

Colchester School Board

Meeting Agenda and Packet

March 1, 2022

**Colchester School District  
Board of Education Special Meeting Agenda  
Colchester High School Library  
Tuesday, March 1, 2022  
7:00 PM**

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**AGENDA**

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>I. Call to Order &amp; Pledge of Allegiance</b>                                |                    |
| <b>II. Citizens' Participation*</b>   |                    |
| <b>III. Hear Colchester School District Audit Report for FY'21</b>                | <b>Information</b> |
| <b>IV. Quarterly Financial Report</b>   | <b>Information</b> |
| <b>V. Approval for Purchase of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle</b>                  | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>VI. Second and Final Reading of Special Education Policy: G2</b>               | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>VII. Hear and Discuss FY'23 Budget Results</b>                                 | <b>Information</b> |
| <b>VIII. Update on COVID-19 Mitigation Measures</b>                               | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>IX. Approval of Consent Agenda</b>   | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>X. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2022</b>                          | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>XI. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2022</b>                 | <b>Action</b>      |
| <b>XII. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports</b> | <b>Information</b> |
| <b>XIII. Future Agenda Items</b>  | <b>Information</b> |
| <b>XIV. Adjournment</b>   |                    |

**\*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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.lcatv.org/live-stream-3).

**COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT****POLICY: SPECIAL EDUCATION****DATE ADOPTED:** Draft**POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of the Colchester School District to meet the needs of students with disabilities, as defined in federal and state law and regulations, and to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to these students in the least restrictive environment that will allow all students to benefit educationally.

The Agency of Education (AOE), as the State Education Agency (SEA), is responsible for the overall provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to eligible Vermont students with disabilities and does this through the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The Colchester School District will use the guidelines developed by the Vermont Agency of Education in its most current edition of the *Vermont Special Education Procedures and Practices Manual (Manual)* regarding special education issues. The Manual is designed to assist Vermont school districts in understanding the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and meeting its requirements.

The Manual can be found on the Vermont Agency of Education's website.

Date Warned: February 11, 2022  
First Reading: February 15, 2022  
Second Reading: March 1, 2022

# COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, February 15, 2022  
7:00 p.m.

## MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 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 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

None.

### III. FY'23 Budget Overview

**Information**

Administrators from Central Office provided another overview of the proposed FY'23 school budget including enrollment data, current programming, services, and offerings for students, areas the district is looking to grow, and the impacts of COVID-19 on facilities and learning. They highlighted that this budget is estimated to decrease taxes by .0537%. Details on the budget have been covered at length at meetings in December 2021 and January 2022. Information is also available at [www.csdvt.org/budget](http://www.csdvt.org/budget). Residents can vote early at the Town Clerk's office or in person at Colchester High School on Tuesday, March 1 between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

### IV. ESSER III Presentation

**Information**

Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli gave a presentation on the planning process that is occurring for Federal ESSER III funds which are designated for continued support for recovery from the pandemic. The district has from March 2022 through September 2024 to spend approximately 2.3 million dollars allocated to the district. The funds must be spent through an approved recovery plan that addresses academics, social-emotional learning, and engagement. She went over the community input process from various stakeholder groups, ways that the district has distributed information about ESSER funds to the community, and how the district used data to develop its recovery plan. She highlighted assessment scores from standardized testing in reading and math as one of the data points being used to determine where the district is targeting its resources. Director of Student Support Services, Carrie Lutz, gave an overview of a new screening tool that is being used at the K-8 grade level this year to assess students' skills and abilities in the area of social-emotional learning.

One requirement of the funds is that 20% must go towards intervention. Ms. Carmolli went over the itemized list of how the district plans to spend that percentage which includes some staffing

positions such as a speech-language pathologist, a reading teacher, and a social-emotional learning coordinator, as well as increased summer programming, tutoring services, and offering after-school transportation.

The board shared some of their suggestions for the funding. Director Cox emphasized the value of alternative programs and interventions for students that fall within the MTSS framework. Director Laurie Kigonya would like to look for ways to support students who would benefit from afterschool programs but have barriers such as transportation or responsibilities at home. Director Yousey-Hindes would like to expand the district's outdoor classrooms and learning to make it more accessible to a wider range of students and believes it may help with engagement. Student Representative Gloria Kigonya shared that there is an opportunity to improve how students can directly communicate with teachers and administrators. She stated that students are talking about their needs but there is a disconnect with communicating those needs to adults to make decisions. She offered the idea of creating a survey for students to identify things within the parameters allowed by the funding that would be beneficial to them. Director Longo requested more information regarding the ongoing costs of any programs or services that are created using ESSER funds, acknowledging that if they were to continue beyond the ESSER timeline, they would need to be supported by the district.

Ms. Carmolli and the other administrators will continue reviewing feedback and will submit the plan for approval this spring.

**V. First Reading of Special Education Policy: G2 Action**

This will be a new policy. It is now a requirement of the Federal Agency of Education to have a policy like this in place as part of the yearly assurances the district agrees to when receiving federal funds. This policy was drafted by the Vermont School Boards Association in conjunction with legal counsel from the Vermont Agency of Education.

*Director Cox moved to approve the first reading of the Special Education Policy: G2. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VI. Approval of Consent Agenda Action**

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Board Meeting Date: February 15, 2022**

**REVISED**

**Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)**

<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>FTE/Hours</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Agenda Information</b>	<b>Person Replacing</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Admin Support</b>
Teacher	Kathleen	Kelly	Resignation	School Nurse	1.0	UMS	Request to End Employment effective June 30, 2022			
Teacher	Thomas	Jacobs	Resignation	Title I Math Teacher	1.0	MBS	Request to End Employment effective June 30, 2022			

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

<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>FTE/Hours</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Agenda Information</b>	<b>Person Replacing</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Admin Support</b>
Support Staff	Carmel	Quinn	Leave of Absence	Special Education Paraeducator	32.5	MBS	Request Leave of Absence April 11-29, 2022			Yes

**Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational**

<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>FTE/Hours</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Agenda Information</b>	<b>Person Replacing</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Admin Support</b>
Support Staff	Simeon	Munanga	Resignation	Custodian	40	CHS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Jennifer	Gomo	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	35	MBS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Isabella	Sances	New Hire	Behavior Interventionist	35	MBS	Notice of Hire	Peter Taylor	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Gail	Messier	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	MBS	Notice of Hire	Derek Sanderson	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Abigail	Adams	New Hire	Food Service Worker	20	UMS	Notice of Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Robert	Wheel	New Hire	Special Education Driver	20	DW	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes

*Director Kigonya moved to approve the Consent Agenda for February 15, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VII. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 1, 2022 Action**

*Director Cox moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 1, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VIII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: February 8, 2022 Action**

The board discussed proper procedures for entering and exiting executive session when holding back-to-back student hearings.

*Director Cox moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on February 8, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.*

**IX. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports Informational**

- None

**X. Future Agenda Items Informational**

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

**XI. Adjournment**

*Director Longo moved to adjourn at 8:25 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, February 15, 2022  
5:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

The Colchester Board of Education held a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. Those in attendance were Board Chair Craig Kieny; Directors: Nic Longo, Laurie Kigonya and Ben Yousey-Hindes.

### **I. Call Meeting to Order**

Board Chair Craig Kieny started the meeting at approximately 5:35 p.m.

### **II. Anticipated Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations**

**Action**

No motions or decisions were made.

### **III. Adjournment**

The meeting concluded at approximately 6:40 p.m.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Meghan Baule  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nic Longo  
Board Clerk