4 on the floor · tuck in our chairs
- Keep our bodies in our own space
- invite one another to play/work together
- "YES!" · give everyone a chance to share

If we need support, we can...

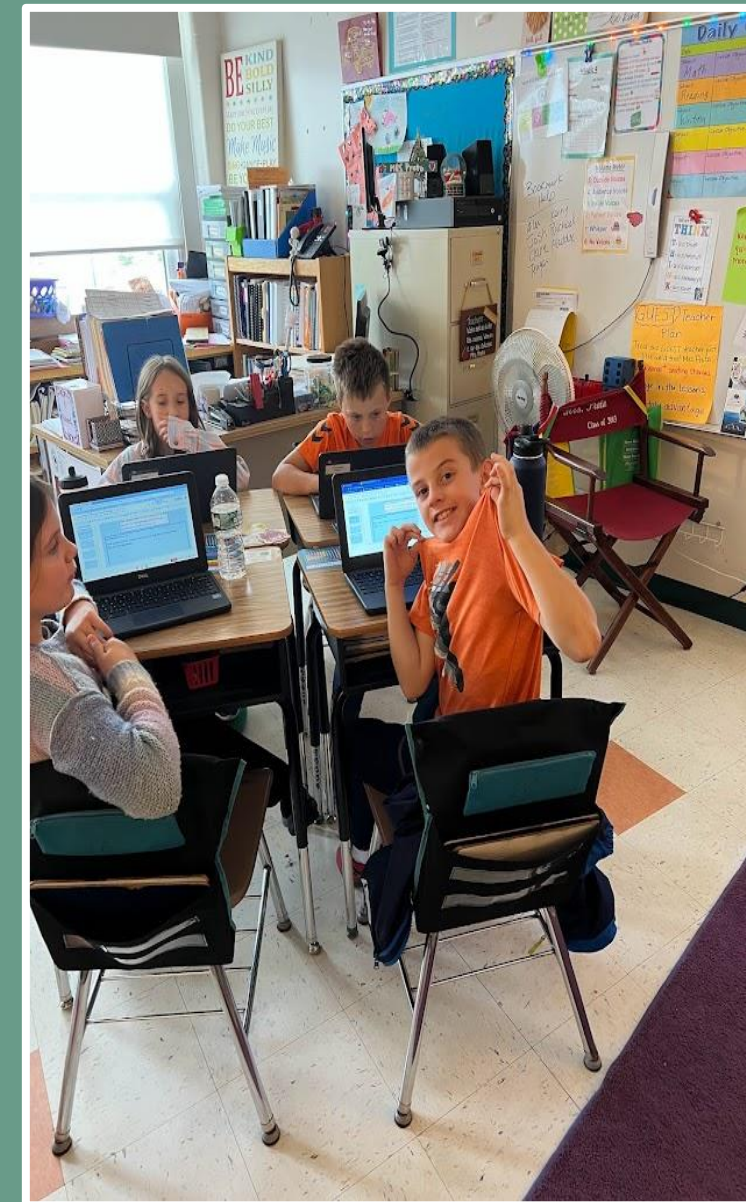
- COMMUNICATE with one another
  - "Bug & a Wish"
- ask for help/strategies
- deep breaths
- try a strategy (quiet signal, positive self-talk, move)
- challenge yourself
- engage more
- give reminders
- talk to an adult



# Feeling smart!



# Feeling included!



Feeling  
respected  
and  
safe!





# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Do you have any questions for us?

**Regular Board of Education Meeting – Draft Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Central Services**

Present Board Members: Liz Barlow, Heather Lombardo, Monica Logan, Donna Nolan, Karen Richmond-Godard, Rosemarie Weber and Chase Alexander and Katie O’Neill (Student Representatives).

Absent Board Members: David Peling

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

Monica Logan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance and on Zoom.

