

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

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

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Board Directors Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, Felix Anderson, and Student Board Representative Olivia Dallamura. Board Director Nic Longo attended via phone. District administrators and employees in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Business and Operations Manager George Trieb, Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Jamilah Vogel. There were no audience members.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Financial Year End Report

Information

Business and Operations Manager George Trieb provided the board with the year-end financial report. The district ended the year with a surplus of \$1,603,257. He explained that the primary reasons for the surplus were unexpected revenue resulting from additional tuition students and a higher than anticipated special education reimbursement.

Mr. Trieb stated the surplus will be returned to taxpayers; it cannot be used for another purpose without permission.

IV. Black Lives Matter Flag

Action

In June, at the request of students, the school board approved flying the Black Lives Matter (BLM) flag at all schools for three months per the district's Flagpole Request Policy. With the flag nearing the end of the three-month period, students for the Social Justice Alliance Club at Colchester High School wrote a letter to the board requesting that the board continue flying the BLM flag at schools in the district. CSD Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator, Jamilah Vogel, read the letter aloud. The letter urged the board and community members to recognize the significance that the flag has for minority students and requested to keep it raised another three months. Ms. Vogel shared that the Social Justice Alliance Club has two new advisors this school year and they are looking forward to jump into the meaningful work ahead and discuss next steps for the BLM flag.

Director Kigonya moved to approve raising the Black Lives Matter flag at all CSD schools for an additional three months beginning on Friday, October 7, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Policy Equity Assessment Tool **Information**

CSD Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator, Jamilah Vogel provided the board with an overview of the process and tool that is used to review policy from an equity lens as part of the policy revision cycle. Ms. Vogel explained how the audit tool was developed and piloting the tool with a few of the district's policies before it's full implementation this year.

Board Chair Cox inquired about the findings from piloting the audit tool. Ms. Vogel stated that going through the audit form and applying the questions to a handful of policies lead to rich discussions even when equity wasn't challenged. Superintendent Minor added that there are two questions around easy access to policies and accessible language on the audit form that the district is hoping to improve with the ParentSquare communications system.

VI. First Reading of School Sponsored Trips Policy: G3 **Action**

The board requested to discuss this policy after approving several field trips for CHS. It was last reviewed in 2017 and there are no recommended changes. Superintendent Amy Minor shared information with the board about other districts around the region and their approach to having a field trip policy or not. The board asked clarifying questions and plan on making some language changes for the second and final reading based on the information provided.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the first reading of the School Sponsored Trips Policy: G3 as provided. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. First Reading of Public Complaints about Personnel: D10 **Action**

This policy review is part of the policy revision cycle. There was a fixed typo, a grammar adjustment, and two language changes to be consistent with the language used in all other CSD policies. This is a recommended policy from the Vermont School Boards Association that has served the district, employees, and families with clarity since last reviewed.

Director Anderson moved to approve the first reading of the Public Complaints about Personnel Policy: D10 as provided. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Second and Final Reading of Video Surveillance Policy: E6 **Action**

There have been a number of small language updates since the first reading of this policy. The board continued discussion around the intent of the policy between language such as "may," "shall," and "shall only." They agreed to bring this policy back for an additional reading after discussing language with the district's attorney.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the second reading of the Video Surveillance Policy: E6 and requested to bring it back for a third reading. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda **Action**

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: October 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	Heather	Sheppard	New Hire	Long Term Substitute	1	UMS	Request to Hire	Christine Anderson	Yes	Yes

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	Kirsten	Patch	New Hire	Registrar - Admin Assistant	40	CMS	Notice of Hire	Tina Carroll	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Harrison	Chalnick	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	35	CMS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Caitlin	Briggs	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	35	CMS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Erin	Brigham	New Hire	Special Ed Paraeducator	32.5	MBS	Notice of Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Jamie	Chambers	New Hire	Intensive Needs Interventionist	35	CMS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Amy	Flick	New Hire	Multi-Language Paraeducator	17	UMS	Notice of Hire	Heather Sheppard	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Meghan	Mead	Withdrawn Resignation	Special Education Secretary	35	MBS, CMS	Notice of Withdrawn Resignation			Yes

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the Consent Agenda as provided. The motion passed 4-0, with Director Anderson abstaining.

X. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: September 15, 2022 **Action**

Director Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 15, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: September 17, 2022 **Action**

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 17, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: September 20, 2022 **Action**

Director Longo moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on September 20, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Approval of General Meeting Minutes: September 20, 2022 **Action**

Director Longo moved to approve the minutes from the general meeting held on September 20, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

XIV. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports **Information**

- Superintendent Minor scheduled a tour of the Preschool at MBS with the School Board Members.

XV. Future Agenda Items **Information**

October 18th:

- CHS Video Camera Purchase
- Quarterly Financial Report
- Policy Work

November:

- Early Release Day Presentation
- Food Services Presentation
- Budget Timeline
- Policy Work

Policies On Deck:

- Second and Final Reading Public Complains about Personnel
- Second and Final Reading of School Sponsored Trips
- First Reading of Fundraising, Solicitation, Advertising and Surveying in Schools
- First Reading of Student Activity Account Policy
- First Reading of Corporal Punishment Policy

XVI. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations

Action

Director Anderson moved to enter executive session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss negotiations and a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Kigonya moved to exit executive session at 9:27 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

XVII. Adjournment

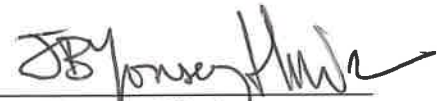
Director Kigonya moved to adjourn at 9:27 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:



Gabrielle Brooks
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk