

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Monday, July 11, 2016**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Joe Doering
Mrs. Michele Holt
Mrs. Kim Brassard
Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger
Mr. Jim Feeney
Mr. Brandon Freeman
Ms. Jennifer Cook
Mr. John Welsh

Others Present:

Dr. Christine Mahoney, Superintendent
Mrs. Susan Greco, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Amanda Thompson, Visitor
Sharon Shepherd, Visitor
Becky Hayes, Visitor

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Rob Crocker

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Chairperson Joe Doering called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve minutes from the June 13, 2016 regular meeting

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to approve the June 13, 2016 minutes as presented. (FOR: Mr. Doering, Mrs. Brassard, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Ravens-Seger, Ms. Cook, and Mr. Welsh. ABSTAINED: Mrs. Holt and Mr. Freeman). *Motion approved.*

b. Comments from visitors

Amanda Thompson expressed that she would like to hear more about the staff updates.

c. Additions to Agenda

Mrs. Brassard requested to add item IIc. Scoreboard Problem - a concern that was brought to her attention.

MOTION: a motion was made by Michele Holt, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to add item IIc. Scoreboard Problem to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

Dr. Mahoney requested to move item Va. Update on Year End Financials to item IIIId.

II. Chairperson's Report

a. Efficiency Study

Dr. Mahoney reported that we are continuing to address the remaining recommendations.

b. Air Conditioning – Allgrove School

Joe Doering spoke with Jim Hayden. They will arrange to meet with Dave Wing to discuss challenges and review past discussions regarding air conditioning at Allgrove School. The electrical supply that is required is an issue. Mr. Doering will be able to share more information after the meeting.

c. Scoreboard Problem

Kim Brassard shared a written concern that the upper soccer field/softball field does not have a scoreboard. It was suggested to purchase one that is portable. The cost quoted for a fully portable scoreboard is \$3,800 and the Soccer Association and Little League offered to help with the cost. Dr. Mahoney asked Mrs. Brassard to give her the information she has so she can look into it.

III. Superintendent's Report

a. Student Enrollment & Staffing Update

Dr. Mahoney reported that enrollment is where we expected it to be and the Choice Students have been registering. Dr. Mahoney also reported that the available positions at Carl Allgrove School have been filled as well as the special education teacher at the middle school and the principal at R.D. Seymour School. Positions for a grade 4 teacher at R.D. Seymour School and a high school English teacher still need to be filled.

b. Personnel Vacancy

Joe Doering disclosed that the plan is to proceed to fill the vacant Assistant Principal position at the high school. The board members discussed and agreed that it is vital to keep this valuable position that consists of a myriad of duties not only at the high school level, but at the district level. Mr. Welsh suggested showing how the job is allocated to explain the expenditures. Susan Greco is investigating those expenditures that can be separated out by school. John Welsh also stated that this is a great opportunity to reflect a more accurate cost per pupil expenditure for the high school.

c. Capital Request

Susan Greco distributed a current copy of the Five Year Capital Needs Project Inventory sheet to board members and reported that the technology equipment was approved to move forward at the town meeting. The facilities portion has not yet gone to town meeting. Mark Porter suggested combining both phases of the security initiatives and both phases of the carpet replacement initiatives before bringing forward to the Board of Finance.

MOTION: The Board of Education at its regular meeting on July 11, 2016 had previously approved the Capital Request. Bob Ravens-Seger made a motion, seconded by Jim Feeney, to request that the following items be considered and funded by the Town Capital Non-Recurring Fund for FY17. \$26,900 to combine both phases of the Security Initiative to include the FY16 and FY17 Funds and \$13,100 to combine both phases of the Carpet Replacement at the Middle School to include the FY16 and the FY17 funds. *Motion approved unanimously.*

d. Update on Year End Financials

Dr. Mahoney reported that they are still waiting for some 2015/2016 invoices and based on recent assessments; we anticipate that pending payment of late invoices, approximately \$130,000 could be returned to the town. By law, the Board of Finance can place the funds in a non-lapsing account if requested by the Board of Education.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Policy – Dr. Mahoney reported that CABA will send a July packet.

b. Budget – Nothing to report.

c. Curriculum – Bob Ravens-Seger reported that he reviewed the new Geography textbook and he found it to be excellent quality and comprehensive.

d. Negotiations – Joe Doering reported that the next negotiations meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2016 and invited board members to attend.

e. Facilities – Dr. Mahoney shared that the summer work and repairs to buildings are in progress and a working space for the social worker is being prepared at the high school.

f. Communication – Michel Holt would like to increase the number of board meetings that are videotaped and aired on GCTV this fall.

V. Recommended Actions

a. Update on Year End Financials

This item was moved to item III d.

b. Approve Field Trip

Dr. Mahoney presented a field trip for the middle school band and choir to travel to the Fine Arts Center at UMASS in Amherst Massachusetts on September 28, 2016 to attend the Pops Concert. Students will depart at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$30 per student paid by the student.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jennifer Cook to approve the field trip for the middle school band and choir to attend the Pops Concert at the Fine Arts Center at UMASS in Amherst Massachusetts on September 28, 2016 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

VI. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

a. Efficiency Study

b. Air Conditioning – Allgrove School

c. Student Enrollment & Staffing Update

d. Scoreboard

VII. Comments from Visitors

Jennifer Cook inquired about mixed gender sports. Dr. Mahoney reported that we have a non-discrimination policy that clearly provides guidance. Recommendations are also listed on the Connecticut Interscholastic Association website. There are many resources to turn to.

Sharon Shepherd is looking forward to attending a Meet and Greet to welcome the new principal at Seymour School and inquired if it was possible to receive class placements earlier on in the summer to lessen anxiety for the students.

Amanda Thompson made a suggestion for the teachers to consider to make the transition back to school easier for students and shared an invitation for teachers to read to kids over the summer. For further information, teachers can contact Mrs. Thompson at the public library.

VIII. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney, to adjourn the meeting. *Motion passed unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Kline
Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.