

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, September 18, 2018
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, at the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Lincoln White, Craig Kieny, Curt Taylor and Lindsey Cox; Superintendent Amy Minor; Business and Operations Manager George Trieb; Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz; Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli; and Principal Michele Cote.

There were 14 senior seminar students and 1 audience member in attendance.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Mike Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board Chair Rogers led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Citizen Participation

Board Chair Rogers stated the board received an email from a parent requesting to improve the aesthetic exterior of the middle school. He responded by saying as preparation for next year's school budget, the board will hear building requests from district administration in the upcoming month.

III. Report from Building Principals

Information

UMS Principal Chris Antonicci stated that the opening of school went very well. They had great weather and attendance at their Welcome Back BBQ. He also explained the nurturing environment classroom teachers create to build strong bonds with their students.

Principal Jordan Burke reported MBS also had a great school opening. They are preparing for their open house which have several community partners in attendance and are excited for several upcoming field trips to local destinations including Shelburne Farms, Mazza's Farm, and Bayside Park.

Principal Carolyn Millham announced that PPS has been recognized for their commitment in implementing PBIS (positive behavior interventions and supports) with fidelity over time and will be receiving an exemplar award at the annual Vermont PBIS conference next month. Both MBS and UMS will also be recognized with merit ribbons.

IV. Approval of Contract Agreement with Colchester Education Association Support Staff Union

Action

A contract agreement between the CEA Support Staff Union and the School Board was reached on August 28, 2018. The agreement is a three-year deal with the percentage wage increase on average of 2.99%, 3.1%, and 3.2% in each of the three years, respectively. The Support Staff Union is scheduled to ratify the contract agreement on September 26, 2018.

Director Kienny and Board Chair Rogers served as negotiators for the school board. Director Kienny stated he is pleased with the result of the negotiations and feels the wage increase will help keep CSD competitive with other districts.

Director Kienny moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement with the Colchester Education Association Support Staff Union for 2018-2021 as outlined, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed, 4-0. Director Cox recused herself as she is a member of a union.

V. Changes in the Special Education Funding Model Information

Superintendent Amy Minor along with the Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz and Business and Operations Manager George Trieb provided the board with an overview of Act 173. This act was passed by the legislature in May of 2018 and relates to enhancing the effectiveness, availability, and equity of services provided to students who require additional support. The act changes the state funding model for special education for all school districts and supervisory unions in fiscal year 2021, for school year 2020-2021, from a reimbursement model to a census-based model. Superintendent Minor stated they do not have specifics yet on how the change will affect the district monetarily. The state has established a timeline and recommendations are forthcoming.

Director Taylor emphasized that this is a very significant change for funding. Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz agreed and stated there are currently very strict guidelines for the way the district reports, applies for and receives reimbursement. Moving to a census model will provide the district with a bulk payment which will allow the district to have more control over how they allocate the funds. Subsequently, this will allow special educators more time to work with students that may be struggling, but not yet identified as special education, rather than waiting for that student to officially meet special education eligibility.

Director White voiced concern that a “lump sum” style payment could potential not cover unanticipated exorbitant costs. This would leave the local budget responsible for the additional costs. Business and Operations Manager Trieb stated details and procedures used to determine reimbursement are unknown at this time.

VI. First Reading of Student Freedom of Expression in School-Sponsored Media Policy: F36 Information

This is a new policy recommended by the Vermont School Boards Association and includes exact language from the statute (16 V.S.A § 180). There were no recommended changes.

Director Cox moved to approve the first reading of the Student Freedom of Expression in School-Sponsored Media policy, seconded by Director Kienny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VII. First Reading of Video Surveillance Policy: E6 Action

This policy has been in place since 2009 and is being reviewed as part of the policy revision cycle. There were no recommended changes.

Director Taylor moved to approve the first reading of the Video Surveillance policy, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VIII. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda

Action

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was presented for September 18, 2018.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Board Date: September 18, 2018

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

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

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Co-Curricular	Alec	Brigante	New Hire	Boys B Soccer Coach		CMS	Notice of Hire	Reece Tangluy	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Rebecca	Cote	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	CMS	Notice of Hire	Dana Brooks	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Elizabeth	Cubit	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	CMS	Notice of Hire	Danielle Cote	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Jessica	McSweeney	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Bus	14.0 hr	MBS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes

Director White moved to approve the personnel consent agenda as provided, seconded by Director Kiemy. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

IX. Approval of Minutes: September 4, 2018

Action

Director Taylor asked to have the word “temporary” removed from item VI.

Director Cox moved to approve the minutes of September 4, 2018, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

X. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports

Information

- Superintendent Minor shared that the Alt School will be visiting CHS.
- The Board discussed potential agenda items for the board retreat which has been scheduled for October 30th.

XI. Possible Future Agenda Items

Information

Future Meetings:

- Discipline Policies
- School Reports
- District Nursing Report
- SBAC Results

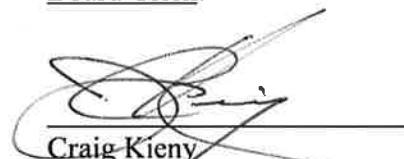
XII. Adjournment

Director White made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m., seconded by Director Kiemy. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Recorder:


Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:


Craig Kiemy
Board Clerk