

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Monday, February 11, 2019**

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Sharon Shepherd
Mr. John Welsh
Mr. James Feeney
Mrs. Karey Pond
Mrs. Lucia Ziobro
Mr. John Ziobro

Others Present:

Dr. Patricia Charles, Interim Superintendent
Mrs. Sherry Holmes, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Jordan Kott, Student Representative
Marjorie Light, Curriculum Director
Maylah Uhlinger, Principal Carl Allgrove School
Karen Gogel, Director of Student Support Services

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Crocker
Mr. Bob Ravens-Seeger
Mr. Bob Paskiewicz

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Sharon Shepherd, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve Minutes from the January 14, 2019 special meeting, the January 23, 2019 special meeting, and the January 28, 2019 regular meeting

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by John Ziobro to approve the January 14, 2019 special meeting minutes as presented. In the future, John Ziobro would like to see more specifics listed in the minutes when there is an executive session concerning a personnel matter without compromising confidential information. He will look into the Connecticut General Statute requirements. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Karey Pond to approve the January 23, 2019 special meeting minutes as presented. Sharon Shepherd requested to amend the minutes in line 3 of item Ia to read ‘meeting minutes’ not ‘meeting meeting’. John Welsh recommended moving items VIIId, VIIe, and VIIf after item VI.

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jim Feeney, to withdraw the motion made by John Welsh. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Karey Pond, to approve the January 23, 2019 special meeting minutes as amended. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jim Feeney to approve the January 28, 2019 regular meeting minutes as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Additions to the Agenda

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by John Ziobro, to add item VIId Approve to Discuss and Appoint Superintendent Search Committee Members to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. Comments from Visitors Regarding Agenda Items - None

II. Student Representatives Report

Jordan Kott reported on the following: the Snowball semi-formal in January; the girls’ varsity basketball team qualified for the state tournament for the third year in a row; the boys’ varsity basketball team won six games; the indoor track team tournament; spring sports; mid-term exams; bagel sale; Pops Concert on March 8, 2019; on-going meetings between the seniors and Principal DeMelo; the Dodge Ball tournament in March; the pep rally held February 7, 2019; toddler time during Home Economics classes, and student council fundraising events including selling decorated cans of Orange Crush soda on Valentine’s Day.

III. Chairperson's Report – Nothing to Report.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Charles shared that Dr. Mahoney will not be returning as Superintendent from her medical leave. A letter from Dr. Mahoney was shared with the East Granby Public School community. The Board of Education (BOE) is looking into hiring a firm to assist in the search for her replacement. The search will take approximately four months. Dr. Charles and the board are hopeful to have a superintendent in place for July 1, 2019.

a. Awarding High School Credit for Spanish I and Algebra I

Marjorie Light announced the new 25 credit graduation requirement commencing with the Class of 2023. The current East Granby High School graduation requirement is 23.5 credits and the state minimum is 20 credits. Marjorie reported on the multiple math and world language pathways students in grades 8-12 can take and the positive benefits of taking them. She would like to award high school credit to grade 8 students who take and pass Algebra I and/or Spanish I. She also reviewed the current curricular revisions, curriculum that needs updating, and a proposed revision timeline. Marjorie recommended that the board allocate money in the budget for summer curriculum writing by teachers. The board members discussed the pros and cons of awarding high school credit to grade 8 students. Further discussion will take place at a future board meeting and consideration will be taken to align the awarding of high school credit to grade 8 students that take and pass Algebra I and/or Spanish I with Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements, should the board approve awarding credit.

b. K-12 Music Curriculum

Marjorie Light reported that the K-12 music curriculum was updated and copies are available for the curriculum committee to review. The last time the music curriculum was written was in 2006. Marjorie and the teachers that helped develop the curriculum would be happy to meet with the curriculum committee to answer any questions.

c. Revised 2019-2020 School Calendar

Dr. Charles explained that the revision to the 2019-2020 school calendar consisted of changing the June 11, 2020 teacher in-service day to February 14, 2020 making the anticipated last day for students June 11, 2020 instead of June 10, 2020.

V. Committee Reports

a. Policy – Lucia Ziobro shared that the policy sub-committee recently met to review Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements. Principal DeMelo is preparing a revised draft of the policy to review before presenting it to the board.

b. Budget – The next budget workshop is scheduled for February 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

c. Curriculum – Previously discussed.

d. Facilities – Dr. Charles reported that an oil spill occurred at R.D. Seymour School while filling the oil tank. The Department of Environmental Protection Agency removed the contaminated soil. The cost will be covered by the vendor. Dr. Charles also stated the full report on the electrical upgrade will be shared with us soon. Tradesmen of New England rescheduled to meet with us twice.

e. Negotiations – Dr. Charles reported that the non-certified bargaining unit submitted a demand letter to the BOE office. We are compiling the materials to start negotiations as soon as possible.

f. Communications – Sharon Shepherd recommended that the communications committee meet to discuss disseminating budget information to the community. Karey Pond suggested keeping the community informed about the search for a superintendent.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve January 2019 Financials

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jim Feeney to approve the January 2019 Financials as presented. Sherry Holmes reported that unemployment payments are no longer an issue; repairs

to buildings continues to be impacted significantly; we will be receiving a Telephone E-rate credit; and electricity is over budget, but starting January 1, 2019, the BOE and Town are locked into a 24 month contract with CRCOG at a rate of .09072 per kWh. Legal fees will be impacted by the non-certified personnel negotiations, and significant line items will be encumbered as information becomes available. Sherry Holmes recommended transferring \$41,281 from Other Professional & Technical Services to Repairs to Buildings to cover the deficit. John Ziobro inquired about the installation of an eye wash sink at the middle school. Dr. Charles shared that it is mandated equipment. **Motion approved unanimously.**

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by John Welsh to approve the recommended transfer in the amount of \$41,281. (FOR: Jim Feeney, John Welsh, Sharon Shepherd, Karey Pond, and Lucia Ziobro. ABSTAINED: John Ziobro). **Motion approved.**

John Ziobro asked Sherry Holmes to notify the Board of Selectman about the transferring of funds as required by Connecticut General Statute section 10-222. Dr. Charles will review the statute requirements.

b. Approve Revised 2019-2020 School Calendar

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jim Feeney to approve the revised 2019-2020 school calendar as presented. (FOR: Sharon Shepherd, John Welsh, Jim Feeney, Karey Pond, and John Ziobro. ABSTAINED: Lucia Ziobro). **Motion approved.**

c. Approve Field Trips

Dr. Charles presented a field trip for U.S. History students to travel to Hyde Park in New York on April 19, 2019 to visit museums and mansions related to U.S. History, foreign policy, and current events. Students will depart at 6:45 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m. The cost of the trip paid by the student is \$30.

Dr. Charles presented a field trip for the East Granby baseball team to travel to Dodgertown in Vero Beach, Florida from April 5, 2019 through April 11, 2019. Students will depart at 10:30 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m. The cost of the trip paid by the student is \$1,300. To help reduce the cost, the team has been fundraising throughout the year.

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Jim Feeney to approve the field trips to Hyde Park in New York and Dodgertown in Vero Beach, Florida as presented. **Motion approved unanimously.**

d. Approve to Discuss and Appoint Superintendent Search Committee Members

Dr. Charles shared that according to Connecticut General Statute, the BOE members make up the Superintendent Search Committee. John Welsh asked what the distinction is between the search committee and the search firm. Dr. Charles explained that the search committee selects a search firm to help with the search process, and the search firm brings the information back to the search committee.

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Karey Pond, appointing the Board of Education members as the Superintendent Search Committee members. **Motion approved unanimously.**

VII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

John Ziobro asked if there was any written curriculum for Technology Education. Majorie Light listed several classes that have written curriculum; Advanced Manufacturing I & II, Material & Design, Computer Science, Robotics, Coding, and Drones will be included for next year.

VIII. Comments from Visitors - None

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by John Ziobro to adjourn the meeting. **Motion approved unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline
Board Clerk