**II. Awards and Recognition**

The Board recognized Ms. Carron Cooper, Second Grade Teacher at Kelly Lane Primary School. Ms. Cooper recently received the *Expect Excellence Award* from the CT Teacher in Residence Program. Board Chair Monica Logan stated she is a collaborator on her team, has a thirst for knowledge and high expectations for her own learning and performance and expects the same level of excellence from her students. Colleen Bava, Principal of Kelly Lane, also shared some remarks stating that Ms. Cooper has an uplifting spirit and is such a great addition to Kelly Lane. She is very excited to see what she accomplishes in her future years in Granby.

**III. Public Comment**

Susan Regan, 62 Hungary Road, Granby, stated she attended the public meeting on Monday and has some questions which she hopes can be answered via phone or email. Specifically, Ms. Regan would like to know if the proposed part-time HR Coordinator position is necessary; with regard to raises for Granby teachers, will they need to meet or exceed their objectives; the rationale for hiring of a Math Interventionist at the middle school instead of Math Tutor – what is the job description for that position and how are the increased costs being covered for salary, health insurance, etc.; and, lastly, is a Director of Pupil Services position necessary? She stated a Center of Excellence proposal which she submitted to John Ward several years ago should be considered. Ms. Regan stated again that she would appreciate a response via phone or email.

John Linebrenner, 290 Simsbury Road, Granby a certified school teacher employed by another district stated teachers are dedicated to the community and become ingrained with the students they teach and that to retain the best staff you have to have appropriate benefits and salaries. Additionally, he stated that Math Interventionists are very different from Math Tutors, as a Math Interventionist tailors individualized education plans to raise their math scores. This new position will have a direct impact on students.

**IV. Student Representative Reports**

- Katie O’Neill stated baseball played against East Granby on Monday and will play Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> in Canton at 3:45; softball will play their first game against Rocky Hill and their next game is at home against Canton at 4:00 on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>; girls’ lacrosse is 1-1 with a win against Rocky Hill and a loss against Farmington and their next game is tomorrow at Ellington; boys’ lacrosse played South Windsor on Monday and will play Ellington at home on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>; track and field had their first meet yesterday against Ellington and East Windsor and their next meet is at home against Bolton on April 10<sup>th</sup>; .girls’ tennis has their first game tomorrow at Suffield at 3:30; and, boys’ tennis has their first game tomorrow at home against Suffield.
- The baseball/softball fundraiser is still going on so get your hands on the golden ticket coupon sheets before they are gone!
- Chase Alexander shared that Juniors took the SAT last Wednesday.
- Spanish students in the exchange program left today and are making their way to Spain where they will spend a few days in Madrid before reuniting in A Coruña with the students they hosted during the fall.
- Empty Bowls fundraiser is Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>
- Student government spirit week will be the week leading up to Memorial Day.

## **V. Reports and Discussion**

### **VI.A. Schools in the Spotlight**

Kelly Lane Teachers, Lindsay Sessions and Brianna Simonetti and some students from Kelly Lane presented a new initiative in classrooms this school year called Soft Starts where students immerse themselves in engaging math games, phonics and choice activities. Ms. Sessions explained students begin their day with getting to do a choice activity, such as play dough, beads, and cutting for fine motor skills. Ms. Simonetti stated recent legislation was passed regarding play-based learning being a part of each regular school day for all students in Kindergarten and all preschool programs. The skills that can be derived from play are social emotional learning, oral language development, math and literacy skills, fine motor skills, and executive functioning. She stated executive functioning is a critical skill and a set of mental skills that include working memory, flexible thinking and self-control. Executive functioning skills grow the most in the 6-8-year age bracket. Ms. Simonetti shared that the Granby Education Foundation awarded over \$3K for Kindergarten, First Grade and Second Grade for soft opening materials and activities. Kelly Lane students shared their favorite soft start activities with the Board then demonstrated some of the activities for them, such as Magnatiles, Tinker toys, hashtags, and Tangrams. Pictures were shared of all the soft start activities showing what students create and how they work collaboratively.

