

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Monday, December 11, 2023**

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Lynn Landolina
Mr. John Welsh
Mr. Ricky Bortz
Mrs. Lisa Griffin
Mr. Robert Loomis
Mr. Mark Andrews
Mrs. Amanda Cormier (7:02pm)

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Bob Paskiewicz
Mr. John Corcoran

Others Present:

Melissa Bavaro-Grande, Superintendent
Raymond Engle, Business Manager
Mary Hiney, Business Manager
Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Ava Pasquantonio, Student Representative
Tanvi Bandikallu, Student Representative
Marjorie Light, Curriculum/PD Director
Bob McGrath, Allgrove School Principal
Kristi Smith, Grade 2 Teacher
Shannon Karlowicz, Grade 5 Teacher
Dr. Sarah Faulkner, Grade 8 Science Teacher
Thomas Coleman, Visitor
Erin O'Connor, Visitor
Whitney Burns, Visitor

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

a. Approve minutes from the November 13, 2023 special meeting and the November 13, 2023 regular meeting

MOTION: a motion was made by Robert Loomis, seconded by Lisa Griffin, to approve the November 13, 2023 special meeting minutes and the November 13, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Additions to Agenda – None

c. Comments from Visitors Regarding Agenda Items – None

II. Student Representatives Report

Ava reported on events at the elementary schools including the Veterans Day celebration, food drives, parent/teacher conferences, fundraisers, book fair, concerts, and Seymour School being named School of Distinction. Tanvi reported on events at the middle/high school including students of the month, benefit concerts, sports, greenhouse club, and field trips.

III. Chairperson's Report

a. Recognition

Lynn Landolina and Melissa Bavaro gave a heartfelt thank you to Robert Loomis for his service to the Board of Education and recognized Ray Engle for his achievements as business manager and thanked him for postponing his retirement.

Lynn reminded everyone about the special town meeting on December 12, 2023.

IV. Superintendent's Report

a. Welcome

Melissa wished everyone a happy holiday and welcomed the new business manager, Mary Hiney.

b. New Hire

John Campagna was hired as the night custodian at Seymour School.

c. Professional Learning Communities (PLC)

Kristi Smith, Shannon Karlowicz, Sarah Faulkner, and Marjorie Light (*on behalf of David Mendrala, HS social studies teacher*), shared information on Professional Learning Communities and their impact.

d. MOA – Noncertified Wage Adjustment

Melissa reviewed the memorandum of agreement and asked board members if they had any questions.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Policy** – Lynn Landolina reported that the subcommittee met on December 4, 2023 and started to review/edit Shipman & Goodwin policies in preparation of implementation.
- b. Budget** – Melissa, Ray, and Mary began meeting with administrators. Workshops will be scheduled soon.
- c. Curriculum** – Robert Loomis thanked the teachers for the PLC presentation.
- d. Facilities** – Ricky Bortz reported that the subcommittee will schedule a meeting for January.
- e. Negotiations** – Mark Andrews reported that negotiations for administrators concluded and they are waiting for a copy of the initial agreement.
- f. Communications** – Nothing to report at this time.

VI. Recommended Actions

a. Approve November 2023 Financial Report

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Mark Andrews to approve the November 2023 Financial Report as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

Ray provided an update on the HVAC project, the EFS Desk Audit, door repairs at the HS/MS, the Zonar bus-tracking software application, and the student activity process.

b. Approve MOA – Noncertified Wage Adjustment

MOTION: a motion was made by Robert Loomis, seconded by Amanda Cormier to approve the MOA – Noncertified Wage Adjustment as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. Approve School Year Calendar 2024-2025

MOTION: a motion was made by Amanda Cormier, seconded by Lisa Griffin to approve the 2024-2025 Board of Education meeting calendar as presented. *Motion opposed unanimously.*

Board members discussed and shared comments regarding professional development, early release Wednesdays, and Professional Learning Communities. Bob McGrath answered questions and concerns from board members.

VII. Agenda items for Future Meeting

a. Approve School Year Calendar 2024-2025

VIII. Comments from Visitors

Thomas Coleman shared a bussing situation he has and asked the board to consider changing the transportation policy.

IX. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Mark Andrews, to adjourn the meeting. *Motion approved unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline
Board Clerk