

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Monday, December 11, 2017**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger
Mr. John Welsh
Mrs. Sharon Shepherd
Mr. Jim Feeney
Mrs. Lucia Ziobro
Mr. John Ziobro
Mr. Bob Paskiewicz

Others Present:

Dr. Christine Mahoney, Superintendent
Mrs. Susan Greco, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Ivana Prats, Student Representative
Ryan Trombly, Student Representative

Board Members Absent:

Mrs. Karey Pond
Mr. Robert Crocker

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Bob Ravens-Seger, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve Minutes from the November 8, 2017 and November 13, 2017 special meetings and the November 13, 2017 and November 27, 2017 regular meetings

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Mr. Welsh, to approve the November 8, 2017 special meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Ziobro would like the minutes to reflect the reasons why he and Lucia Ziobro opposed the motion to approve item IV. 2018-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with EG Administrative Unit.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Mr. Welsh, to withdraw the motion and table it until the next board meeting. *Motion approve unanimously.*

Mr. Ravens-Seger suggested recording all board meetings. Board members expressed their opinions and discussed ways of recording meetings.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Ziobro seconded by Mr. Feeney to approve the November 13, special meeting minutes and the November 13, 2017 regular meeting meetings as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Welsh seconded by Mr. Ziobro to approve the November 27, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented. (FOR: Mr. Ravens-Seger, Mr. Welsh, Mrs. Ziobro, Mr. Ziobro, Mr. Paskiewicz. ABSTAINED: Mrs. Shepherd, Mr. Feeney). *Motion approved.*

b. Additions to Agenda - None

c. Comments from visitors regarding agenda items - None

II. Student Representatives Report

Ryan Trombly reported that the high school is transitioning from fall to winter sports and the Thrilla on the Hilla basketball game between students and faculty raised money for the East Granby Travels Group. The group will be traveling to Australia Spring 2018 and students are rehearsing for the upcoming production of 9 to 5. Ivana Prats reported on the food drive for the East Granby town pantry as well as a coat and mitten drive. Dr. Mahoney added that there is a new girl's ice hockey co-op with Avon and Southington. Mrs. Ziobro asked the students where they post their events. Ivana replied that they post them on the school website and students are working on creating a school journal.

III. Chairperson's Report

Bob Ravens-Seger reported that the administrators 2018-2021 contract was accepted by the Board of Selectman and we are entering the budget season. Sharon Shepherd asked if the Board of Finance (BOF) will provide direction regarding the budget at their December 12, 2017 meeting. Susan Greco explained that the BOF will provide background information regarding the state budget. In January, the BOF will ask for our budget drivers.

IV. Superintendent's Report

a. Schedule Community Forum

Dr. Mahoney reviewed topics of prior Community Forums and shared this year's topic with board members. This year, we need to publicize to the community, especially the parents, the many opportunities we offer and help them to understand the ability for students to graduate high school with significant credentials and college credits that will render them college, career, and workforce ready. This year's Community Forum will be held sometime during the first week of February.

b. Schedule Budget Committee Meeting – Budget Drivers

Dr. Mahoney would like to schedule a special budget committee meeting on January 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular board meeting to prepare for the BOF meeting on January 16, 2018. Sharon Shepherd asked Dr. Mahoney if she met with the administrators to gather their budget requests and if they prioritize their requests. Dr. Mahoney explained that she has met with the administrators and the requests are focused on obtaining resources to continue to support the work we are doing. Susan Greco reminded the board that the budget drivers have to be prepared for the BOF meeting on January 16, 2018.

Dr. Mahoney reported that she had a second meeting with Asnuntuck Community College and the administrators and counselors at Windsor Locks Public Schools regarding the high school partnership program. Eligible select high school junior and seniors can attend afternoon classes at ACC as a cohort for 2 years and earn credits that guarantees them acceptance to UCONN or any Connecticut state college or university. We need to inform parents that this is a great opportunity for students to earn free college credits. John Ziobro recalls that individuals with college experience are able to enter the military at a higher level than those without college experience; this would also benefit students who choose to enter the military after graduation. Sharon Shepherd would like to broaden the communities understanding of this wonderful opportunity for students and feels the Community Forum would be the perfect event. Dr. Mahoney shared that ACC/Windsor Locks Public Schools will be holding two parent information nights. Lastly, Dr. Mahoney reported that the Title IV Grant was submitted and the application for the RFP Choice Grant that may restore afterschool programs is due January 2018.

c. BOF Meeting Schedule for Budget – Schedule Budget Workshop

A special budget committee meeting was scheduled for January 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. under item IVb. of tonight's agenda.

