

Colchester School Board

Meeting Agenda and Packet

January 18, 2022

**Colchester School District
Board of Education Special Meeting Agenda
Colchester High School Library
Tuesday, January 18, 2022
7:00 PM**

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance | |
| II. Citizens' Participation* | |
| III. Presentation on Act 173 | Information |
| IV. Presentation on English Learner Supports | Information |
| V. FY'23 Budget and Warning | Action |
| VI. Approval of Consent Agenda | Action |
| VII. Approval of Meeting Minutes: January 4, 2022 | Action |
| VIII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: January 11, 2022 | Action |
| IX. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports | Information |
| X. Future Agenda Items | Information |
| XI. Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations | Action |
| XII. Adjournment | |

***Meeting Participation and Viewing Options**

Meetings are open to the public unless warned otherwise. Colchester citizens have an opportunity to speak or comment on any items listed on the agenda. For topics not listed on the agenda, public comment can be made during the Citizen's Participation agenda item. Please review the Public Comment Rules listed at www.csdvt.org/schoolboard prior to the meeting. If not attending in person, citizens may also participate in the meeting by emailing a prerecorded message to schoolboard@colchesters.org with "Citizens Participation" listed in the subject line. It must be received by noon on the day of the meeting, include your full name and phone number, and follow the Public Comment Rules. LCATV will provide live stream coverage via: www.lcatv.org/live-stream-3.

SCHOOL BOARD WARNING
2022 ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
COLCHESTER, VERMONT

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester, Vermont are notified and warned to meet at the Colchester High School Gymnasium, Laker Lane, in said Town on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to act on the following articles by Australian ballot.

ARTICLE 1

Shall the voters of the school district set compensation to be paid to the School Board Directors at its current level of \$1,700 annually?

ARTICLE 2

Shall the voters of the school district authorize the School Board Directors to borrow money for current and necessary expenses by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for this school year? Annually, the district is required to request voter approval for short-term borrowing to cover expenses occurred until the school district receives its general education payment from the state in September.

ARTICLE 3

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Forty-eight million four hundred twenty-three thousand one hundred seventy-three dollars (\$48,423,173), which is the amount the Colchester School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that the proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,384.52 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.98% higher than spending for the current year.

DATED AT COLCHESTER THIS 18th DAY OF JANUARY 2022.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

s/ _____

s/ _____

s/ _____

s/ _____

s/ _____

Received for record and recorded at Colchester, January _____, 2022 at _____ a.m./p.m.

Attest: _____, Town Clerk and Treasurer

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ARTICLE 3

Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Forty-eight million five hundred sixty-three thousand two hundred nine dollars (\$48,563,209), which is the amount the Colchester School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that the proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,445.71 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 5.37% higher than spending for the current year.

DATED AT COLCHESTER THIS 18th DAY OF JANUARY 2022.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

s/ _____

s/ _____

s/ _____

s/ _____

s/ _____

Received for record and recorded at Colchester, January _____, 2022 at _____ a.m./p.m.

Attest: _____, Town Clerk and Treasurer

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: January 18, 2022

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Board Approval Required

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Support Staff	Rebecca	Strock	New Hire	Behavior Interventionist	35	MBS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Sarah	Wight	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	MBS	Notice of Hire	Linda Kapusta / Denise Jacques	Yes	Yes

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, January 4, 2022
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Craig Kieny, Directors Lindsey Cox, Nic Longo, Laurie Kigonya, Ben Yousey-Hindes, and student representative Gloria Kigonya. District administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz and Business and Operations Manager George Treib. There were no audience members.

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Craig Kieny called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Approval of Colchester School District Announced Tuition Rates

Action

Each year, districts are required by law to announce their anticipated tuition for students attending Colchester Schools from other districts that do not have a high school or middle school. The majority of tuition students attending CSD are from the Grand Isle Supervisory Union and the town of Georgia.

Director Cox moved to approve the announced tuition rate for FY 2023 at \$13,500 for elementary grades (k-6) and \$18,250 for secondary grades (7-12). The motion passed unanimously.

