

**East Granby Board of Education
East Granby, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes for
Monday, June 12, 2017**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Joe Doering
Mrs. Michele Holt
Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger
Mr. Jim Feeney
Mr. John Welsh
Mr. Rob Crocker
Ms. Jennifer Cook (7:05)

Board Members Absent:

Others Present:

Dr. Christine Mahoney, Superintendent
Mrs. Susan Greco, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Emily Farmer, Student Representative
Cullen Beman, Student
Jade Kiang, Student
Dave Mendrala, Teacher
Josiah Friedberg, Teacher
Bob Perkins, Veteran
Bill George, EGPS Technology Specialist
Dave Peling, EGHS Principal
Diane Yourous, Visitor
Karey Pond, Visitor
Amanda Thompson, Visitor
Jennifer Kovaleski, Visitor
Sharon Shepherd, Visitor
Aimee Boehm, Visitor
Dana Jambard, Visitor
Bob Paskiewicz, Visitor
Gary Tracey, Visitor
Susan Tracey, Visitor

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Chairperson Joe Doering called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve minutes from the May 8, 2017 and May 22, 2017 regular meetings

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger, to approve the May 8, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented. (FOR: Mr. Doering, Mrs. Holt, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Welsh, Mr. Ravens-Seger, Ms. Cook. ABSTAINED: Mr. Crocker). *Motion approved.*

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger, to approve the May 22, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented. Joe Doering would like to include the details of the motion regarding the superintendent's evaluation in executive session and asked to postpone approving the May 22, 2017 regular meeting minutes until the next board meeting. *Motion postponed.*

Dr. Mahoney requested to switch item Ib. Additions to Agenda with item IVb. East Granby High School – Project with East Granby Veterans.

IV. b. East Granby High School – Project with East Granby Veterans

Mr. David Mendrala, teacher, presented an East Granby High School Veterans Project video created by his social studies students with the help of Mr. Friedberg, Library Media Specialist. Mr. Mendrala then introduced students Cullen Beman and Jade Kiang who explained the project to board members. Students personally met and interviewed local veterans and collected photos. There are more than 350 veterans in East Granby alone. Mr. Mendrala is hoping to make this a Capstone Project and post the video on the school website. Next, Mr. Perkins, a veteran, commented how the project connected students to people in the community that they normally would not have connected with. Mr. Perkins is very grateful for the project and expressed that the activities and process were interesting.

I. c. Comments from Visitors

Karey Pond received Dr. Mahoney's emails regarding the Smarter Balanced Assessment administration process that affected some students at East Granby Middle School and would like to

know what happened. Bob Paskiewicz read a letter he sent to Mr. Doering and Dr. Mahoney listing reasons why he feels the Director of Curriculum/Professional Learning position should not be filled.

II. Student Representatives Report

Emily Farmer reported that on June 1, 2017, the track team won medals at the state track meet and the senior banquet was held. On June 5, 2017, the sports awards banquet was held and on June 7, 2017, the academic awards ceremony was held. Finals are underway and graduation is set for June 19, 2017 followed by project graduation. Michele Holt added that the golf team achieved all-state.

III. Chairperson's Report

a. Efficiency Study Report

Dr. Mahoney shared a revised response to the efficiency study regarding recommendation 2.3 – Regionalization. The response explains what steps the East Granby Public Schools and the Board of Education took to explore the possibility of sending East Granby High School students to a host district and their conclusion based on the study. Board members suggested edits. Using the edits, Dr. Mahoney will create a single page letter addressed to the East Granby Community along with supporting documents and charts. Another element that will be available is the Board of Education PowerPoint presentation from their April 24, 2017 meeting.

b. Discussion of Vision/Mission/Focus Areas/Goals

Dr. Mahoney distributed copies of the revised Goal Statement and Belief Statement. The next step is to use these statements to create the Areas of Focus for 2017-2018.

c. Board of Education Membership

Joe Doering shared a letter he received from Michele Holt addressed to Mike Malloy regarding Mrs. Holt's resignation from the Board of Education effective June 30, 2017. Joe Doering suggested electing a new Vice Chairperson now rather than later.

d. Nondiscrimination Notice

Dr. Mahoney reported that our Nondiscrimination Notice appears different in one document versus another. Dr. Mahoney shared a copy of the Nondiscrimination Notice that will now be used to unify all related documents.

IV. Superintendent's Report

a. Policy Series SECOND READ

Dr. Mahoney asked board members if they had any questions or concerns related to the policy series. There were none.

I. b. Additions to Agenda

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Mr. Crocker to add item IVe. Smarted Balanced Assessment Notification to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jen Cook, to add item VIe. Approve Board Member Resignation to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by Michele Holt, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to add item VI f. Efficiency Study Response to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to add item VIg. Elect Vice Chairperson to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

IV. c. Revision to Educator Evaluation Documents

Dr. Mahoney shared copies of the revisions made to the Educator Evaluation documents pursuant to a state statute regarding student assessment results. Mr. Feeney asked if the unions involved were notified of the revisions. Dr. Mahoney replied that the unions were notified.

d. Capital Infrastructure Requests

Susan Greco distributed copies of the FY17 Capital Expenditure Request. A copy was emailed earlier to the Board of Finance. The program capital request includes technology equipment for a total of \$60,000. The facilities capital includes a telephone system at Allgrove/Middle/High School, a high school ballfield irrigation system, high school parking lot repairs, air duct cleaning at R.D. Seymour School, and an air conditioning engineering assessment at Carl Allgrove School. The total request is \$129,450. It was suggested to prioritize the items. Mrs. Greco suggested moving the air duct cleaning and the air conditioning engineering assessment to operating expenses because they fall below the

threshold of \$5,000. It was decided that technology equipment is priority followed by the telephone system at Allgrove/Middle School/High School.

e. Smarter Balanced Assessment Notification

Mr. Feeney inquired about what happened with the administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) at the middle school. Dr. Mahoney explained that two messages were sent to all middle school parents and guardians. One message explained the impact of the SBAC scores of the students' involved and the other message stated that the situation is still under investigation.

