*The minutes presented within this document are a summary of the discussion that took place at the Board of Education meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports please click the following link: **March 11, 2026 - Budget Meeting Recording**.*

GRANBY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Granby, Connecticut
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.
Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes
(subject to approval)

The Granby Board of Education's Budget Workshop meeting was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Granby Senior Center Meeting Room, located at 15-B N. Granby Road, via the Zoom Meeting Platform and live on the GCTV network.

PRESENT: Board members: Monica Logan, Donna Nolan, Heather Lombardo, Ann Woods, David Peling, Ed. D, and Andrew Billig. **ABSENT:** Liz Barlow

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Cheri Burke, Assistant Superintendent Jenn Parsons, Director of Finance and Operations Nickie Stevenson, and Director of Pupil Personnel Services Kate Weingartner.

Call to Order and Welcome:
Board Chair Monica Logan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Logan briefly spoke prior to the budget workshop meeting, reminding participants to sign up for Public Comment and noting that the Board would aim to complete all agenda items while allowing two public comment opportunities, one after each budget section discussion.

Budget Context:

- Superintendent Burke began the discussion with the March 11th budget presentation. Click **HERE** to view the presentation.

- The following was discussed from the FY 27 Budget Book:
    1. Vision of a Graduate pg. 1
    2. BOE Goals pg. 2
    3. Budget History and Guidelines pg. 3
    4. Enrollment History and Projections pg. 4
    5. Class Size pg. 5
    6. Per Pupil Expenditure pg. 6
    7. Notable Achievements pg. 7
    8. Department Highlights pg. 9
    9. Total Budget Summary pg. 11

- Chris DeGray, Director of Facilities, spoke about his dedicated, skilled maintenance and custodial staff, noting that they consistently go above and beyond to keep the buildings clean and well-maintained. He also highlighted their work outside the buildings, including mowing and landscaping, to help maintain the overall appearance of the grounds.

- Jon Lambert, Director of Technology, spoke about his talented IT team. He noted that the team consists of only four members who support all four schools, the Central Office, and also provide shared services with the Town.

- Jennifer Parsons, Assistant Superintendent, spoke about curriculum and noted that Granby Public Schools is fully compliant with State of Connecticut requirements. She also highlighted the district's transparency, noting that the curriculum is posted on the district website and was sent home to all families this year.

Public Comment:
Please note that the following are brief summaries of each individual's statement. To hear the full public comments and view the meeting in its entirety, please refer to the link above.

1. David Anderson, 4 Greenwood Dr., representing the Granby Taxpayers' Alliance - He distributed a presentation to all Board members. He stated he emailed a copy of the report to everyone as well. He spoke about teacher retention, including collaborating with the GTA to identify savings to increase teacher salaries, implementing exit surveys, offering anonymous surveys, and conducting a benchmark study in partnership with the GTA.

2. James Tsaptsinos, 25 Stonewall Dr. - He stated concerns regarding teacher compensations, suggested potential staff reductions, highlighted the Board's responsibility to properly steward the taxpayers' money, and to look at working with the GTA plan that was presented earlier.

3. Rebecca Mikus, 14 Stonewall Dr. - She spoke about the budget, noting that she appreciated the increased level of detail. However, she prefers Canton's budget format, which provides line-by-line information with notes. She requested more information on extracurricular activities and clubs, specifically naming them and ensuring the needs of students not involved in athletics are being met. She expressed opposition to any reduction in teaching staff.

4. Beth Carrol, 10 Quail Lane - She spoke about the budget, noting that it was unclear regarding salaries and stipends. She specifically asked which budget funds the SRO's salary and expressed concern that the numbers did not appear to match.

5. John Spatcher, 22 Roundhill Rd. - He commented that Granby should be classified in DRG B, rather than DRG C. He wanted to share his thoughts and opinions on this matter. *Superintendent Burke noted that Granby Public Schools does not determine DRG classification; it is determined by the School and State Finance Project.

6. Mike Kamerenko, Notch Road - He spoke about special education numbers, noting that they seemed inflated. He asked whether the district receives $25,000 per Open Choice student from Hartford and questioned the line-by-line accounting of funds collected from football games.

7. Mike Flannigan - He inquired about the salaries of the Assistants to the Assistants, noting that this information has been requested via FOIA. He emphasized that the Board needs to provide clearer information regarding projects.

8. Bill Glueck - Zoom - He expressed support for Dave from the GTA. He noted that the budget book is not detailed enough, referenced the GTA report, and encouraged the Board to review it and collaborate with the GTA for a thoughtful discussion regarding the budget.

9. Vince Scacchitti - Zoom - He stated that the budget book needs line-by-line descriptions. He asked how the Board of Education accounts for deviations throughout the year, why the budget changes, and emphasized the need for greater detail and accountability.

10. Toby Proctor - Board of Finance - He stated he would like the budget book numbers to include comparisons for more than two years.

11. Kent McCord - Board of Finance - He expressed support for the work of school administrators, noting that their efforts allow teachers to focus on teaching and prevent them from taking on additional responsibilities. He requested that the budget book include data for one additional year, raised concerns about teacher retention, and noted the 4.79% increase for administrators on page 14.

Operating Budget:

- Superintendent Burke began the discussion with the March 11th budget presentation. Click **HERE** to view the presentation.

- The following was discussed from the FY 27 Budget Book:
    1. Summary pg. 12-14

- Principal Michael Dunn highlighted the importance of all of the administrators' roles (Principal, Asst. Principal, and Dean of Students), noting that daily responsibilities can vary, but they always prioritize what is best for students. He expressed pride in serving Granby Public Schools and thanked the Board for its support.

- Superintendent Burke reviewed the Organizational Chart to clarify the roles of administrative assistants and secretarial/clerical staff. She noted that their responsibilities extend beyond clerical tasks, encompassing school operations and logistics. She also reviewed the roles of Central Office staff and the responsibilities of administrative assistants at Central Office.

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Public Comment:

Please note that the following are brief summaries of each individual's statement. To hear the full public comments and view the meeting in its entirety, please refer to the link above.

1. Curt Johnson, 1 Fielding Woods - He addressed the Board by reading a letter regarding the GMMS CIAC Robotics Team, requesting additional funding beyond $2,000, and asked for more detailed line-item information on pages 14–19 of the budget book to include staff and sports numbers.

2. John Spatcher, 22 Roundhill Road - He thanked staff for their hard work and for the informative organizational chart. He expressed appreciation to Michael Dunn, administrators, and teachers. He also requested greater transparency on salaries, clarification of personnel assignments on budget lines, and a possible work-study analysis for Central Office staff.

3. Rebecca Mikus, 14 Stonewall Dr. - She acknowledged the hard work of administrators and thanked Superintendent Burke for clarifying that the teaching assistant position at Kelly Lane on page 21 is not being cut, but has remained unfilled this year and will no longer be listed as open.

4. Vince Scacchitti, Zoom - He spoke about the need for greater transparency in the budget. He asked who is responsible for purchasing goods and services and how spending is being managed.

5. Bill Glueck, Zoom - He reiterated the need for more documentation and budget transparency. He noted that Granby appears to the State of Connecticut as a wealthy school district, which may result in reduced grant funding, and that funding could decline further in 2028. He suggested meeting with state representatives to advocate before 2028.

Adjournment:

On a motion by David Peling, seconded by Donna Nolan, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m. All were in favor, with no discussion.

Recording by:

Michelle L. Crowley

Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
and Assistant Superintendent