



## GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### School Committee Meeting

October 29, 2018

6:30 P.M.

EAST MEADOW SCHOOL – EAST MEADOW LIBRARY  
MINUTES

#### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE:**

Mr. Emre Evren, Chairperson; Ms. Deanne Payne-Rokowski, Vice-Chair; Mr. Mike Simpson; Ms. Jennifer Bartosz; Ms. Jennifer Curran; Ms. Jasmine Rodrigues-Jones (Student Representative)

#### **ADMINISTRATION:**

Ms. Sheryl Stanton, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Adam Tarquini, School Business Manager; Members of the Senior Leadership Team

**GRANBY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE:** Robbin Lamorder, GEA President

#### I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 P.M.

Absent: Ms. Bartosz

#### II. Visitor's Comments:

Any citizen wishing to speak before the Committee must sign in with the Administrative Assistant prior to the opening of the Regular Session of the School Committee. The visitor will identify themselves by name and address and shall speak for no longer than three (3) minutes. (See Granby Public School Committee Policy BEDG).

#### III. New Business:

A. Chinese Immersion School proposed expansion - Discussion and Vote  
Discussion on the proposed expansion of the Chinese Immersion Charter School (CICS) located in Hadley, MA. The CICS submitted their proposed extension to the state this year. The proposed extension was rejected by the state last year after area districts expressed their own objections to the extension. The CICS is trying to double their enrollment. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Ed wanted the charter school to clarify their approach to special education students and they would like diversity in their enrollment practices. Objections from area districts are that a charter school is considered a public school and they take money away from public schools. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Ed last year asked them to step back and evaluate the requests from area districts and come back with their proposed extension in a few years. However this did not happen and they submitted their proposal this year. The committee will amend the motion to read: *Whereas the Granby Public Schools are losing funds, the loss of funds is undermining the ability of the district to provide services to which all students are entitled.*

MOTION: Ms. Curran, moved Mr. Simpson seconded to amend the Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools amend from naming the schools to keeping it generic to just have a Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools.

VOTE: All in favor (4-0-0)

### **Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools**

**WHEREAS**, free public schools available to all students regardless of income, ability, need or English language proficiency are foundational to our democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, all of our students deserve high-quality public schools that teach the whole child, providing enrichment and addressing social and emotional needs in addition to core academic subjects; and

**WHEREAS**, local accountability for our public schools is necessary to ensure that schools are responsive to the needs of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Granby Public Schools is losing funds, this loss of funds is undermining the ability of district to provide all students with the educational services to which they are entitled; and

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth charter schools are often approved over the objections of a majority of community residents and their elected officials and are not accountable to local elected officials once they are approved; and

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth charter schools often fail to serve the same proportion of special needs students, low-income students and English language learners as the districts from which they receive students and often use high suspension rates to drive out students they don't want to serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth charter school system is creating separate and unequal opportunities for success; and

**WHEREAS**, lifting the cap on charter schools would greatly worsen the problems listed above and lead to a costly and divisive two-track school system;

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Granby School Committee opposes lifting the cap on Commonwealth charter schools.

The committee moved into the Goal Setting Workshop at 7:10 P.M.

**B. School Committee Goal Setting Workshop**

**Granby Public Schools Mission Statement**

Granby Public Schools provide a safe and creative environment that empowers all students to be critical thinkers, socially responsible citizens, and effective communicators.

**Granby Public Schools Vision Statement**

The Granby Public Schools' vision is to provide real-world learning experiences that prepare students for success in a diverse and global society.

**Granby Public Schools Strategic Goals**

- Goal #1: Develop and implement (P)K-12 curricula, supported by authentic learning in all content areas.
- Goal #2: Granby Public Schools leadership team will exemplify transparency and trustworthiness, and engage with all members of the school district and community.
- Goal #3: Provide the necessary technology to support curricular needs.
- Goal #4: Develop modern facilities that support authentic learning environments.

**The Granby Public School Committee would like the opportunity to hear the wishes and ideas of the public. Therefore, the Committee has set aside a period of time at each School Committee meeting to hear from the public on issues that affect the school district and are within the scope of the Committee's responsibilities. Visitors wishing to address the School Committee must do so adhering to the guidelines and specifications as outlined in Granby Public School Policy BEDG.**

**A copy of the full policy can be found at [www.granbypublicschoolsma.net](http://www.granbypublicschoolsma.net) or by contacting the Superintendent's office at 413-467-7193.**

**"Please be advised that this meeting will be video and audio taped as well as televised"**

**[Per MGL Ch. 30A sect. 20(e) anyone wishing to video or audio record an open session of the school committee meeting must notify the Chairperson. We request such notification five (5) days prior to the meeting date.]**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Harrop,  
Recording Secretary for the School Committee