

## Colchester School District

Board of Education Meeting  
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, September 2, 2025  
7:00 p.m.

### Meeting Minutes

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, in the Colchester High School Library Media Center. Board members in attendance were Lindsey Cox, Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, and Jennifer Fath. Administrators in attendance were Superintendent Amy Minor, Chief Financial and Operations Officer George Trieb, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli, Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz, MBS Principal Jordan Burke, PPS Principal Carolyn Millham, and UMS Principal Chris Antonicci. There was one audience member present.

#### 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. Citizens Participation\*

None.

#### III. Hear Special Recognition

Informational

Board Chair Lindsey Cox announced that the Colchester School Board has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 Board Excellence Award by the Vermont School Board Association (VSBA). The award committee, which nominated six boards, specifically recognized Colchester's extensive and sustained community engagement efforts. These efforts were critical to the successful passage of the \$115 million facilities bond. According to Board Chair Cox, the committee's letter cited the board's exceptional leadership, community engagement, and commitment to effective governance. The Board is invited to attend a luncheon in October hosted by the VSBA to formally receive the award.

#### IV. Hear Elementary Principals Report

Informational

The three elementary school principals provided an informational update to the board, highlighting academic achievement, social-emotional and wellness targets, and family engagement.

- MBS Principal Jordan Burke shared examples of how the school is building relationships and community through targeted focus groups and collaboration with families. These efforts are helping to shape the continuous improvement plans for both the preschool and grades 3-5 programs.
- PPS Principal Carolyn Millham noted that teacher-led teams developed and delivered professional development sessions on reading and math comprehension strategies during the August in-service. She also shared that students are enjoying the new playground, which encourages cooperative play, and noted that several family events held before the start of school were very well-attended.
- UMS Principal Chris Antonicci acknowledged everyone who helped ensure a smooth start to the school year, giving special thanks to the bus drivers, a core group of whom have been with the

school for over a decade. He also presented key data points that highlight areas of academic success and growth.

**V. Hear Presentation on Behavior Threat Assessments**

**Informational**

The district's Social-Emotional Coordinator, Jayme Gaudet, gave a detailed presentation on how Behavior Threat Assessments (BTA) are used in practice. The presentation covered how these assessments proactively address concerns and how the district ensures they are implemented in an equitable and student-centered manner. The board discussed the resources required to implement BTAs with fidelity, given the significant time commitment involved in a full assessment.

**VI. Second and Final Reading of Behavior Threat Assessment Policy: F7**

**Action**

The Vermont Legislature's Act 29 mandates that all schools have a Behavior Threat Assessment Policy. The board reviewed the draft policy which formalizes a process the district has already been successfully piloting to identify, assess, and respond to potential threats.

***Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the second and final reading of the Behavior Threat Assessment Policy: F7. The motion passed unanimously.***

**VII. Hear Year-End Financial Report**

**Action**

Chief Financial Operations Officer George Trieb presented an overview of the total budget, revenue, and expenses for the fiscal year ending in June 2025. The district ended the year with a slight \$133,000 surplus, which was very close to the budgeted amount, falling within a quarter of a percentage.

**VIII. Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Action**

CONSENT AGENDA										
Board Meeting Date: 9/2/2025 REVISED										
<i>Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)</i>										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	Hours/Wk	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Kim	Wilson	Resignation	Health Teacher	1.0	CMS	Request to end employment			
Teacher	Allison	Croce	New Hire	Health Teacher	1.0	CMS	Request to Hire			
<i>Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Board Approval Required</i>										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	Hours/Wk	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
<i>Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational</i>										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	Hours/Wk	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Support Staff	Krista	Knaus	Resignation	Admin. Asst. I – Special Ed	40.0	CHS	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Krista	Knaus	New Hire	Admin. Asst. II – Principal	40	CHS	Notice of Hire	Melissa Payne-Vilmont	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Paul	Sears	Resignation	Maintenance Worker	40	DW	Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Brendan	Lemieux	Resignation	Paraeducator	32.5	CMS	Notice of Resignation			
Co-Curricular	Carrie	Macedonia	New Hire	Field Hockey Coach	COACH	CMS	Notice of Hire			
Support Staff	Harka	Dahal	Termination	Custodian	40	CMS	Notice of Termination			
Support Staff	Caroline	Chagnon	Resignation	Behavior Interventionist	35	UMS	Notice of Resignation			

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

**IX. Approval of Meeting Minutes Action**

***Director Kigonya moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 19, 2025.***

**X. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports Informational**

- A special meeting will be held on September 18 to review bids from construction companies. The district has hired PCI Project Consulting to serve as an owner's representative and clerk of the works for the PPS project.

**XI. Future Agenda Items Informational**

- Principal and School Reports
- Policy Work
- Facility Renovation Updates

**XII. Adjournment**

***Director Yousey-Hindes moved to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

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Meghan Baule  
Recording Secretary

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Ben Yousey-Hindes  
Board Clerk