V. Committee Reports

a. Policy – Dr. Mahoney is working on policies for the policy sub-committee to review.

b. Budget – Previously discussed.

c. Curriculum – Dr. Mahoney reported that the business department is working on an International Marketing online course with Dr. Waller and a Computer Science and Advanced Placement (AP) American Government and Civics course. Bob Ravens-Seger commented that colleges now require criminal justice majors to take American Government so this will be helpful. In the future, Dr. Mahoney would like to institute an AP CAPSTONE course. Sharon Shepherd asked if a list of courses is available online. Dr. Mahoney replied that the courses are listed in the Program of Studies which is available online and in print.

d. Facilities – Susan Greco reported that two heating fans needed to be replaced but they are covered under the maintenance contract; otherwise, there is nothing significant to report. Jim Feeney asked about the status of carpeting the board of education hallway, conference room and office. Dr. Mahoney has not heard back from the company. Bob Paskiewicz inquired about the weather station on the middle school roof that does not work. Susan Greco replied that Bill George is working on locating a part to repair the unit.

e. Negotiations – The administrators contract was recently approved. Negotiations for noncertified staff will begin next summer.

f. Communications – Sharon Shepherd reported that she met with Bob Ravens-Seger and Karey Pond to discuss options of video recording board meetings to increase parent and community involvement. Board members discussed various ideas. John Ziobro asked if we can change the location of the board meetings. John Welsh replied that we can as long as we meet our posting requirements.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve November 2017 Financial Report

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Mrs. Shepherd to approve the November 2017 Financial Report as presented. Susan Greco reviewed the summary report that can be located on the district website along with copies of previously approved monthly financial reports. Mrs. Greco commented that she is concerned about line #435 Repairs to Buildings as it has almost been used to 100% and the custodial supply line #612 is better than it was last year at this time. Mr. Ziobro inquired about the mold remediation projects at the Middle School and Carl Allgrove School and if the cause was rectified. Mrs. Greco explained what the projects involved and the solutions. Mr. Ziobro asked Mrs. Greco if she is confident that we will receive reimbursement from Hartford. Mrs. Greco replied that Hartford has a legal responsibility to pay and there has never been a problem in previous years. Mr. Ziobro asked when the money is expected to be paid. Mrs. Greco replied that we usually received it in June. Mrs. Shepherd recently attended a CABE Orientation for new board members and asked if Mrs. Greco uses the same system for financials that was presented at the orientation. Mrs. Greco replied that it is the same system, but it is condensed. **Motion approved unanimously.**

VII. Board Representative Reports

a. CREC – Nothing to report. A representative from the BOE will be elected January 2018.

b. CABE – Dr. Mahoney reported on workshops and events CABE offers. They recently recognized the Superintendent of the Year and will be holding a legislative meeting in January and CABE on the Hill in March. Mrs. Shepherd and Mrs. Ziobro commented that the recent CABE New Board Member Orientation provided comprehensive materials, was well run, informative, and a good use of time.

VIII. Agenda items for Future Meeting

a. Budget

b. CAPSTONE Project – Mr. Feeney would like to discuss the CAPSTONE Project. Mr. Feeney received feedback from parents concerned about the additional pressure it puts on students their senior year. Dr. Mahoney commented that it is not an agenda item, it is an administrative item. The CAPSTONE Project is state law and required for graduation. Students can complete the project any time prior to senior year. Regardless, Mr. Feeney would like to discuss the topic. He feels that parents are not aware of the particulars of the project. Dr. Mahoney reported that the CAPSTONE requirements are shared repeatedly with students and is described in the handbook that each student receives yearly.

IX. Comments from Visitors - None

X. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Mr. Welsh, seconded by Mr. Paskiewicz, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion approved unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline
Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.