

**East Granby Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes for
Monday, September 9, 2019**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Bob Paskiewicz
Mr. Bob Ravens-Seger
Mrs. Lynn Landolina
Mr. John Welsh
Mrs. Lucia Ziobro
Mr. John Ziobro

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Rob Crocker
Mrs. Karey Pond
Mr. James Feeney

Others Present:

Melissa F. Bavaro-Grande, Acting Superintendent
Jo-Anne Cegan, Interim Business Manager
Lisa Kline, Board Clerk
Tony DeMelo, EGHS Principal
Marsie Luckenbach, EGHS Dean of Students
Steve Mosher, EGPS Technology Coordinator
Karen Gogel, Student Support Services Director
Ken Kovaleski, Visitor
William Pitney, Visitor

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

With a quorum present, Bob Paskiewicz, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m., and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Approve minutes from the August 26, 2019 regular meeting

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by Lucia Ziobro to approve the August 26, 2019 regular meeting minutes as presented. John Ziobro requested to add “of the building committee” to line two of item IVe after the word “meeting”. Mr. Ziobro would also like to add the following sentence to line six in item Va after the word “instead”. “John Ziobro questioned the legality of using operating funds for capital projects.” Bob Paskiewicz asked if anyone had any objections to the proposed amendments. There were none. *Motion approved unanimously.*

b. Additions to the Agenda – None

c. Comments from visitors regarding agenda items - None

II. Chairperson’s Report

a. Capital Plan Update

The board members reviewed the capital plan year by year, line by line and added a column for the 2024/2025 fiscal year (FY). The following projects were listed for FY 19/20; \$60,000 for technology, \$46,200 for high school parking lot repairs, \$100,000 for Middle/High School Gas Conversion, and \$10,000 each for duct cleaning at the high school and middle school. The following projects were listed for FY 20/21; \$60,000 for technology, \$5,000 for multi-school parking lot repairs, \$25,000 for high school tennis court repairs, and \$10,000 for air duct cleaning at R.D. Seymour School. The following projects were listed for FY 21/22; \$60,000 for technology, \$5,000 for multi-school parking lot repairs; \$32,500 for baseball/softball fields irrigation, and \$10,000 each for duct cleaning at the high school and middle school. The following projects were listed for FY 22/23; \$60,000 for technology, \$5,000 for multi-school parking lot repairs, \$10,000 for duct cleaning at R.D. Seymour School, \$30,000 for stage curtains at Carl Allgrove School, and \$10,000 for duct cleaning at Carl Allgrove School. The following projects were listed for FY 23/24; \$60,000 for technology, \$5,000 for multi-school parking lot repairs, and \$10,000 each for duct cleaning at the high school and middle school.

Melissa Bavaro-Grande will ask F+F how often the ducts need to be cleaned. She also reported that the tennis courts are significantly in need of repair. Two prices were quoted to cover the repairs. One plan would cost \$24,000 and the other would cost \$44,500. The \$24,000 plan would meet our needs as long as we have a \$1,800 yearly maintenance plan in place. Due to the fact that the tennis courts are used by the community and East Granby Park and Recreation, it would be worth discussing at a shared services meeting. John Ziobro suggested including a footnote for additional work, such as painting, that will need to be done after the roofs are completed.

b. CAFE – Community Conversation

A special board meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2019. Mary Broderick from CAFE will discuss hiring a full-time, part-time, or shared Superintendent.

Bob Paskiewicz asked the board members to take a look at the Annual Report that Melissa Bavaro-Grande emailed them earlier.

c. Teacher Negotiations

Bob Paskiewicz reported that teacher negotiations will begin on October 4, 2019. If there is no settlement by December 18, 2019, it will go to mediation. The Board of Finance will be notified so they can appoint a board member to be part of the committee for fiscal information purposes only.

III. Superintendent's Report

a. Open House Postponement

Melissa Bavaro-Grande reported that the high school open house was postponed last minute because the roofers had to shut off the air handlers and they were pouring tar. A new date has not been established yet. The middle school is holding their open house tomorrow, September 10, 2019. The Acting Superintendent held a board open house on August 29, 2019. It was not wonderfully attended but nice connections were made with families that did.

b. Business Manager Interviews

Two candidates were interviewed last week and another two will be interviewed this week. In the meantime, Jo-Anne Cegan has been doing a great job working part-time reconciling with the town prior to the audit and working from home as needed. The job of business manager is a full-time position.