V. Committee Reports

a. Policy – Already on agenda.

b. Budget – Joe Doering anticipates discussion of state budget.

c. Curriculum – Bob Ravens-Seger reviewed the proposed Advanced Manufacturing Curriculum and found it to be mutually reinforcing, nothing is left out.

d. Negotiations – Mr. Doering received a notice for the administrators' negotiations beginning this Fall.

e. Facilities – Susan Greco reported that the plumber is looking into repair options for the drain in the girls' bathroom at Carl Allgrove School. Mr. Ravens-Seger reported that the roofs at middle/high school and Carl Allgrove School will be inspected.

f. Communication – Nothing to report.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve Advanced Manufacturing Curriculum

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Michele Holt, to approve the Advanced Manufacturing Curriculum as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Approve Policy Series

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by John Welsh, to approve the policy series as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. Approve May 2017 Financial Report

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jen Cook, to approve the May 2017 Financial Report as presented.

Susan Greco explained what lines were heavily utilized and that we are still waiting on funds from Hartford. Lines that are in the deficit will be made whole again. At this time, it is difficult to know whether or not we will be returning money to the town. *Motion approved unanimously.*

d. Approve Field Trips

Dr. Mahoney presented a field trip for seven high school students to travel to Springfield Technical Community College in Springfield Massachusetts on June 16, 2016. Students will take an exam that allows them to earn certification in Adobe Programs. Students will depart at 10:15 a.m. and return at approximately 1:00 p.m. Total cost per student is \$185 plus the cost of a bus. Expenses will be paid by East Granby High School.

MOTION: a motion was made by Jen Cook, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger, for seven high school students to travel to Springfield Technical Community College in Springfield Massachusetts on June 16, 2017 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

Dr. Mahoney presented a field trip for up to 24 students in grades 8-11 to travel to Iceland during the April 2018 school vacation. The trip is provided through Appleseed Expeditions. The cost per student is \$3,395, paid by the student.

MOTION: a motion was made by Michele Holt, seconded by Jen Cook to approve students in grades 8-11 to travel to Iceland during the April 2018 school vacation as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

e. Approve Board Member Resignation

MOTION: a motion was made by Rob Crocker, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to accept Michele Holt's resignation effective June 30, 2017. (FOR: Mr. Doering, Mr. Welsh, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Ravens-Seger, Ms. Cook, and Mr. Crocker. ABSTAINED: Mrs. Holt). *Motion approved.*

f. Approve Efficiency Study Response

MOTION: a motion was made by Michele Holt, seconded by John Welsh to approve the Efficiency Study Response with the suggested edit and letter format. Furthermore, the members of the Board of Education fully support the report that reflects East Granby High School as an essential part of the East Granby Public School system. *Motion approved unanimously.*

g. Elect Vice Chairperson

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney nominating John Welsh Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education effective July 1, 2017. (FOR: Mr. Doering, Mrs. Holt, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Ravens-Seger, Ms. Cook, and Mr. Crocker. ABSTAINED: Mr. Welsh). **Motion approved.**

VII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- a. Approve May 22, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. Enrollment Projections
- c. Smarter Balanced Assessment Update

VIII. Comments from Visitors

Aimee Boehm thanked Michele Holt for her years of service on the Board of Education. Diane Yourous also thanked Michele Holt for her years of service on the Board of Education and thanked the board members for their response to the efficiency study. Sharon Shepherd thanked Michele Holt for her years of dedication to the Board of Education. Mrs. Shepherd continued by inquiring how the response to the efficiency study will be disseminated to the community. Mrs. Shepherd would also like to add a couple of future items to the capital request. She would like to see an automated system in the elementary school libraries used to check out books and enlarging the parking lot a Carl Allgrove School. Finally, Mrs. Shepherd would like to know the number of sections there will be at the elementary level for the 2017-2018 school year based on what we know now.

IX. Executive Session – Personnel Matter, Pending Litigation and Superintendent’s Evaluation

(Executive Session, if required, is held in accordance with P.A. 75-342)

X. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by Jen Cook, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion approved unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Kline, Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.

**East Granby Board of Education
Executive Session Meeting Minutes for
Monday, June 12, 2017**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Joe Doering
Mr. Jim Feeney
Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger
Ms. Jennifer Cook
Mr. John Welsh
Mr. Rob Crocker
Mrs. Michele Holt

Others Present:

Dr. Christine Mahoney, Superintendent

Board Members Absent:

The Executive Session was called to order at 9:25 p.m.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jen Cook to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's Evaluation, Personnel Matters, and Pending Litigation. The board invited Dr. Mahoney to attend. ***Motion approved unanimously.***

The Board returned to regular session at 9:52 p.m.

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by Jen Cook, to adjourn the meeting. ***Motion approved unanimously.*** The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Ravens-Seger
Board Secretary