### **VI.B. FY25 Board of Education Budget Update**

Board Chair, Monica Logan, provided an update on the FY25 Board of Education Budget stating the public hearing was held this past Monday and the town-wide vote will be held on Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Any questions on the Board of Education Budget can be emailed to the Board. Ms. Logan did share that the question regarding the Human Resources Coordinator position addressed during Public Comment was requested on the Town side of the budget, not the Board of Education side. Any other questions will be addressed via email.

## **VI. Business Requiring Action**

### **VI.A. Minutes**

A motion was made by Donna Nolan and seconded by Heather Lombardo that the Granby Board of Education approve the minutes of the March 20, 2024 Board of Education Meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 7:43 p.m.

### **VI.B. Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy 6142.43 - Food Charging**

The Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee recommended revised Policy 6142.43, Food Charging, to the Board for a second reading and approval. A motion was made by Karen Richmond-Godard and seconded by Liz Barlow that the Granby Board of Education adopt revised Policy 6142.43, Food Charging, as recommended by the Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee. This motion passed unanimously at 7:44 p.m.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

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

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

Karen Richmond-Godard reported this subcommittee met this evening to discuss the Assistant Superintendent's Report and with regard to student learning and achievement, elementary teachers are familiarizing themselves with materials used during the literacy piloting in the fall. A draft of the new school climate policy was reviewed and will stay in the subcommittee for further review. Also received an update on the teacher evaluation plan which provides flexibility and is thoughtful about growth for teachers and administrators. It allows teachers to identify professional growth goals in order to improve practice over 1, 2 or 3 years. Professional development was held yesterday and newly revised social studies standards were reviewed with the Department Chair and middle school math and ELA coaches spoke about another tool to help students in the areas of math called IXL. Administrators and teachers participated in learning walks recently and there is one more at the end of April. Lastly, the Granby Equity Team met last Wednesday in collaborative action teams and their main focus was on creating policy with a student-centered lens.

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

This subcommittee has not met. Approved minutes are in the packet

## **VII. Committee Reports (Cont'd)**

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

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

Monica Logan stated there is nothing to report.

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

Monica Logan stated the Board is still looking for a Board Representative for GEF. She also expressed many thanks to the GEF for the \$3K award for Soft Starts.

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

Monica Logan stated the calendar of events is as presented. April break next week; community conversation on social media, High school band and chorus Disney trip; GranBee on April 19<sup>th</sup>; Leo Club Alzheimer's walk on April 20<sup>th</sup>; the middle school chorus will sing *The National Anthem* at the Yard Goats game on the April 25<sup>th</sup>; and, Empty Bowls on April 26<sup>th</sup>; and, the budget vote will be on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

There were no Board member announcements this evening.

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

There were no action items this evening.

## **VIII. Superintendent's Report**

- This week is the national week of recognition for paraprofessionals and teaching assistants and Ms. Burke stated the district could not do the necessary work without these important individuals that support students in every possible way. Students and teachers rely on their care and compassion.
- Thank you to Monica Logan for her excellent presentation on Monday evening.
- Thank you to parents and staff for accommodating the change in calendar for professional development yesterday which went very well. Teachers were engaged with building-based learning in the morning followed by vertical team meetings and a presentation by renowned author Katie Woods of *A Simple Seed*. Unfortunately, there was very low enrollment for the parent presentation and enrollment will need to be monitored for the next two events. The next one is by Trooper White and the last event is on QPR (Suicide prevention). Additionally, the Superintendent's Community Conversation was rescheduled for Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m.
- April break is next week and the GranBee is on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Burke stated she is on a team with Jennifer Parsons and Andy Buckle and the district is donating some awesome prizes – one being front row seats for graduation.
- Save the date: The annual retirement/25-year employee luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 at the North Barn Pavilion at Holcomb Farm. All Board members are welcome to attend.
- Have a wonderful break next week. Hopefully the weather will be more spring-like.

