

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, March 1, 2022
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Craig Kieny, Directors Lindsey Cox, Nic Longo, and Ben Yousey-Hindes. District administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Business and Operations Manager George Trieb, Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz. 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

Board Chair Craig Kieny acknowledged that this is his last meeting since he is stepping down from the board. He thanked the community, his fellow board members, and all the school staff for their hard work and dedication. He recognized Superintendent Amy Minor for the energy and experience that she brings to her position and district.

III. Hear Colchester School District Audit Report for FY'21

Information

Fred Duplessis, CPA from Sullivan, Powers and Co., provided the board and community with an overview of their audit report and findings for FY'21. A copy of the report is available on the district website. The audit was clean and the district was found to be in full compliance.

IV. Quarterly Financial Report

Information

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb, provided details on the year-to-date financial report for the period ending in December 2021. Revenue and expenditures tracked mostly as expected and the district should expect a slight surplus of \$289,733.

V. Approval for Purchase of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

Action

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb, requested approval from the school board to purchase a wheelchair-accessible van for student transportation. The purchase of the van would be funded using the ARP IDEA grant.

Director Longo moved to approve the recommendation to purchase a wheelchair-accessible van and authorized the Business and Operations manager to sign the necessary documents.

VI. Second and Final Reading of Special Education Policy: G2 **Action**

It is a requirement of the Federal Agency of Education for districts to have a Special Education policy. It was drafted by the Vermont School Boards Association in conjunction with legal counsel from the Vermont Agency of Education. No edits were recommended by the board.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the second and final reading of the Special Education Policy: G2. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Hear and Discuss FY'23 Budget Results **Information**

Unofficial results show that the school article regarding the FY'23 school budget passed with 1,858 votes in favor and 973 votes against. The board and Superintendent Amy Minor thanked the community for their support. The two additional articles added to the ballot regarding board member compensation and permission for the district to borrow funds also passed. Director Longo was reelected to a 3-year term and Felix Anderson will join the board as a new member in a 2-year term.

VIII. Update of COVID-19 Mitigation Measures **Action**

Superintendent Amy Minor provided an update on COVID-19 mitigations measures in the district. The Agency of Education is not extending the mask requirement for schools where the student vaccination rate is 80% or higher. The district is waiting for verification on individual school vaccination rates from the State. Superintendents have been told that State officials are currently evaluating the updated guidance from the CDC and will host a press conference on Thursday.

The board engaged in a discussion about their authority to keep or remove masking mandates regardless of what the state recommends. Superintendent Minor noted that since the pandemic started, the board and the district have always followed the guidance set out by the Health Department and Agency of Education.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to recommend that the Colchester School District continue to follow the advice and recommendations of health officials and state experts in regards to COVID-19 mitigation measures and authorized the superintendent to act as necessary to see that happens.

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda **Action**

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: March 1, 2022

REVISED

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	Molly	Parent	Resignation	Paraeducator	32.5	CHS	Notice of Resignation Effective 4/15/2022			
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Director Longo moved to approve the Consent Agenda for March 1, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2022 Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 15, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2022 Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on February 15, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- In December, students in the Social Justice Alliance Club requested to raise the BLM flag on district flagpoles. Under district policy, the flag is scheduled to come down in early April. The club has notified the district that they will be sending a written proposal before the next school board meeting to request to keep it raised for another 90 days.
- The CHS Debate Team is looking for judges for Saturday, March 12. The board was encouraged to participate.
- Superintendent Amy Minor and other board members expressed their gratitude for the nine years of service from Board Chair Craig Kieny. They honored and thanked him for his perspective, willingness to listen and work with anyone regardless of differences in opinion, for representing taxpayers and their fiscal concerns well, and always putting students at the center of decisions.

XIII. Future Agenda Items Informational

- Administrator and Teacher Contract Renewals
- Preschool Presentation
- Citizens Participation Discussion
- Facilities Information
- Policy Work

XIV. Executive Session to Discuss the Superintendent Evaluation Action

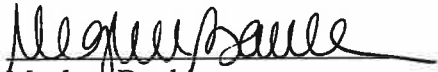
Director Yousey-Hindes moved to enter executive session at 8:02 p.m. to discuss the superintendent's evaluation. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Longo moved to exit executive session at 8:59 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

XV. Adjournment

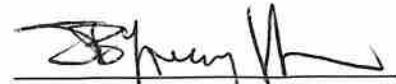
Director Longo moved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:



Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk