

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, March 4, 2025
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, in the Colchester High School Media Center. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, Jennifer Fath, and Student Representative Rylee Friend. District administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Business and Operations Manager George Trieb, Director of Curriculum and Instruction 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. Hear Colchester School District Audit Report for FY'24

Information

Rick Brigham, CPA from Sullivan, Powers, and Co., provided the board and community with an overview of their audit report and findings for FY'24. A copy of the report is available on the district website. The audit was clean, and the district was found to be in full compliance.

IV. Approval of Facilities Bond Funding Documentation

Action

The initial bond application for the voter-approved facilities renovation and construction projects was approved. Business and Operations Manager George Trieb explained that this agenda item permits the board to approve the board chair to sign the documents required for the closing scheduled for March 5, 2025. Following the closing, the first \$30 million will be released for the project. The next installment will happen in August 2025.

Director Longo moved to approve the bond documentation by having the board chair sign the documentation. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of 2025-26 School Calendar

Action

Superintendent Amy Minor outlined the draft calendar for next school year. The calendar is based on the contract agreement, which indicates there will be 176 student days, eight in-service days, one teacher prep day, and two family conference days for a total of 187 days.

School districts in the Champlain Valley have committed to a regional calendar that includes 175 common school days. This means that all districts in Chittenden, Franklin, and Addison counties will follow the same schedule for most holidays and professional development days. This will be the second year with regional alignment, which has proved to have many benefits, including consistency with students attending technical centers, the potential for more regionalized professional development opportunities, and fewer conflicts for staff who work in districts outside of where they live.

One local addition specific to Colchester is the four early release days that have provided excellent professional development opportunities for faculty. Colchester Parks and Recreation will continue to offer childcare on those days.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the four early release days in the 2025-26 calendar as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Hear and Discuss Results of the FY'26 School Budget Vote **Information**

Unofficial results show that the school article regarding the FY'26 school budget passed with 1,489 votes in favor and 1,262 against. The board and Superintendent Amy Minor thanked the community for their continued support and reflected on the budget process.

Nicolas Longo was reelected to a 3-year term, and Ben Yousey-Hindes was reelected to a 2-year term. They both shared their appreciation to voters for supporting their service and their excitement to continue to engage the community.

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda **Action**

The board reviewed the following consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA (Revised 3/3/2025)

Board Meeting Date: 3/4/2025

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	Hours/Wk	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Anu	Hedden	Transfer	LTS: Alternative ELA	1	CMS	Request for Temporary Transfer 3.10.25-4.17.25	Craig McLean	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Brittany	Cresta	Transfer	LTS: Kindergarten Special Education	1	PPS	Request for Temporary Transfer 3.10.25- 5.20.25	Jennifer Santarcangelo	Yes	Yes
School Nurse	Emily	Dousevicz	FTE Reduction	School Nurse	1 FTE to 0.8 FTE	MBS	Request for FTE Reduction			Yes

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

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	Hours/Wk	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	Hours/Wk	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Support Staff	Teresa	Clark	Resignation	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Nancy	Pratt	Resignation	Paraeducator	32.5	MBS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Kimberly	Beaudoin	Resignation	Paraeducator	20.0	MBS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Quinton	Applegate	New Hire	Alternative Behavior Interventionist	32.5	CMS	Notice of Hire	Anu Hedden	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Margaret	Eismeier	New Hire	Boys Tennis Coach	Coach	CHS	Notice of Hire	Dave Sharkey	Yes	Yes

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

VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Action

- February 18, 2025

Director Kigonya moved to approve the meeting minutes for February 18, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports

Information

- Facilities Construction Update: School committees are making final decisions on layout details, including technology locations, cabinetry, sinks, cubbies, etc. They have also been researching playground options, and Superintendent Minor shared some opinion pieces written by first and second-graders at Porters Point School.

X. Future Agenda Items

Information

- Board Reorganization
- School Reports
- Policy Work

XI. Adjournment

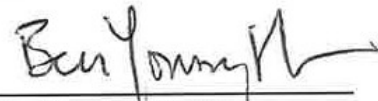
Director Longo moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:



Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk