

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, June 4, 2024
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, in the Colchester High School Media Center. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Directors Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, Jennifer Fath, and Student Representative Phoebe Richardson. District administrators and employees in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Director of Curriculum Gwen Carmolli, and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz. There were no audience members.

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Lindsey Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Superintendent Amy Minor acknowledged that it would be Student Board Member Representative Phoebe Richardson's last meeting and thanked her for representing the student body so well. She noted that Ms. Richardson asked great questions and offered a student perspective on various topics. The board echoed Superintendent Minor's statements and wished her well as she continues her education at the University of Vermont in the fall.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Hear Presentation: CSD Teacher Evaluation Model

Information

The Teacher Evaluation Leadership Team (TEL-T) oversees the district's teacher evaluation model. Tel-T representatives, Principal Chris Antonicci and Teacher Evelyn Galati, provided an overview of the current teacher evaluation model utilized by the district and Tel-T's recommendation for adopting a new teacher evaluation model for next school year. The board asked clarifying questions about the growth cycles for teachers, administrative observations, student involvement, goal setting, and how the evaluation model connects to licensure. The change in evaluation model must receive approval from the Colchester Education Association (CEA) and the School Board. TEL-T proposed this new model to the CEA last month and received unanimous approval. The board agreed to hold an approval vote at the next meeting.

IV. Hear Presentation: Social Emotional Learning and Family Engagement

Information

District Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Coordinator Jayme Gaudet and School Psychologist Amy Morgan shared data, trends, and feedback on SEL initiatives from the current school year. They started with a reminder of why it is essential to focus on SEL skills, noting that connections with families and caregivers are positive when behavior is related to skill. Their focus is asking what skills need to be taught to alter a behavior response. The district has expanded the use of DESSA in all schools. This SEL assessment tool uncovers needs, proficiency, and strengths in competency areas such as self-awareness, personal responsibility, decision-making, social awareness, relationship skills, optimistic thinking, goal-directed behavior, and self-management. Overall, 74% of students K-8 identified as having a need at the beginning of the school year saw an increase in competency scores by the end of the year. Each school ran small groups with targeted instruction for students identified with needs, and those groups saw substantial gains by the end of the year. Overall, the majority are

gaining skills, and the data is helping further identify students who may be regressing so they can receive additional layers of intervention. Ms. Morgan provided specific information on how this SEL work connects directly to special education and the new functional skills requirement set by the Agency of Education. The district built on some successes this year by engaging families through Community Caregiver Nights. These events were held in-person and online and covered topics of anxiety, childhood and technology, stop the bleed, suicide prevention, hacking the teenage brain, and weight-inclusive nutrition.

V. First Reading of Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: F11 **Action**

This policy is being updated based on the Vermont School Board Association's model policy in conjunction with the Vermont Department of Health and the Vermont State School Nursing Association (VSSNA).

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the first reading of the Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: F11. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Second Reading of Personnel Policies **Action**

- **D1: Personnel: Recruitment, Selection, Appointment**
- **D3: Staffing and Job Descriptions**
- **D6: Substitute Teachers**
- **D9: Resignations**

As discussed during the first reading of these policies, it is recommended that the four related policies be consolidated into two. The draft policies eliminate D3 and D9 and incorporate the content of those policies into D1. The board read the proposed draft policies and had some discussion. No further changes were requested.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the second reading of the personnel policies: D1, D3, D6 and D9. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Second and Final Reading of Wellness Policy: F34 **Action**

No additional changes were requested.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the second and final reading of the Wellness Policy: F34. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Approval of Consent Agenda **Action**

The board reviewed the following consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: June 4, 2024

Revised

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Philip	Gulizio	Transfer	CAP Special Education Teacher	1.0	CAP	Request to transfer	Kelly Barrino		Yes
Teacher	Jaclyn	Dixon	Leave of Absence	Math Teacher	1.0	CHS	Request for LOA (24/25 School Year)			
Teacher	Jaclyn	Dixon	Transfer	6-12 Math Instructional Coach (one year only)	1.0	CMS/CHS	Request to transfer		Yes	Yes
Teacher	Kaitlin	Cole	Transfer	Elementary Teacher	1.0	PPS	Request to transfer	Margaret Hershman	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
Support Staff	Danielle	Michael	Leave of Absence	Paraeducator	1.0	UMS	Request for LOA (09/09/2024-09/20/2024)			
Support Staff	Wanda	Sachs	Leave of Absence	Paraeducator	1.0	MBS	Request for LOA (09/04/2024-09/22/2024)			

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	Lucas	Calcagni	New Hire	Maintenance	1.0	DW	Notice of hire	Robert King		
Support Staff	Pam	Handy	Resignation	Paraeducator	1.0	UMS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Deena	Murphy	Resignation	ELL Paraeducator	1.0	MBS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Gabrielle	Lajeunesse	Resignation	Paraeducator	1.0	PPS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Arwa	Dawman	Resignation	Paraeducator	1.0	MBS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Erica	Lim	Resignation	ELL Paraeducator	1.0	CMS	Notice of resignation			
Co-Curricular	Emma	Pedrin	New Hire	Girls Soccer Coach	25.0	CHS	Notice of Hire	Jeff Paul		
Support Staff	Haylee	Patch	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	1.0	UMS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Michelle	Berthiaume	Transfer	HR Manager	1.0	CO	Notice of transfer	Jessica Phelan		
Support Staff	Linda	Nietzer	Resignation	Food Service	7.0	CHS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Emma	Bruseo	Resignation	ELL Paraeducator	32.5	CMS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Taylor	Danforth	Resignation	Paraeducator	32.5	UMS	Notice of resignation			
Support Staff	Kendra	Renz	New Hire	Paraeducator	1.0	PPS	Notice of Hire	Gabielle Lajeunesse		
Support Staff	Isabel	Emsfeld	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	35.0	CHS	Notice of resignation			

The board had questions specific to an individual request on the consent agenda and given the personnel nature, the motion was tabled until it could be discussed in executive session.

IX. Approval of Meeting Minutes Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the minutes from the meetings held on May 21 and May 28, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- Building-level committees continue to meet regarding potential facility renovations.
- There will be no scheduled school board meetings in July. The board will determine when to hold a work session facilities retreat in August.

XI. Future Agenda Items Information

- Assurances
- Continued Policy Work

XII. Executive Session to Discuss a Personnel Matter Action

Director Kigonya moved to enter executive session at 8:37 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to exit executive session at 9:36 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the items on the consent agenda except for the non-licensed employees portion that requires board approval, which was denied. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Adjournment

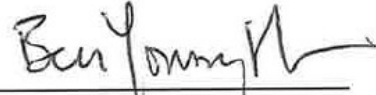
Director Kigonya moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Recorder:



Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk