YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT

MINUTES
November 17, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the East Granby Youth Services Commission was held Monday, November 17, 2025, at the East Granby Town Hall. Robert Ravens-Seger called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members also present were Evan Hanks, Sara Kleinman, Art Reardon, Swastika Gupta and Bonnie Jones. Alicia Van Neil (Program Coordinator) was also present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

A Van Neil received a letter thanking the High School Youth Action Council for assisting at their Empty Bowls event.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

S Kleinman made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2025, meeting. E Hanks seconded the motion. 5 approved, 1 abstained. Motion carried.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Programming-

A Van Neil reported that January's programs are on track. Boys Council, Girls Circle, and Hangout are all up. The November calendar of Resilience Grows Here events are going well. The only one cancelled due to low enrollment was the Mental Health for Youth First Aid program. The Book Club and the Sound Bowl programs went especially well.

B. Prevention-

A Van Neil reported that she met with the new superintendent, and the new director of pupil services to talk about mental health topics and professional development. The class visits for the 6th,7th, and 8th grade students went well. It was nice having smaller groups to work with this year.

C. High School and Middle School Updates- E Hanks met with Mr. DeMelo, High School principal, and talked about prevention topics. S Gupta could not meet with Mr. Phelan, Middle School principal, before the meeting.

D. YAC Update- Jennifer Kovaleski reported on the High School YAC. The group has been having some difficulty with the new plan for having the students run subcommittees. The biggest challenge has been getting them to reply with their availability for events and meetings. A Van Neil discussed revamping the HS program a bit and possibly shifting efforts to younger students at Seymour. The movie night in November did not happen, but the Recycle-A-Gift and Gingerbread

House making events in December are up and running. The group will help with Letters To Santa but not run the event this year. Middle School YAC- A Van Neil reported that they have a few candidates for a facilitator and are holding interviews this week. The group is doing well leading meetings. It is a young and active group, so one challenge is needing additional support. The group will be having a meeting where they will learn flag etiquette, they will be making Thanksgiving cards for families who need assistance, and they did a good job with the Halloween party activities.

E. JRB Update- A Reardon reported that he, Justine from FVHD, A Van Neil, B Jones and Scott Menard met with the new superintendent to open communication. The new director of student support services, Josh Martin, will hopefully be able to attend upcoming JRB meetings. East Granby is working with Suffield to see if they can share some services. Scott Menard connected the JRB with a new DCF liaison in Suffield as another support as well.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Meeting Dates 2026-

Motion: S Kleinman made a motion to accept the meeting dates for 2026 as presented. B Jones seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

B. Prepare for Officer elections in December- R Ravens-Seger announced he will not be returning for another term, and December will be his last meeting. He will still do the annual report for A Van Neil in January. R Ravens-Seger asked everyone to think about whether they have interest in being the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson for next year and if they do to let him know before the December meeting.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by E Hanks and seconded by S Kleinman to adjourn the meeting at 7:02pm. Votes were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Kovaleski
Youth Services Commission Clerk