

**East Granby Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes for  
Monday, March 13, 2023**

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**Board Members Present:**

Mr. Bob Paskiewicz  
Mr. John Welsh  
Mrs. Amanda Cormier  
Mr. Robert Loomis  
Mr. Ricky Bortz  
Mr. John Corcoran  
Mrs. Lisa Griffin

**Board Members Absent:**

Mrs. Lynn Landolina  
Mr. Mark Andrews

**Others Present:**

Melissa Bavaro-Grande, Superintendent  
Raymond Engle, Business Manager  
Lisa Kline, Board Clerk  
Adithi Tallapaka, Student Representative  
Kieran Beman, Student Representative  
Evan Hanks, Student/EGMS Youth Council  
Marsie, Luckenbach, R.D. Seymour Principal  
Wes Dutton, Teacher/Coach  
Kerrie Anthony, Visitor  
Kirstin Bednarz, Visitor  
Bonnie Jones, Visitor  
Heather Adams, Visitor  
Jennifer Guilmartin, Visitor  
Diane Yourous, Visitor  
M&J Drivers (5)  
Ben Nardi, Visitor  
Jackson Moore, Visitor  
Marie Nardi, Visitor

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**I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**a. Approve minute from the February 13, 2023 budget workshop, and the February 13, 2023 and February 27, 2023 regular meetings**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by Robert Loomis, seconded by Amanda Cormier, to approve the February 13, 2023 budget workshop, and the February 13, 2023 and February 27, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

**b. Additions to Agenda – None**

**c. Comments from Visitors Regarding Agenda Items –** Heather Adams thanked the board and everyone who helped address the condition of the fields.

**II. Student Representatives Reports**

Kieran reported on events and happenings taking place in the elementary schools. Topics included parent/teacher conferences, Kids Heart Challenge, Read Across America, and Invention Convention. Adithi reported on middle and high school activities. Topics included students of the month, UCONN Writer Winners, Kindness Week, Invention Convention, Student Council Representatives, CAPSTONE presentations, POPS concert, Dodgeball tournament, the spring musical, and sports.

**III. Chairperson's Report**

Bob Paskiewicz thanked the ad hoc committee and all the stakeholders involved with improving the condition of the fields. Two bids were received. Bob explained the process moving forward to enhance and prepare the fields this spring with a more comprehensive plan for the fall. The board will vote asking the BOF and the town for \$50,000 in capital funds to be used this fiscal year for improvements and vote again, after June 30, 2023, to ask for \$114,000 in capital funds to be used in the fall. Additional ways to fund the improvements and getting the work done sooner rather than

later were discussed. Bob Paskiewicz encouraged community members to attend the Board of Finance meeting on March 16, 2023.

#### **IV. Superintendent's Report**

##### **a. EGMS Youth Council**

Evan Hanks presented the mentorship program between the EGMS Youth Council and students at R.D. Seymour School.

##### **b. Transportation Update**

Raymond Engle shared that the bids received were reviewed and it was recommended that we stay with M&J Transportation.

##### **c. Retirement/Resignation**

Pre-K Special Education teacher, Gina Palmbach, will retire at the end of this school year and Emma Durao, high school counselor, will resign effective the end of this school year.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

**a. Policy** – Nothing to report at this time.

**b. Budget** – The board will present a 3.99% budget at the March 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Finance meeting.

**c. Curriculum** – Robert Loomis shared information on the State Department of Education Reading Programs and the Science of Reading Masterclass professional learning series.

**d. Facilities** – Nothing to report at this time.

**e. Negotiations** – The teachers' contract will go to a town meeting on March 28, 2023.

**f. Communications** – The subcommittee recently met to discuss the CAFE Communication Webinar and using social media.

#### **VI. Recommend Actions**

##### **a. Approve February 2023 Financials**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Robert Loomis to approve the February 2023 Financials as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

##### **b. Approve to Move Forward with Transportation Negotiations**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by John Corcoran, to move forward with negotiating a transportation contract with M&J. *Motion approved unanimously.*

##### **c. Motion to Request 50K Capital Funding for Fields**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by Robert Loomis, seconded by John Corcoran, to request 50K in Capital Funding for Fields. *Motion approved unanimously.*

**VII. Executive Session** – This item was not needed.

#### **VIII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

a. Communications/Social Media Emergency Events

#### **IX. Comments from Visitors**

Diane Yourous attended tonight's meeting to support the bus drivers but learned much more.

#### **X. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by John Corcoran, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline  
Board Clerk

*These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.*