

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, June 18, 2024
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, in the Colchester High School Media Center. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, and Jennifer Fath. District administrators and employees in attendance included Business and Operations Manager George Trieb, 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. and led in the pledge of allegiance.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Approval of Consolidated Federal Programs and IDEA-B Grant 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. The district must ensure that it will comply with federal regulations to apply for these grant funds.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to authorize the Superintendent to sign the attached assurances and submit the Consolidated Federal Program IDEA-B grants by June 30, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Continuous Improvement Plan Submission Action

The Vermont Accountability Plan requires each district to develop a Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) that uses data and goals to increase student achievement. After updates are made, school boards must approve the submission of their district's CIP to the Vermont Agency of Education. Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli, provided an overview of the plan and the updates made this year.

Director Kigonya moved to approve submitting the district's Continuous Improvement Plan to the Vermont Agency of Education.

V. Approval of Teacher Evaluation Model Action

At the last meeting, representatives from the Teacher Evaluation Leadership Team (TEL-T) presented a proposal for the district to adopt a new teacher evaluation model for next school year. The change 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.

Director Longo moved to adopt the new teacher evaluation model presented by the Leadership Team. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Hear Financial Update

Information

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb, provided the board with a status update on property taxes for FY25. He highlighted the budget approval cycle leading up to Town Meeting Day and noted that the governor vetoed the school property tax yield bill, but lawmakers then overrode it, so the yield is now final. Director Yousey-Hindes acknowledged that the Town put out a notice that they are starting the reappraisal process and asked if that will impact the next budget cycle. Mr. Trieb stated it will likely not affect property taxes until the following cycle.

VII. Second and Final Reading of Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: F11

Action

No edits were requested.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the second and final reading of the Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: F11. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Third and Final 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 and second reading of these policies, the four related policies were recommended to be consolidated into two. The draft policies eliminate D3 and D9 as standalone policies and incorporate the content of those policies into D1. No edits were requested.

Director Longo moved to approve the third and final reading of the personnel policies D1 and D6 and to eliminate policies D3 and D9 from the district's policy manual. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Approval of Consent Agenda

Action

The board reviewed the following consent agenda.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the consent agenda as provided. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 4, 2024 Action

Director Kigonya moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 4, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- No board meetings are scheduled in July.
- Chair Lindsey Cox thanked her fellow board members and the administration for all their work this school year.

XII. Future Agenda Items Information

- Facilities Update
- Board Work Plan
- Opening of Schools
- Continued Policy Work

XIII. Executive Session to Discuss the Superintendent's Contract Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to enter executive session at 7:49 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Kigonya moved to exit executive session at 8:32 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

XIV. Adjournment

Director Kigonya moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk