

East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, February 9, 2016
Meeting Postponed from February 8, 2016

Board Members Present:

Mr. Joe Doering
Mrs. Michele Holt
Mr. James Feeny
Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger
Mr. Tom Short
Mr. John Welsh

Others Present:

Dr. Christine Mahoney, Superintendent
Mrs. Susan Greco, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kline, Board Clerk

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Crocker
Mrs. Kim Brassard
Mr. Brandon Freeman

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Joe Doering, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve Minutes from the January 11, 2016, and the January 25, 2016 regular meetings

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Mr. Feeny to approve the January 11, 2016 minutes as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Mr. Feeny to approve the January 25, 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Comments from visitors regarding agenda items - None

c. Additions to Agenda – Michele Holt requested to add item IIIc. Mastery-Based Learning Presentation to the agenda.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Mr. Feeny to add item IIIc. Mastery-Based Learning Presentation to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

Tom Short asked Dr. Mahoney to explain the lock down measure that took place in the schools Monday, February 8, 2016 due to a local bank robbery. Dr. Mahoney replied that all exterior doors were secured and monitored while classes continued.

II. Student Representatives Report – None

III. Chairperson's Report

a. Efficiency Study

Joe Doering reported that the sub-committee meeting was productive and progress was made. Susan Greco and Rob Crocker created a table of recommendations that will be updated as progress continues.

b. Community Engagement to Support the Budget

Michele Holt spoke with Ann Baldwin who is working on a plan of action. Ms. Baldwin will contact Dr. Mahoney to schedule a taping. Ms. Baldwin is also looking to create some documents. Mrs. Holt will contact Ms. Baldwin again at the end of the week. Joe Doering referred to an article by Ann Baldwin that gives advice to school districts on how to get their

budget passed. Ann Baldwin will advise us on how to link documents and send them to the community so they can be easily accessed. Mr. Doering would like to address all grades levels when discussing the budget and not just a specific school.

c. Mastery-Based Learning Presentation

Michele Holt presented an email that was addressed to her and the Board of Education members from a concerned parent expressing her concern about the Mastery-Based Learning presentation at the Community Forum. Dr. Mahoney explained that the Mastery-Based Learning presentation was not a proposal; it was an information session explaining the shift to ensure that students demonstrate mastery of subject matter. This is the expectation of the state as well as institutions of higher learning. Our district is participating in workshops to learn more. The forum allowed us to give parents a chance to ask questions from experts. This was a forum of open discussion. Tom Short also received an email from a parent who presumed it was a proposal. Mr. Short will forward the email to Dr. Mahoney. Joe Doering announced that at the end of the presentation, it was clarified that this was an informational session only.

IV. Superintendent's Report

a. 2016-2017 Operating Budget

Dr. Mahoney reviewed what occurred in the budget workshop that took place earlier this evening. A color coded chart reflecting current enrollment and class sizes in the elementary grades was discussed. A reference sheet listing the line item numbers with explanations related to the monthly financial report was also distributed. The budget drivers were discussed and the PA-13-60 non-educational items will be reviewed by the Board of Finance at their next meeting on February 11, 2016.

b. Integrated Math III, Information and Literacy Technology (Library Media), Economics, and Middle School Robotics Curriculum

Dr. Mahoney reminded the board members that the curriculum is available for them to review and introduced the new Middle School Robotics Curriculum. Tom Short inquired about the robotics curriculum. Dr. Mahoney explained that the Robotics curriculum will allow middle school students to take the next step up from coding. Mr. Short asked if students ever participated in Robotics First competitions. Dr. Mahoney responded that they are not currently participating.

c. Student Enrollment – Previously discussed.

V. Committee Reports

a. Policy – Dr. Mahoney reported that there is a meeting tomorrow. A revised policy will be available at the next board meeting for the first read, and additional policies will be reviewed this Spring.

b. Budget – Previously discussed.

c. Curriculum – Previously discussed.

d. Facilities – Dr. Mahoney reported that a new entry door will be installed at Allgrove School the week of February vacation and blinds will be installed at the middle school and lower level of the high school. The public announcement system will also be repaired in the middle school.

e. Negotiations – Joe Doering received a letter from AFSCME to resume negotiations. Dr. Mahoney stated they are waiting to hear from the non-certified union officers to schedule a meeting.

f. Communications – Previously discussed.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve Integrated Math III Curriculum

Mr. Ravens-Seger reviewed the Integrated Math III curriculum and thought it was tremendously rigorous. It is presented in a contemporary way so students will be able to relate to it.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Mr. Short to approve the Integrated Math III curriculum as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Approve Field Trip

Dr. Mahoney presented a field trip for 51 grade 11 students to travel to Hyde Park in New York on March 17, 2016 to visit historical sites. Students will depart at 6:45 a.m. and return approximately at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$30.00 paid by the student.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Mrs. Holt to approve the field trip to Hyde Park in New York on March 17, 2016 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. Approve January 2016 Financials

Sue Greco reviewed the January 2016 Financial Report and asked board members if they had any questions regarding the summary. Line items reviewed included Certified and Contracted Substitutes. Transfers were required to support the needs in the Custodial Supply, Advertising, Rubbish Removal, and Repairs to Building lines. Regarding the Tuition lines, Mrs. Greco is still waiting on payment from Hartford and invoices from our vocational institutions.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Mr. Feeney to approve the January 2016 Financials as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

VII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

a. Board Questions

b. Efficiency Study Actionable Items

VIII. Comments from Visitors - None

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ravens-Seger, seconded by Tom Short to adjourn the meeting. *Motion approved unanimously.* Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Kline
Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.