

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, October 10, 2023**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Bob Paskiewicz (7:04)
Mrs. Lynn Landolina
Mr. John Corcoran
Mrs. Amanda Cormier (7:05)
Mr. Mark Andrews
Mr. Ricky Bortz
Mr. John Welsh (7:33)
Mrs. Lisa Griffin
Mr. Robert Loomis (7:04)

Others Present:

Melissa F. Bavaro-Grande, Superintendent
Raymond Engle, Business Manager
Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Ava Pasquantonio, Student Representative

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Lynn Landolina Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve minutes from the September 11, 2023 regular meeting

MOTION: a motion was made John Corcoran, seconded by Mark Andrews to approve the September 11, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Additions to the Agenda – Robert Loomis would like to discuss transportation scheduling/communication/technology tonight or at a future board meeting. Melissa would like to discuss security grants under the Superintendent’s Report.

c. Comments from visitors regarding agenda items - None

II. Student Representatives Report

Grade 11 student Ava Pasquantonio reported on the following:

- Carl Allgrove School – Students are settling in after the start of the new school year
- R.D. Seymour School – October Flag Team members, Golden Sneaker (Mrs. Olechna’s class), Operation Kindness, Odd Sock Day, Picture Day, and Costume Day
- EGMS – Grade 7 social studies teacher, Olivia Petersen is a Connecticut Teacher of the Year finalist; Dr. Faulkner’s Grade 8 science class tagged butterflies, released them into the garden, and recorded them; grade 6 students are adjusting to the middle school; and advisory groups are focusing on social/emotional learning and golden circles
- EGHS – ECE field trips, school spirit week, bonfire, homecoming, soccer under the lights, and student of the month.

III. Chairperson’s Report

- Bob thanked Melissa for Friday updates
- The Board of Finance (BOF) approved a one-time transfer of \$61,170.74 to the BOE non-lapsing fund
- The BOF asked that the BOE prioritize items on the capital plan
- There is a CABE/CAPSS convention in Groton November 17th and 18th if any of the board members are interested in attending.

IV. Superintendent’s Report

a. Personnel Update

Gabriella Eannotti was hired as a paraprofessional at the high school. Round one interviews for business manager took place last week. Round two will be scheduled for next week.

b. SRO - MOU

A meeting has been scheduled to review samples of MOU’s for SRO to see which has the components that work best for us. The MOU is with the schools and state police.

c. Kindergarten Entry Age for SY 24-25

The state currently requires that children must turn 5 on or before January 1st in order to attend kindergarten. To start kindergarten in the 2024-25 school year, however, children must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024. If a child does not meet the new entry cutoff date, they may still be admitted upon a written request from the parent/guardian, and have an assessment completed by the school that determines admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate.

d. Security Grants

Melissa shared that we received two state grants and we applied for another one from the Department of Justice (DOJ). The state grants are matching grants; one is for cameras/intercoms and the other one is for doors. If we receive the DOJ grant, we will not need the state grants; however, there is a deadline to respond to the state.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Policy** – The policy subcommittee held a meeting on September 28, 2023 to discuss student activity funds and the overall approach to changing the policy manual. Another meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2023.
- b. Budget** – Melissa would like to meet on October 16, 2023 at 6:30pm and invite Karen Gogel, Director of Student Support Services to attend.
- c. Curriculum** – The curriculum subcommittee held a meeting on October 5, 2023 to discuss data across the district (the administrators will be presenting the data at a future board meeting), the Personal Learning Communities (PLC) kickoff, and the new teacher evaluation system that will be put into place as soon as July 2024.
- d. Facilities** – A meeting has been scheduled for October 12, 2023 at 6:30pm.
- e. Negotiations** – Negotiations for the administrators’ contract is moving along.
- f. Communications** – The subcommittee will schedule a meeting soon.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve September 2023 Financial Report

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welch, seconded by John Corcoran to approve the September 2023 Financials as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Approve Field Trip

MOTION: a motion was made by Lynn Landolina, seconded by Mark Andrews to approve a field trip to New York City on April 17, 2024 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. Approve Superintendent’s Contract

MOTION: a motion was made by Ricky Bortz seconded by John Welch to approve the Superintendent’s contract as discussed at a non-meeting. *Motion approved unanimously.*

Contract overview -

- 2023-2024 3% salary increase; increased annuity from 3% to 5%
- 2024-2025 3% salary increase; no change in annuity

Bob commented that, unlike other contracts, the legal fee to negotiate the superintendent’s contract is \$0.

VII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- a. Transportation Scheduling / Communication / Technology**
- b. Approve Graduation Date 2024**

VIII. Comments from Visitors - None

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Mark Andrews, seconded by John Corcoran to adjourn the meeting. *Motion approved unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline, Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.