c. Chromebook 1:1 Presentation

Steve Mosher, Tony DeMelo, and Marsie Luckenbach presented a project in which Chromebooks would be assigned to all students in grades 9-12. The students would be allowed to carry their device to and from school and would be theirs to use until they graduate. Topics included the goal of the project, the five year life expectancy and features of Chromebooks, the need for all students to be assigned a device, implementation of the project, Chromebook insurance options, safety precautions (monitoring provided by Bark.us), and cost to district (no additional cost expected). Steve Mosher explained that after a high school student uses a Chromebook for four years, it is recirculated and used at the lower grade levels for an additional year. The value of a five year old Chromebook is approximately \$12.50. With that being said, John Welsh suggested letting the high school students keep their assigned Chromebook after graduation. Topics of conversation elaborated on security (Google is compliant with Connecticut State law), giving students responsibility, and working out financial needs for families. Students are not required to participate; they can use their own device instead. Melissa Bavaro added that this replaces textbooks that are more expensive. Principal DeMelo will present a school policy at the next meeting for the board's approval.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Policy – Policy 5114.1 **SECOND READ**

Lucia Ziobro expressed concern over the amount of time (thirty minutes) that a child would be left in restraint/seclusion under the proposed policy. Karen Gogel reported that the language came from CAFE; we would monitor students much more closely recording every fifteen and thirty minutes. Lucia Ziobro strongly feels that the language “The East Granby Board of Education” in paragraphs H and I be omitted because it puts a burden on the board members on something they do not have control over. Board members do not record or follow up on a student's IEP. Karen Gogel will check to see if the language can be changed to every fifteen minutes but a decision has to be made every thirty minutes whether or not a student should remain in seclusion. She continued to explain that East Granby does not have seclusion rooms. If necessary, a student would be removed from an activity and returned when they are able to. They are not left alone. We have to include seclusion room because this policy is inclusive of our out placed students that may attend a facility that has seclusion rooms.

b. Budget – Nothing to report at this time.

c. Curriculum – Nothing to report at this time.

d. Facilities – John Ziobro would like to see if there is a walkthrough report from Tradesman and F+F that can be reviewed before scheduling a meeting.

e. Negotiations – Previously discussed.

f. Communications – Previously discussed.

V. Recommended Actions

a. Approve Policy 5144.1

Bob Paskiewicz suggested tabling this item until the next meeting.

b. Approve Updated August 2019 Financials

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to approve the updated August 2019 Financials as presented.

Jo-Anne Cegan noted that the June 2019 year and financials are still being reconciled with the Town Treasurer. The board was also presented with an itemized list of expenditures for lines 610 supplies and 730 equipment. John Ziobro asked if purchase orders for all line items were issued prior to June 30, 2019. Jo-Anne Cegan and Missy Bavaro-Grande replied yes. Jo-Anne also explained that this report includes expenditures and encumbrances cumulative from July 1, 2019 to August 31, 2019. We will continue to encumber line items as known costs become available. Salary and benefit lines will not be solidified until early fall. The expended amounts for salaries #111 and #112 on this report include the first full payroll for staff. Line #210 includes encumbrances for Connecticare, Dental and Life Insurance; encumbrances will be added for Anthem in September. Line #260 is the premium paid for the full year; however, there may be additional charges after the worker's compensation audit is completed. Overall, we are in the black with a balance of approximately \$103,000. **Motion approved unanimously.**

c. Approve Acting Superintendent's Contract

MOTION: a motion was made by John Welsh, seconded by Bob Ravens-Seger to approve the Acting Superintendent's contract according to the terms and conditions set forth in executive session on August 26, 2019. **Motion approved unanimously.**

d. Approve Field Trips

Melissa Bavaro-Grande presented a field trip request for grade 11 and 12 students to travel to Salem Massachusetts on October 28, 2019 to participate in a courtroom re-enactment of the Salem Witch Trials. The cost is \$85.00 per student and will be paid by the student. There is no cost to district.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by John Ziobro for grade 11 and 12 students to travel to Salem Massachusetts on October 28, 2019 as presented. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Melissa Bavaro-Grande presented a field trip for high school students to travel to Madrid, Granada, Seville, and Costa del Sol allowing students the opportunity to experience Spanish culture. Students will depart on June 24, 2020 and return on July 4, 2020. The cost of the trip is \$3,600 per student and will be paid by the student. There is no cost to district. This trip is to replace the previously approved trip to Japan in June of 2020.

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by John Ziobro to approve the field trip for high school students to travel to Madrid, Granada, Seville, and Costa del Sol from June 24, 2020 to July 4, 2020 as presented. **Motion approved unanimously.**

VI. Agenda items for Future Meetings

a. CAFE – Community Conversation

b. Chromebook Loaner Program

Principal DeMelo will establish a school policy to present to the board.

Lucia Ziobro asked if there is a deadline in which the negotiations for noncertified staff has to be completed. Bob Paskiewicz responded that there is no deadline.

VII. Comments from Visitors - None

VIII. Adjournment

MOTION: a motion was made by Bob Ravens-Seger, seconded by John Welsh, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion approved unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Kline, Board Clerk