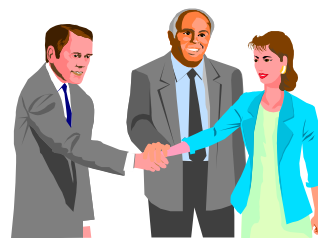


BOARD ROOM BRIEFS

Deborah Buckley, Chairperson
Dr. Arthur Krulewitz, Secretary
Michael Quesnel
Dawn Cooke
Kevin Boisselle



At their regularly scheduled meeting on April 7, 2008, the Granby School Committee took the following action:

- I. Approved a request from the Granby Athletic Association to use the baseball fields at the West Street Elementary School.
- II. Approved the Mathematics Curriculum for Kindergarten to Grade 12. This is the culmination of two years of work by the teachers. It will be posted on the Granby Public Schools website. www.granbypublicschoolsma.org
- III. Voted to ratify the Custodians' Contract for July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2011.
- IV. Voted to approve the revision of the Water Loss Procedures: EBC-R-1 and EBC-R-1-A. These revisions were proposed in response to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The DEP periodically reviews policy/procedures and makes suggestions on revisions. The new procedures meet the DEP's new regulations.
- V. Heard reports from:

John Robert, Director of Pupil Services;

- ⇒ The Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award dinner is May 15th. Tickets are \$30 each.
- ⇒ The Granby Schools will be offering training for up to 10 teachers next year in the Orton-Gillingham Reading Program. The primary focus will be at the West Street School.

Dan Lynch, Principal

- ⇒ Mr. Lynch reported that the MCAS ELA were completed and had been mailed out on Friday, April 4, 2008.
- ⇒ Scheduling is in progress with the expectation that student schedules will be available for parents and students within the last 10 days of school.
- ⇒ The senior trip, whitewater rafting in Maine, was updated by Mr. Lynch and approved by the School Committee. A parent information night was held by the senior class advisors on Wednesday night, April 16th.
- ⇒ Mr. Lynch reported that both Kevin Hurley and Krystle Bernier were recognized as members of the Northwestern District Attorney's Advisory Board. They have been positive and engaged contributors to both the Violence Intervention and Prevention Task Force and the Netsmartz initiative.
- ⇒ Spring athletics is in to its second week of interscholastic games.
- ⇒ The School Council will meet to begin to develop school goals for 2008-09 under the framework of the District Learning Team.

- ⇒ Mr. Cavallo alerted the Committee that report card distribution on April 17th will be accompanied by our newsletter, Ramifications, with an insert from both our Superintendent and Police Chief on parental tips for internet safety.

Jim Pietras, Principal

- ⇒ MCAS Reading Comprehension tests for grades 4, 5, & 6 have been completed and will be picked up for return April 8th.
- ⇒ Initial meeting for Nature's Classroom for grade 6 students next September 29th – October 3rd will be held Wednesday, April 9th, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Meadow Cafeteria.
- ⇒ East Meadow School's Open House will be held Tuesday evening, April 15th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- ⇒ The information about the next session of our ASAP activities is out and the registrations are due back to school by April 8th. There are eight possible activities – Wiffleball, Pillo Polo, Birding and Pondering, Bridget's Book Club, Capture the Flag, Stage Play, Spring Flag Football, and Art Tile Making.
- ⇒ The East Meadow School Council has prepared and finalized a Parent Survey that will be sent home with students Thursday, April 10th.

Pam McCauley, Principal

- ⇒ We finished the ELA Reading Comprehension MCAS testing and materials were sent out last week.
- ⇒ This Friday, April 11th, the PTO will have their annual Bingo for Books at our school. It has always been a huge turnout.
- ⇒ During the month of March, our students and their sponsors raised \$1,633 for the Easter Seals with the Hop-N-Ing. We also received a thank you note from the Senior Center for the many food donations received from our staff, students, and parents for the Granby Open Pantry.
- ⇒ This month, our students are participating in the annual Math-a-Thon. This is a fund raising event for the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The kickoff was last Monday. Not only will the students be raising money for an important cause, they will practice their math skills in a grade level appropriate fun book. Ms. Ramsey, Mrs. Szlosek, and Mrs. Barthelette are coordinating this effort.
- ⇒ On Monday, April 14th, Susan Latz will be providing an hour math professional development workshop for our staff around the use of the *Investigations* program. The staff has requested various math topics to be discussed. Math is one area that the staff would like to continue to have professional development.
- ⇒ During the April 18th curriculum half day, our staff will be having two discussions and then working within teams incorporating ideas from the *Investigations* workshop. One discussion will be about the new writing rubric and creating common guidelines for scoring the samples for greater consistency. This rubric is a continuum ranking from 1-10 that is used for all grade levels. The second discussion will be setting common criteria for student placement at each grade level.
- ⇒ Our School Council meeting will be on Monday, April 28th where we will continue discussion about goals for our School Improvement Plan.

- VI.** Voted to approve the school budget for FY 09. The budget is based on the state foundation budget. The Committee then adjourned and met with the Finance Committee in the Media Center at the Jr./Sr. School. The Finance Committee reviewed the PowerPoint slides from the Public Hearing which was held on April 2, 2008 in the Cafeteria at East Meadow. The two Committees discussed the current budget and the Finance Committee thanked the School Committee for bringing in a balanced budget.
- VII.** Reviewed the monthly itemized budget.
- VIII.** Reviewed articles from local newspapers.
- IX.** Scheduled the next School Committee Meeting for Monday, May 5, 2008, at 6:00 P.M. in the Office of the Superintendent.