

THE TOWN OF GRANBY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES March 19, 2020

The special meeting of the Granby Board of Health was held by conference call and opened at 1:00 pm.

Those present were: Dick Bombardier, Lee Lalonde and Herb Abelson, MD

Those in attendance were: Chief Al Wishart, Chief John Mitchell, Steve Griffin and Andrew

Parker

Dick opened the discussion of the MacDuffie School's appeal regarding the Board of Health's facility closure order dated March 16, 2020 stating the school could not return to their former operation as of March 22, 2020.

Steve Griffin, Head of School referred to the letter that he submitted to the Board of Health on March 17, 2020, appealing to the Board's facility closure order. He stated the school is absolutely following the mandate from the State and there will be no teaching in school and that they will move to on-line curriculum starting on Monday, March 23, 2020. They have sent as many students home as travel restrictions allowed, and have placed 6 students in local homestay situations. There are 22 students who are in need of their boarding services. Their emergency planning procedure ensures that students will be offered single occupancy rooms with their own bathrooms. They have an in-house cleaning staff of 7 that will sanitize on a regular basis, a kitchen staff of 4 that will prepare meals, business office and maintenance staff of 6, and a nursing staff. There are also 15 residential assistants that live on the premises in private apartments.

Fire Chief John Mitchell informed the Board that he worked with Andrew Parker, Business Manager of MacDuffie, and toured the facility. He feels very confident that the school can quarantine any sick individual and is comfortable with their plans.

Andrew Parker offered to take the Board of Health on a tour of the facility. Herb stated that he would like to tour the premises. Subsequently,

Dick made the motion for the Board to allow the school to house the 22 boarders. Lee seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

A letter will be sent to Steve Griffin, Head of School, issuing the following directives:

- 1. MacDuffie shall conduct on-site educational activities, unless further restricted by the below conditions, according to the guidance for operation of public schools issued by the Governor of Massachusetts.
- 2. MacDuffie shall operate a significantly reduced boarding operation. This operation shall be limited to a maximum of 22 currently identified students and 13 staff. The boarding operation will have the goal of reducing the number of

- boarders as soon as practicable, but ending no later than the end of the 2019/2020 academic year.
- 3. MacDuffie assures the Board that none of the specified 22 students has traveled internationally in the past fourteen days.
- 4. MacDuffie shall operate the boarding operation in accordance with accepted standards plus conditions defined in MacDuffie letters to the Board dated March 17, 2020 and March 20, 2020 and email dated March 21, 2020.
- 5. MacDuffie shall make modifications to their facilities portion of its isolation/quarantine plan as defined and agreed to by Andrew Parker and Dr. Abelson on March 19, 2020. (March 20, 2020 email)
- 6. MacDuffie shall identify to the Board any boarding staff members that have traveled internationally within the past fourteen days and ensure accepted isolation before contacting any other boarders.
- 7. MacDuffie shall notify the Board within 24 hours of any isolation/quarantine status changes.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Crosby, Clerk

Lee Lalonde

Lee Lalonde

Lerbert Abelson (inc)

Herbert T. Abelson, MD