

**East Granby Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes for  
Monday, March 26, 2018**

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**Board Members Present:**

Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger  
Mr. John Welsh  
Mr. Bob Paskiewicz  
Mr. James Feeney  
Mrs. Sharon Shepherd  
Mrs. Karey Pond  
Mrs. Lucia Ziobro (7:02)

**Others Present:**

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

**Board Members Absent:**

Mr. Rob Crocker  
Mr. John Ziobro

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**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. Additions to the Agenda**

Dr. Mahoney requested to add an Executive Session to the agenda to discuss a Personnel Matter.

**MOTION:** a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jim Feeney, to add an Executive Session to the agenda to discuss a Personnel Matter under item VIII, making Adjournment item IX. *Motion approved unanimously.*

**b. Comments from Visitors Regarding Agenda Items**

April Geer, Project Graduation Coordinator, explained that she would greatly appreciate it if Graduation 2018 was not held on a Friday because the venue is not available on Fridays.

**II. Chairperson's Report**

**a. Preparation for Public Hearing**

Bob Ravens-Seger commented that once the Board of Education (BOE) receives final guidance from the Board of Finance (BOF) on April 3, 2018, the BOE will be able to continue moving forward in the budget process.

**b. Community Engagement and Communication to Support 18/19 Budget**

Dr. Mahoney reported that documents containing budget information will be posted on the district website, printed in the next edition of Let's Talk Turkey, and mailed to the homes of East Granby residents. Bob Ravens-Seger asked who will compile the responses to questions submitted by the BOF. Susan Greco will compile the responses. Once completed, Mrs. Shepherd would like a copy of the questions and responses sent to the board members. Mrs. Shepherd suggested posting budget documents on the website. To eliminate confusion, Dr. Mahoney explained that it is best to wait until we get final guidance from the BOF on April 3, 2018 before posting anything. Mr. Ravens-Seger suggested posting the BOE PowerPoint presentation because it is not overly detailed. Mrs. Shepherd is concerned that the public will not have time to prepare (and some of the questions can be answered now). Dr. Mahoney stated that we try to streamline information to reduce confusion. The next newsletter will contain budget data and background information. Mr. Welsh is okay with posting the 2.38% budget endorsed by the BOE in some manner but not the .75% budget directed by the BOF. As far as the questions submitted by the BOF, Mr. Welsh commented that this is not a continuation of the public meeting and although we are not obligated to respond, we should. Bob Paskiewicz agreed with Mr. Welsh; the BOF could have asked their questions at the last meeting. Mr. Paskiewicz referred to the BOF question regarding the Medicare Billing Program and commented that if there is no penalty; he would like to use the money elsewhere. Mr. Ravens-Seger commented that we need to obey the law. Mrs. Ziobro asked if this is a new law or if there is a statute. Susan Greco has a copy of the statute that she can share with the board. Karey Pond asked if

Dr. Mahoney would be contacting board counsel. Dr. Mahoney will consult with counsel regarding any potential legal consequences. Mrs. Shepherd is uncomfortable not following the mandate just because there is no penalty.

**c. Tuition Students to East Granby Public Schools**

At a recent leadership meeting, Dr. Mahoney discussed promoting the district to recruit tuition paying students. A document is being prepared that can be utilized broadly to publicize who we are and the opportunities we offer in our district.

**III. 2017-2018 Calendar**

**a. Graduation Date for 2018 and Last Day of School**

Dr. Mahoney distributed updated versions of the 2017-2018 school calendar reflecting the 6 snow days that occurred. The original anticipated last day of school was June 13, 2018. The last day of school will now be June 21, 2018 for students and June 22, 2018 for teachers. Connecticut state statute dictates that students attend no fewer than 180 days of school in a given year and teachers are contractually required to teach 182 days. Graduation would be scheduled for June 21, 2018. Should we have any additional school cancellations, we would not have to change the date of graduation; however, grade 12 students would have to return to school to make up the time before June 30, 2018.

**IV. Superintendent's Report**

**a. Student Recognition Ceremony**

Dr. Mahoney announced that this year's student recognition ceremony is scheduled for May 29, 2018 and asked board members to mark their calendars. This event gives us the opportunity to recognize students for their exceptional work in school as well as the community.

**b. Budget Edition – The Insider**

Dr. Mahoney reported that the budget edition of the district newsletter will be mailed in April to all residents in East Granby. It will contain compiled budget information, grant information, accolades, community service and achievements, and additional information about the district. Susan Greco would like to schedule a budget workshop on April 4, 2018 to discuss the budget guidance the BOF will provide to the BOE on April 3, 2018. A meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 2018.

**c. School Safety and Security Update**

Dr. Mahoney shared that planning is now underway with First Selectman, Jim Hayden, the State Trooper, and Fire Marshal to organize for the emergency drills taking place this spring. Additional meetings will be held prior to the drills that are practiced based on the type of emergency. Dr. Mahoney also reported that a session focused on Resilience and Self-Empowerment is scheduled for March 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the East Granby High School library. It is hard to establish a calendar for future sessions because we are working with presenters' schedules. As soon as we have confirmation, we will email parents, guardians, faculty and staff. It will also get posted on the website. The sessions are being recorded and will air on GCTV.

**V. Recommended Actions**

**a. Approve Graduation Date for 2018 and Last Day of School**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Lucia Ziobro to set June 21, 2018 as the last day of school for students and hold Graduation 2018 that evening with the contingency to make up missed time by June 30, 2018 in the event of additional school closings. *Motion approved unanimously.*

**b. Approve Field Trip**

Dr. Mahoney presented a field trip for students in grades 8-11 to travel to Costa Rica during the week of April vacation 2019 to learn about the rainforest, ecology global awareness and public service. The student is responsible for the cost of the trip which is \$2,495 per student. Fundraising will help defer the cost. Lucia Ziobro asked about appropriate waivers and Mr. Feeney commented that parents need to be alerted to potential risks. Dr. Mahoney replied that parents are required to attend an informational meeting to review such topics.

**MOTION:** a motion was made by Sharon Shepherd, seconded by Karey Pond, to approve the field trip to Costa Rica the week of April vacation 2019 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

- VI. Agenda Items for Future Meetings**  
**a. Transportation Contract Update**  
**b. Student Recognition Ceremony in May**

**VII. Comments from Visitors**

April Geer thanked the board members for their service and for not scheduling Graduation 2018 on a Friday. John Welsh publicly thanked Renee Klucznik for the wonderful job she did on the Connecticut Students Writers Program.

**VIII. Executive Session – Personnel Matter**

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

**IX. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by Karey Pond, seconded by Jim Feeney, to adjourn the meeting. ***Motion approved unanimously.*** The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 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, March 26, 2018**

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**Board Members Present:**

Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger  
Mr. Bob Paskiewicz  
Mr. John Welsh  
Mr. Jim Feeney  
Mrs. Karey Pond  
Mrs. Lucia Ziobro

**Others Present:**

Dr. Christine Mahoney, Superintendent  
Susan Greco, Business Manager

**Absent:**

Mr. Rob Crocker  
Mrs. Sharon Shepherd  
Mr. John Ziobro

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The Executive Session was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

**MOTION:** a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Bob Paskiewicz, to move into Executive Session for the purpose of a Personnel Matter. The board invited Dr. Mahoney and Susan Greco to attend. **Motion approved unanimously.** The Executive Session was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 8:15 p.m.

**MOTION:** a motion was made by Karey Pond, seconded by Jim Feeney, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion approved unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Ravens-Seger  
Acting Board Secretary