IV. FY'23 Budget Discussion

Information

Business and Operations Manager George Treib presented the estimated FY'23 education tax components known to this point. The components are set by the state and impact the tax rate for the proposed budget. Superintendent Amy Minor then presented three options for the budget. Each option presented included various additional positions and their corresponding cost impacts. The rationale for these positions was described in detail at the December 21, 2021 meeting. Several of the recommended positions would be funded using grant and ESSER money.

The first option showed what the impacts would be with no added positions. It would result in a 3.73% budget increase, an estimated 1.21% decrease in taxes, and a 4.65% increase in per pupil spending. The second option would add a reading teacher, an elementary speech language pathologist, and an social emotional learning coordinator. These positions would be funded through grants and would result in the same percentages as the first option - a 3.73% budget increase, an estimated 1.21% decrease in taxes, and a 4.65% increase in per pupil spending. The final option would add the three positions outlined in the second option and as well as a director of instructional

supports. This would result in a 4.00% budget increase, an estimated 1.04% decrease in taxes, and a 4.83% increase in per pupil spending.

At the request of the board at the last meeting, Superintendent Minor ended her presentation with an overview of the organizational structure of the district and assigned responsibilities.

Director Cox asked some clarifying questions about using ESSER III funds to pay for the proposed additional positions. Superintendent Amy Minor stated the district is being allotted approximately 2 million dollars for ESSER III and 20% of those funds must be used for intervention and learning loss, which is what the additional positions are specifically targeting. She assured the board that there will be a significant amount of funds left over that have yet to be allocated.

The board discussed the rarity that all three options will result in a tax rate decrease. Board Chair Kieny pointed out that the tax decrease will not appear on the ballot. Superintendent Minor concurred and stated the ballot language is set by statute and only includes the dollar amount of the budget and the percentage increase in per pupil spending. She highlighted the importance of the district's communication plan that will inform the community of the rationale for the added positions, and the estimated tax decrease.

The board discussed the timeline for making a final decision. They agreed that they feel comfortable warning the budget at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Several members expressed support for the last option given the outlined necessity of the positions and that it would still result in an estimated decrease in taxes. To help with the decision making at the next meeting, Director Yousey-Hindes requested a recap on ACT 173 and the subsequent new demands that are being placed on administrators. Director Cox also asked for an overview on the needs of the English Learning Program.

V. Approval of Consent Agenda

Action

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: January 4, 2022

REVISED

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Abigale	Stannard	Resignation	Special Education Teacher	1.0	CHS	Request to Resign Effective Immediately			

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Board Approval Required

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Support Staff	Gaston	Cahungu	New Hire	Custodian	40	UMS	Notice of Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Katie	Gallichon	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	32.5	CMS	Notice of Resignation			

DRAFT

Director Cox moved to approve the Consent Agenda for January 4, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes: December 21, 2021 Action

Director Longo moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 21, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports Informational

- Superintendent Minor acknowledged changes in the quarantine and isolation guidance that occurred over winter break and thanked the employees who worked through the holiday recess to process cases and communicate the changes. She anticipates more changes and updates to COVID operating procedures in the coming weeks.

VIII. Future Agenda Items Informational

- FY'23 Budget
- Citizens Participation Discussion
- Facilities Information
- Policy Work

IX. Executive Session to Discuss a Real Estate Opportunity and Personnel Matter Action

Director Cox moved to enter executive session to discuss a real estate opportunity and a personnel matter at 8:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Director L. Kigonya moved to exit executive session at 8:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Cox moved to approve the personnel request as presented. The motion passed 4-1, with Director Yousey-Hindes voting against.

X. Adjournment

Director Longo moved to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Nic Longo
Board Clerk

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting, Special Meeting
Central Office, Conference Room

Tuesday, January 11, 2022
4:30p.m.

MINUTES
(Executive Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Those in attendance were Board Chair Craig Kieny; Directors: Nic Longo, Lindsey Cox, and Ben Yousey-Hindes; Superintendent Amy Minor; Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz; and Business and Operations Manager George Trieb.

I. Call Meeting to Order

Board Chair Craig Kieny called the meeting to order and entered executive session at 4:32 p.m.

II. Anticipated Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations Action

Director Cox moved to exit executive session at 5:31 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Adjournment

Director Longo moved to adjourn at 5:32 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Nic Longo
Board Clerk