

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, June 3, 2025
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, in the Colchester High School Media Center. Board members in attendance were Lindsey Cox, Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, Jennifer Fath and Student Representative Rylee Friend. Administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Chief Financial and Operations Officer George Trieb, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz. There was one audience member.

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 Longo moved to authorize the superintendent to sign the attached assurances and submit the Consolidated Federal Program and IDEA-B grants by June 30, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Second and Final Reading of Admission of Students Policy: F17 Action

There were no changes recommended or requested.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the second and final reading of the Admission of Students Policy: F17. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Second and Final Reading of Firearms Policy: F23 Action

During the first reading of this policy, district administrators clarified the distinction between violations involving firearms and those involving other types of weapons. After discussion, the Board agreed to separate these into two distinct policies, one addressing firearms and the other covering all other weapons. The firearms policy will be a new policy in the CSD Policy Manual.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the second and final reading of the Firearms Policy: F23. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. First Reading of CSD Policy Manual Reorganization

Action

In an effort to improve accessibility and usability for all Colchester stakeholders, the District has completed a comprehensive analysis of its policy manual. As a result, a reorganization is being proposed, including recategorizing and renumbering many existing policies. Superintendent Amy Minor provided a detailed overview of the current manual structure, the proposed changes, and the rationale behind the reorganization. The goal is to create a more streamlined, user-friendly format that enhances transparency and ease of navigation.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the first reading of the CSD policy manual reorganization. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda

Action

The Board reviewed the following consent agenda.

DRAFT

There were no items on the consent agenda requiring approval.

VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Action

Director Kigonya moved to approve the minutes for the meeting held on May 20, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports

Information

- Student Representative Rylee Friend was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the Board this school year. Board Chair Lindsey Cox noted that Rylee is a remarkable CHS student who has demonstrated exceptional engagement, leadership, and dedication throughout her term. Board members expressed appreciation for her insightful questions, thoughtful commentary, and strong representation of the student body. Superintendent Amy Minor noted that Rylee's work with SJA has helped shape meaningful changes at CHS and emphasized the impact of her voice in school event planning.
- Superintendent Amy Minor provided an update on the planned construction at PPS, scheduled to begin this fall. The Clerk of the Works position has been posted and is currently accepting applications. The Development Review Board (DRB) will review the PPS site plan layout at their next meeting. The final hearing is scheduled for July 9, with a decision expected by August 23.
- The District received a Golden Achievement Award from the National School Public Relations Association for its community engagement and communication plan for the facilities bond campaign, *Our Town, Our Schools, Our Future*.
- Superintendent Minor also shared an update on the status of H.454, the education transformation bill. The bill is currently in conference committee, and the House and Senate have yet to reach an agreement.

X. Future Agenda Items

Information

- Purchases
- Policy Manual Reorganization
- Facility Renovation/Construction Updates

XI. Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations and a Personnel Matter

Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to enter executive session at 8:04 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations and a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Kigonya moved to exit executive session at 8:29 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Adjournment

Director Kigonya moved to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk