

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, May 28, 2024**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Bob Paskiewicz
Mrs. Lynn Landolina
Mr. John Welsh
Mrs. Lisa Griffin
Mrs. Whitney Burns
Mr. Ricky Bortz
Mr. Mark Andrews

Board Members Absent:

Mr. John Corcoran
Mrs. Amanda Cormier

Others Present:

Melissa Bavaro-Grande, Superintendent
Mary Hiney, Business Manager
Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Antonio DeMelo, EGHS Principal
Jacob Guilmartin, Student Presenter
Adithi Tallapaka, Student Presenter
Cecilia Carcorze-Lefebvre, Student Presenter
Varshny Sriganesh, Student Presenter
Liddy Doyle, Teacher
Wendi Meunier, Teacher

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Chairperson Bob Paskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Additions to the Agenda

MOTION: a motion was made by Mark Andrews, seconded by Ricky Bortz to add item IVc 2024-25 Budget (Hiring) Freeze to the agenda. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Comments from Visitors Regarding Agenda Items - None

II. Chairperson's Report

The budget referendum failed. A board of finance special meeting is scheduled for May 29, 2024 to consider and act on revaluation phase in proposal and revised budget proposal for town meeting.

III. Superintendent's Report

a. School Spotlights (High School)

Jacob Guilmartin, Adithi Tallapaka, and Cecilia Carcorze-Lefebvre presented their Capstone Project. Varshny Sriganies presented her Intervention Convention Project.

b. Capital Requests

Melissa has three capital items she would like to request to the Board of Finance.

c. Retirement – Jim McVey, middle school custodian, will be retiring on June 20, 2024.

IV. Recommended Actions

a. Approve Field Trip

MOTION: a motion was made by Lynn Landolina, seconded by Whitney Burns to approve the field trip to Costa Rica during April vacation 2025 as presented. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Approve Capital Requests to the BOF

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Lynn Landolina to approve Capital Requests to the BOF. Melissa shared a packet that included three capital requests that she would like to present to the BOF at their next meeting. The items included technology capital (ViewBoards) (not to exceed \$25,250), field irrigation (\$75,00), and funding to support indoor air quality testing (not to exceed \$40,000). Melissa continued by sharing capital items that the BOE does not need to request this year; air duct cleaning (\$35,000), refinishing high school gym floor (\$60,000), and field warning signs and fencing (\$39,000). Non-lapsing funds were used for air duct cleaning. Discussion took place regarding the sideline and homerun fencing and whether or not to include the cost of the repair/replacement of the fencing with the field irrigation requests and calling it field maintenance request instead.

MOTION: a motion was made by Lynn Landolina, seconded by John Welsh to approve to request from the Board of Finance and the Town to use Capital Non-Recurring funds as recommended by the facilities subcommittee and

amending the field irrigation request to field maintenance request to include \$25,000 for fencing. *Motion approved unanimously.*

c. 2024-25 Budget (Hiring) Freeze

MOTION: a motion was made by Mark Andrews, seconded by John Welsh to approve a hiring freeze for 2024-25 until the after the budget is approved.

Mark Andrews suggested approving a freeze for now until we know what we need to do. John Welsh shared his concern if the budget continues to fail. Lynn Landolina questioned the effects of the freeze. Discussion took place about a timeframe for the freeze; waiting until after the budget is approved could be problematic. Other recommendations included placing a freeze and holding a special meeting when the superintendent needs to fill a position.

MOTION: a motion was made by Mark Andrews, seconded by Whitney Burns to amend the motion to approve a hiring freeze for 30 days but allowing the superintendent to come to the BOE for approval to fill positions.

John Welsh suggested waiting until after the Board of Finance meeting on May 29, 2024 and discuss the subject again at the next BOE meeting on June 10, 2024.

The item was tabled to the June 10, 2024 Board of Education meeting.

V. Agenda for Future Meeting

- a. School Spotlights**
- b. Budget**
- c. Student Activity Accounts**
- d. Solar**
- e. Middle School Lab Periods**

VI. Comments from Visitors - None

VII. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Lynn Landolina, to adjourn the meeting. *Motion approved unanimously.* The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline
Board Clerk

These minutes are issued pending Board of Education approval.