

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Monday, December 9, 2019**

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Melissa Bavaro-Grande, Acting Superintendent
Raymond Engle, Business Manager
Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Sariah Colon, Student Representative
James Hayden, First Selectman
Michael Malloy, Board of Finance
Rick Bortz, Visitor

Board Members Absent:

Mrs. Michele Holt

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Bob Paskiewicz, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting began with item IIIb. Special Recognition.

III. b. Special Recognition

First Selectman, Jim Hayden, presented James Feeney with a Proclamation and declared Tuesday, December 10, 2019 James Feeney Day. Mr. Feeney significantly contributed to the East Granby community serving 13 years on the Board of Finance from 2001-2014 and 26 years on the Board of Education from 1978-1998 and 2014-2020. Bob Paskiewicz thanked Mr. Feeney for his commitment to serving.

I. a. Approve minutes from the November 12, 2019 regular meeting, the November 20, 2019 special meeting and the November 25, 2019 regular meeting.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney, to approve the November 12, 2019 regular meeting minutes as presented. (FOR: Bob Paskiewicz, Bob Ravens-Seger, John Welsh, Jim Feeney, John Ziobro, Lucia Ziobro. ABSTAINED: Karey Pond). *Motion approved.*

MOTION: a motion was made by John Ziobro, seconded by Jim Feeney, to approve the November 20, 2019 special meeting minutes as presented. (FOR: Bob Paskiewicz, Bob Ravens-Seger, John Welsh, Jim Feeney, John Ziobro. ABSTAINED: Karey Pond and Lucia Ziobro). *Motion approved.*

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney, to approve the November 25, 2019 regular meeting minutes as presented. (FOR: Bob Paskiewicz, Bob Ravens-Seger, John Welsh, Jim Feeney, John Ziobro, Lucia Ziobro. ABSTAINED: Karey Pond). *Motion approved.*

b. Additions to Agenda

Item IVb. Teacher Retirement Announcement and item VIId. Accept Teacher Retirement Announcement were added to the agenda.

c. Comments from visitors regarding agenda items – Board of Finance Member and Chairman of the Democratic Town Committee, Michael Malloy, thanked Jim Feeney for his distinguished service to the Town of East Granby and wished him well in his future endeavors.

II. Student Representatives Report

Sariah Colon reported that the high school Winter Concert will be held December 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.; a trivia night event raised over \$400 for the Make-A-Wish foundation; winter sports are starting and the National Honor Society sponsored a complimentary gift wrapping event. A fundraiser was held at J & G's for a student that has taken ill; over \$2,500 was raised. Bracelets are being sold at school to help raise additional money. A presentation on vaping and a presentation on Spanish culture were held. Upcoming events include the pep rally and poetry night.

III. Chairperson's Report

a. Superintendent Search

There will be a short non-meeting tonight with Mary Broderick from CAFE after tonight's board meeting.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Melissa Bavaro-Grande shared that a link to access a 25 minute video on vaping was emailed to parents and is available on the district website. Melissa reminded the board members that the upgrade to the camera system at R.D. Seymour School is time sensitive and she would like to discuss it at the next facilities sub-committee meeting. Melissa thanked Jim Feeney for his years of service and for supporting education.

a. Schedule Budget Sub-Committee Meeting – Budget Drivers

Melissa Bavaro-Grande and Raymond Engle will meet with principals individually next week to discuss their building base budgets. Melissa would like to schedule a budget sub-committee meeting after the holidays before the Board of Finance meeting in January.

b. Teacher Retirement Announcement

Melissa Bavaro-Grande shared a letter from high school English teacher, Deborah Ott, announcing her intention to retire at the end of June 2020.

V. Committee Reports

a. Policy – 'SECOND READ' Policy 6172.3

Melissa Bavaro-Grande reviewed the revisions to the policy based on recommendations the board made at their last meeting. Bob Paskiewicz commented that this policy makes East Granby special and does not impact the budget.

b. Budget

Raymond Engle reported that the insurance broker will have updated pricing for the budget process by the end of the second week of December. Due to the late submission of the OPEB census report, we officially requested an extension for the year end close out. Milliman will require additional time to review and report to Mahoney & Sabol (our audit firm). The audit firm agreed to request an extension until January 31, 2020. Preparing the 2020-2021 budget for board review is currently underway and administrators are sending their perspective requirements for entry into Munis.

c. Curriculum – Nothing to report at this time.

d. Facilities – John Ziobro will consider a date and time and contact everyone.

e. Negotiations – Mediation for certified staff is December 11, 2019 at 5 p.m.

f. Communications – Bob Paskiewicz shared an email he received from Carolyn Blake regarding a Suffield Board of Education Book Drive that help's to enhance classroom libraries by collecting new or gently used books for levels Pre-K through Grade 8. Bob gave Melissa Bavaro-Grande the information to see if the administration is interested in having a book drive in East Granby.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve School Calendar 2020-2021

MOTION: a motion was made by John Ziobro, seconded by Jim Feeney to approve the 2020-2021 school calendar as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Approve November 2019 Financial Report

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney to approve the November 2019 Financial Report as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. Approve Field Trips

Melissa Bavaro-Grande presented a field trip for grade 3 students to travel to Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts to experience a live concert. Students will depart on May 8, 2020 at 8:45 a.m. and return at approximately 11:30 a.m. The Parent Teacher Organization will cover the cost of the tickets and the students will pay the transportation fee. There is no cost to district.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney for grade 3 students to travel to Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts on May 8, 2020 as presented. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Melissa Bavaro-Grande presented a field trip for grade 8 English Language Arts (ELA) students to travel to Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts on December 19, 2019 to attend the Chamber Theatre Production of Encore! This trip was originally planned for December 17, 2019 in Torrington, Connecticut but the performance was cancelled. The students will pay the cost of \$30 each. There is no cost to district.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney for grade 8 ELA students to travel to Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts on December 19, 2019 as presented. **Motion approved unanimously.**

d. Accept Teacher Retirement Announcement

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney to accept, with regrets, the announcement of Deborah Ott's retirement effective at the end of June 2020. **Motion accepted unanimously.**

Melissa Bavaro-Grande requested adding item VIe. Approve Policy 6172.3 SECOND READ to the agenda.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Jim Feeney to add item VIe. Approve Policy 6172.3 SECOND READ to the agenda. **Motion approved unanimously.**

e. Approve Policy 6172.3 – SECOND READ

MOTION: a motion was made by Jim Feeney, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to approve policy 6172.3 as presented tonight. (FOR: Bob Paskiewicz, Bob Ravens-Seger, Jim Feeney, Karey Pond, John Ziobro, Lucia Ziobro. ABSTAINED: John Welsh). **Motion approved.**

VII. Agenda items for Future Meeting – No items were requested.

VIII. Comments from Visitors - None

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by John Ziobro, seconded by Jim Feeney, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion approved unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline
Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.