## **IX. Chairperson's Report**

Monica Logan, Board Chair, stated that the district has been putting forward a lot of great opportunities for families to get involved and the district is trying to listen on a variety of levels, i.e., athletic boosters, football boosters, PTOs, etc.

## **X. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Donna Nolan and seconded by Karen Richmond-Godard to adjourn the Board of Education Meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth H. Barlow  
Board Secretary

**Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting – Approved Minutes**  
**March 6, 2024, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Central Services**

Present:

Liz Barlow  
David Peling  
Karen Richmond-Godard  
Cheri Burke  
Jennifer Parsons

Absent:

Monica Logan

Member of the Public: N/A

Meeting commenced at: 5:40 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:50 p.m.

1. Public Comment: N/A
2. Approve Minutes from the January 3, 2024 Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting: A motion was made by Karen Richmond-Godard and seconded by David Peling to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2024 Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting. This motion passed with one abstention (Liz Barlow).
3. Assistant Superintendent’s Monthly Report: Reviewed mid-year assessments – same gains in key places and there are still areas of growth needed. Also discussed the early entry process for families for Kindergarten.
4. Update of K-3 Reading Waiver: Explained “Science of Reading – Scarborough’s Rope which is a visual representation with many components of reading. Some of Granby’s curricular literacy program is acceptable. Steps are being taken to align with State requirements – have until Summer 2025. There is a pilot program for the fall.
5. Increasing Educator Diversity Plan: The state requires a plan to recruit diverse staff by March 15<sup>th</sup>.
6. Revised Policy 3542.43 – Food Service Charging Policy: The auditor’s report is being followed for suggestions to edit this policy which will move forward to the full Board for a first reading.
7. Other:

A motion was made by Karen Richmond-Godard and seconded by David Peling to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 6:50 p.m.



## UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

April 16	Community Conversation: Social Media & Internet Safety	6:00 p.m.	High School Auditorium
April 17	Finance Subcommittee Mtg. – <i>Cancelled</i> Board of Education Meeting	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Central Services Town Hall Meeting Room
April 18-21	GMHS Choir & Band Disney Trip		
April 19	GranBee	6:30 p.m.	High School Auditorium
April 20	Leo Club – Alzheimer’s Walk	10:30-11:30 am	High School Track
April 25	MS Chorus sings National Anthem at the Hartford Yard Goats Game	6:00 p.m.	Hartford Yard Goats Dunkin’ Park
April 26	Empty Bowls Fundraiser	5:00-7:00 p.m.	High School Cafeteria
May 1	Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting Board of Education Meeting	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Central Services Town Hall Meeting Room
May 2	GMHS Spring Band Concert	8:00-9:00 p.m.	HS Auditorium
May 3	Foreign Food Festival	5:00-7:30 p.m.	HS Cafeteria
May 6-17	AP Exams		
May 15	Finance Subcommittee Meeting Board of Education Meeting	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Central Services Town Hall Meeting Room
May 16	GPS Strings Concert	7:00-8:30 p.m.	HS Auditorium
May 17	Senior Prom	5:00-11:00 p.m.	The Riverview, Simsbury
May 21	NHS Science Night	5:00-7:00 p.m.	HS Cafeteria
May 21-23	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC Trip		
May 23	Senior Outing	All Day	Boulder Ridge, New Hartford
May 23	GMHS Spring Choral Concert	8:00-9:00 p.m.	HS Auditorium
May 24	Professional Development – No School		
May 27	Holiday – No School		
May 28	GMMS Choral Concert	6:00 p.m.	HS Auditorium
May 30	GMMS Band Concert	6:00 p.m.	HS Auditorium
May 31	Underclassmen Awards Ceremony	1:15-2:30 p.m.	HS Auditorium