

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, June 6, 2023
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Felix Anderson, Laurie Kigonya, and Student Board Representative Olivia Dallamura. District administrators 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 UMS Principal Chris Antonicci. District Social Emotional Learning Coordinator Jayme Gaudet was in attendance to present on an agenda item and there were five audience members.

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Lindsey Cox called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Citizen Participation

Colchester resident and parent, Stephanie Cyphers, acknowledged the receipt of an email from the district addressing questions that she had posed at a previous board meeting. At this meeting, she spoke about discrepancies between the distribution of new uniforms for the middle school softball and baseball teams. She had four middle school softball players with her in attendance to demonstrate how oversized the jerseys were, noting they are baseball uniforms and not softball uniforms. She stated the baseball players were allowed to choose sizes before the softball players, leaving only oversized jerseys left for the softball team. Two of the student-athletes, Sabrina and Hazel, stated the process felt very unfair. Ms. Cyphers requested better communication between the athletic directors, booster groups, and the schools to allow for more transparency about how funds are being spent on individual sports.

III. Approval of CHS Bathroom Renovation Project

Action

Business and Operations Manager George Trieb shared a history of the project and highlighted the bids that were received for construction. The board also watched a video from Libby Bonesteel, superintendent of Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools, who has two bathrooms with a design similar to the one planned for CHS.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the bid as recommended for the CHS Bathroom Renovation Project. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Presentation: Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Year-End Review

Information

The District's Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Coordinator, Jayme Gaudet, provided the board with a comprehensive presentation of what SEL is, how the district has implemented SEL curriculum at each of the buildings, and how data is being collected and used to inform decisions

moving forward. She highlighted the components of the framework being used by the district which includes assessing competencies in skill areas, delivery of instruction and intervention that is developmentally appropriate, and how the overall program is evaluated.

V. First Reading of Comprehensive Student Transportation Policy: F12a **Action**

This policy was reviewed as part of the policy manual revision cycle. UMS Principal Chris Antonicci led a committee that reviewed transportation policies from both the Vermont School Board Association and other area districts and put forth an edited draft for the board to review. Superintendent Amy Minor noted that the recommended draft policy and accompanying procedures have also been reviewed by the district's attorney.

Director Longo asked if it would be appropriate to include language promoting the bus contractor to be mindful of sustainability and carbon emissions. While not included in any exemplar policies that were reviewed by the committee, Business and Operations Manager George Trieb did state that he expects to see environmental sustainability language become more common as grants and other incentives are made available.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the first reading of the Comprehensive Student Transportation Policy: F12a. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approval of Consolidated Federal Programs & IDEA-B Grant and Assurances **Action**

Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli, and Director of Special Education, Carrie Lutz, provided an overview of the official allocations for the Consolidated Federal Programs Grant and the IDEA-B Grant. To apply for these funds, the district must assure that it will comply with federal regulations.

Director Anderson moved to authorize the Superintendent to sign the attached assurances and submit the Consolidated Federal Program IDEA-B grants by June 30, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Second and Final Reading of School Relations with Attorneys and the Courts in Child Custody Cases Policy: H8 **Action**

This policy was last reviewed in 2019. It has served the district well and is frequently used by administrators. There were no recommended changes.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the second and final reading of the School Relations with Attorneys and the Courts in Child Custody Cases Policy: H8. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. First Reading of Fire and Emergency Preparedness Drills Policy **Action**

The Governor recently signed a new school safety bill into law (S. 138) that requires school boards to adopt a Fire and Emergency Preparedness Drill Policy by August 1, 2023. The board reviewed the model policy provided by the Vermont School Board Association. Superintendent Amy Minor stated that schools in the district are already compliant with the components listed in the model policy and it will not result in a significant shift in the district's practices.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the first reading of the Fire and Emergency Preparedness Drills Policy. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. First Reading of Access Controls and Visitor Management Policy Action

The Governor recently signed a new school safety bill into law (S. 138) that requires school boards to adopt an Access Controls and Visitor Management Policy by August 1, 2023. The board reviewed the model policy provided by the Vermont School Board Association. Superintendent Amy Minor stated that schools in the district are already compliant with the majority of the components listed in the model policy and it will make a few adjustments

Superintendent Amy Minor stated the model policy will work for the district but noted she will be meeting with the leadership team to make a few adjustments to some school procedures in light of ht policy. She also noted that the next reading of the policy will include some language about access control that is specific to Colchester events.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the first reading of the Access Controls and Visitor Management Policy. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Approval of Consent Agenda Action

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: June 6, 2023

REVISED

| Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator) | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|----------|--|-----------|----------|--------------------|------------------|----------|---------------|
| Contract Type | First Name | Last Name | Category | Position | FTE/Hours | Building | Agenda Information | Person Replacing | Budgeted | Admin Support |
| Teacher | Emma | Vogel | New Hire | Music/Band Teacher | 1.0 | CMS | Request to Hire | Michael Biella | Yes | Yes |
| Teacher | Beth | Hemmingway | New Hire | Employment Specialist Special Education | 1.0 | CHS | Request to Hire | Robyn Schenck | Yes | Yes |
| Teacher | Jan | Thibault | New Hire | Teacher - One Year Only Special Education | 1.0 | PPS | Request to Hire | Tessa MacNeil | Yes | Yes |
| Teacher | Danielle | Gaarder | New Hire | Teacher - One Year Only | 1.0 | MBS | Request to Hire | Rob Janelli | Yes | Yes |
| Teacher | Rozalija | Zibrat | New Hire | Math Teacher | 1.0 | CHS | Request to Hire | Tim Lynch | 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 | Mike | Mott | New Hire | Technology Director | 40.0 | DW | Notice of Hire | Pam Barclay | Yes | Yes |
| Support Staff | William | Bouffard | New Hire | Technology Specialist | 40.0 | DW | Notice of Hire | Tammi Tandy | Yes | Yes |
| Support Staff | Julia | Ljungvall | New Hire | Behavior Interventionst | 35.0 | PPS | Notice of Hire | Cynthia Kuenzi | Yes | Yes |
| Support Staff | Cody | Delphia | New Hire | Technology Specialist | 40.0 | CHS | Notice of Hire | Brighton Carley | Yes | Yes |
| Support Staff | Cara | Scialdone | New Hire | SLP Assistant (para) | 32.5 | UMS | Notice of Hire | Linda Schick | Yes | Yes |
| Support Staff | Anna | Thomson | Resignation | Paraeducator - ELL | 32.5 | CMS | Notice of Resignation | | | |
| Support Staff | Gregg | Galati | Resignation | Behavior Interventionst | 35.0 | MBS | Notice of Resignation | | | |
| Support Staff | Nilima | Abrams | Resignation | Paraeducator - SpEd | 16.0 | MBS | Notice of Resignation | | | |
| Support Staff | Isabella | Sances | Resignation | Behavior Interventionst | 32.5 | MBS | Notice of Resignation | | | |
| Support Staff | Katarina | Visek | Resignation | Paraeducator - SpEd | 6.5 | PPS | Notice of Resignation | | | |
| Support Staff | Louisa | Wakefield | Resignation | Para - ELL | 32.5 | CMS | Notice of Resignation | | | |
| Support Staff | Kacie | Winston-Shelvey | Resignation | Food Service Worker | 20.0 | CHS | Notice of Resignation | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-------------|---|------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| Support Staff | Barbara | Hartshorn | Resignation | Para - SpEd | 32.5 | MBS | Notice of Resignation |
| Support Staff | Steve | Alger | Resignation | Lead Custodian | 40.0 | PPS | Notice of Resignation |
| Support Staff | Michael | Gove | Resignation | Paraeducator - SpEd | 32.5 | CHS | Notice of Resignation |
| Support Staff | Meagan | Holland | Resignation | Paraeducator - SpEd | 32.5 | CHS | Notice of Resignation |
| Support Staff | Dennison | Courtney | Resignation | Behavior Interventionst Special Education Secretary | 35.0 | MBS | Notice of Resignation |
| Support Staff | Denton | Genie | Resignation | | 35.0 | CHS | Notice of Resignation (~10/11/23) |
| Support Staff | Jason | Singh | Resignation | IT Tech Specialist III | 30.0 | DW | Notice of Resignation (5/31/23) |
| Support Staff | Brighton | Carley | Resignation | IT Tech Specialist II | 40.0 | DW | Notice of Resignation (6/2/23) |

Director Longo moved to approve the consent agenda as provided. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Approval of Meeting Minutes: May 16, 2023 Action

Director Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 16, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: May 23, 2023 Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the special minutes from the meeting held on May 23, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports Information

- The district's safety committees have concluded their work and Superintendent Amy Minor provided a finalized version of their drafted procedures and an adult code of conduct document.
- The board was invited to attend graduation on Saturday, June 17 at 10:00 am.
- Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz was acknowledged for her recent receipt of the statewide Longevity Achievement Award.
- Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli was acknowledged for receiving Vermont's Curriculum Director of the Year award.
- Student School Board Member Olivia Dalla Mura was appreciated by Superintendent Minor and the full board for her service and contributions over the past school year.

XIV. Future Agenda Items Information

- Policy Review Cycle
- School Nursing Report

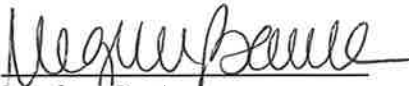
XV. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations and the Superintendent's Evaluation Action

Director Kigonya moved to enter executive session at 9:04 p.m. to discuss negotiations and the superintendent's evaluation. The motion passed unanimously.

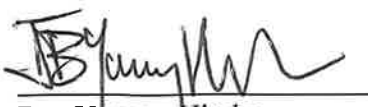
XVI. Adjournment

Director Anderson moved to exit executive session and adjourn at 9:32 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:


Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:


Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk