

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, May 28, 2019**

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Crocker

Others Present:

Melissa Bavaro-Grande, Acting Superintendent
Mrs. Sherry Holmes, Business Manager
Ms. Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Marjorie Light, Director of Curriculum/PD
Maya Brody, Visitor
Erin Russell, Visitor
Jade Kiang, Visitor
Heather MacKinnon, Visitor
Madeline Moore, Visitor
Allison Strzegowski, Visitor
Christian Fagnant, Visitor
Jonathan, Ciottore, Visitor
Sarah Springer, Visitor
Mason Williams, Visitor

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

a. Additions to the Agenda – None

b. Comments from visitors regarding agenda items

Youth Action Council (YAC) Coordinator, Mason Williams and nine members of the YAC are attending tonight's Board of Education (BOE) meeting so they can see how they are run and to use the BOE as an advocate to help them pursue what they would like to achieve in the future.

II. Chairperson's Report

With deep regret, Sharon Shepherd read a letter she wrote and submitted to the town clerk, Christine Gallagher, announcing her resignation from the BOE effective June 1, 2019. Mrs. Shepherd thanked her fellow board members, the community, and staff for their support and dedication. East Granby is truly a special place to live and raise a family and she is grateful to have spent time serving the district. Bob Paskiewicz thanked Sharon for her service and wished her the best in her future endeavors. John Welsh thanked Sharon for attending meetings on behalf of the people of East Granby prior to becoming a BOE member and as a board member. Her involvement made the district better.

Bob Paskiewicz announced that there will be a negotiations meeting on June 10, 2019 at 4 p.m. followed by a board meeting at 7:00 p.m. Graduation will be held on June 18, 2019 and he encouraged the board members to attend. Mr. Paskiewicz reached out to Mary Broderick from CABE regarding the search for a superintendent and he is waiting for her to return his call.

III. Superintendent's Report

a. Science Curriculum K-5 [FIRST READ](#)

Marjorie Light distributed an overview of the K-5 template for Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) curriculum resources 2018-19. The process began 5 years ago with the help of curriculum consultant, Susan Cavanagh, and Suzanne Wolf-Chester who was instrumental in creating the templates. Elements include physical science, life science, and earth and space science. Both Carolina and Foss units were used to align with NGSS. Marjorie previously shared the curriculum with Sharon Shepherd and Bob Ravens-Seger. John Ziobro asked Marjorie to send him an electronic copy of the curriculum so he can review the material. Marjorie will email an electronic copy to all of the board members.

b. CABE Policy Book Revision Update/Schedule Policy Sub-Committee Meeting

Ms. Bavaro-Grande asked CABE what the timeline would be for the policy audit. The policy audit takes approximately 3 months to complete. Their next availability is the end of August 2019 and it is a first come, first service basis. For \$1,800, CABE will check to see if our policy manuals contain all the required policies and that they align with CABE policy. They will also check legal references and provide a summary of recommendations. John Ziobro agrees with the initial policy audit for \$1,800 rather than CABE creating new policy manuals because they are BOE policies and should come from

the board not CABE. John Welsh commented that it is sensible and more than reasonable to have the audit performed. Lucia Ziobro would like to verify policy mandates.

c. Projected K-5 Student Enrollment 2019-2020

Ms. Bavaro-Grande shared current projected enrollment numbers for grades K-5 for the 2019-2020 school year and the number/size of sections were compared to the district class size guidelines. Some of the numbers are expected to increase. They will continue to monitor the numbers. Sharon Shepherd asked how many elementary teachers were budgeted for 2019/20. Sherry Holmes will have to look at the figures. There are 11 classroom teachers at both Carl Allgrove and R.D. Seymour School this year. In addition to class size, several board members are concerned with the space in the rooms being a safety issue.

d. School Activities Update

One hundred twenty students were recognized at the high school Academic Awards on May 16, 2019. Melissa Bavaro-Grande read a letter from middle school science teacher, John Langan, regarding the 6th Annual Invention Convention. The letter explained the process of starting with an idea to creating a proto-type and judging. State winners were invited to attend the national competition. Elementary music teacher, Patricia Lepak was awarded a one-time grant called Donors Choose. The elementary Art Show was well attended. The retirement/20+ dinner honored Lori Aeschliman, Shellee Horner, and Donna Mattera for their 20+ years of service and celebrated with Claire Hart, Vicki Hebel, Robin O'Brien, and Lee Pace on their retirement. The middle school concert will be held May 29, 2019, the high school concert will be held May 30, 2019, the middle school poetry night and National Honor Society Induction will be held June 5, 2019, and the senior banquet will be held June 6, 2019. John Welsh commented that the school district was well represented at the Memorial Day parade. Lastly, Ms. Bavaro-Grande shared that a chemistry teacher was hired for next school year.

e. Letters of Resignation

Ms. Bavaro-Grande presented a letter of resignation from Business Manager, Sherry Holmes, effective June 28, 2019 and middle school custodian Joseph Bianchi effective May 30, 2019. Both positions have been posted.

IV. Recommended Actions

a. Approve Field Trip

Ms. Bavaro-Grande presented a field trip for the Crusaders Marching Band, Color Guard, and High School Choir to travel to the Big E in West Springfield, MA on September 26, 2019 to participate in the parade. Students will depart at 12:30 p.m. and return at approximately 9:00 p.m. The cost to the district is \$552 for bus transportation.

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Sharon Shepherd to approve the field trip to the Big E in West Springfield, MA on September 26, 2019 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Approve Letters of Resignation

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Karey Pond to accept Joseph Bianchi's resignation effective May 30, 2019. *Motion approved unanimously.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to reluctantly accept Sherry Holme's resignation effective June 28, 2019. *Motion approved unanimously.*

V. Agenda for Future Meetings

a. Projected K-5 Student Enrollment 2019-2020

b. Science Curriculum K-5 **SECOND READ**

c. CABE – Community Conversation Fall 2019

VI. Comments from Visitors

The YAC thanked the board members for the opportunity to observe a BOE meeting.

VII. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by John Ziobro, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger, to adjourn the meeting. *Motion approved unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline
Board Clerk