

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, April 16, 2019
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Craig Kieny, Lindsey Cox, Lincoln White, and Curt Taylor; Student Representative Sophia Brigante; Superintendent Amy Minor; Business and Operations Manager George Trieb; Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz; Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli; and Principals Heather Baron and Michele Cote. There were one audience members.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Citizen Participation

Doug Bishop, a community member and parent of a child in Colchester, shared concerns regarding the paraeducator who was recently arrested for possession of child pornography. He expressed that the safety of children is paramount and he urged the district to take a look at their hiring process. He inquired if there was anything the legislation could do to assist schools in preventing anyone engaging in this type of behavior from being hired. He also urged the board and all school districts to provide honest job references to other districts when hiring individuals. Board Chair Mike Rogers and Superintendent Amy Minor thanked Mr. Bishop for expressing his concerns. Superintendent Minor echoed that the district shares his belief that the safety of our children is the top priority. She assured him that the district does background checks and fingerprints for all employees and she gave a brief overview of the process that took place during this particular case.

III. Integrated Field Review (IFR) Results Presentation

Information

On January 24, 2019, the Vermont Agency of Education conducted an Integrated Field Review (IFR) of the Colchester School District. The purpose of an IFR is to determine how well the district is meeting the Education Quality Standards (EQS) of academic proficiency, personalization, safe and healthy schools, high quality staffing, and investment priorities. On the day of the IFR, the district hosted a team of 18 individuals who toured the district and conducting interviews with staff, students and parents. The district has since received the final written report of the team's findings which includes several commendations and recommendations for each EQS category. This report will help guide administrators as they work on continuous improvement plans and the next districtwide strategic plan. Superintendent Minor shared her plan to address each recommendation. The board was pleased to hear that the report was overwhelmingly positive. Superintendent Minor congratulated all the district administrators and faculty who have worked hard to ensure they are meeting the EQS on a daily basis. The full IFR report will be available on the district website.

IV. Approval of Contract Agreement with Colchester Education Association Action

The board reviewed the contract agreement with the Colchester Education Association (CEA). Terms are a one-year deal with an average 3.1% salary increase, an increase in life insurance from \$20K to \$50K, the removal of all co-curricular language, and permission for teachers to use sick bank time for maternity/paternity leave as defined. The CEA ratified the agreement prior to the meeting.

Director Cox moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement with the Colchester Education Association for the years 2019-20 as outlined, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

V. Quarterly Financial and Special Education Reports Information

Business and Operations Manager George Trieb reported that revenue and expenditures are tracking mostly as expected and should the current spending trend continue, the district would expect a slight surplus of \$137,091. The district has spent 66.80% of the budget versus spending 68.21% last year at this time. The district's total commitments to date are 84.69% versus 86.60% last year.

Special Education Director Carrie Lutz reported that the numbers for special education are roughly the same as the February report. She pointed out that although the numbers are the same, it is actually a different cohort of students due to students moving in and out. Teams are starting to identify needs for next year and it would appear the number of paraeducators and interventionists will remain steady.

VI. Approval of Laptop and Chromebook Purchase for CHS and CMS Action

Business and Operations Manager George Trieb outlined a memo to the board requesting approval to purchase laptops for CHS and Chromebooks for CMS. This purchase is a budgeted expenditure and occurs annually in the spring to allow the district's IT department time to set up the devices so they're ready to distribute to students in August. The purchase will be made from the State of Vermont contract.

Director Cox moved to authorize the business and operations manager to purchase IT equipment as requested, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VII. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda Action

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was presented for April 16, 2019.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Board Date: April 16, 2019 REVISED

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Administrator	Dovid	Yagoda	New Hire	Assistant Principal	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Dovid Yagoda	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Dennis	McCannell	End of Employment	Humanities Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to end Employment effective June 30, 2019			Yes
Teacher	Erin	Brady	FTE Increase	Instructional Coach	.20 FTE	CHS	Request to Increase FTE	Erin Brady	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Wayland	Cole	FTE Increase	TIPS Teacher (One-Year Only)	.20 FTE	CHS	Request to Increase FTE	Hilary Carter	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Rachel	Cohen	Rowland Fellow - Leave of Absence	Social Studies Teacher	0.8 FTE	CHS	Request Leave of Absence for 19/20 SY part of FTE			Yes
Teacher	Gretchen	Faraglia	New Hire	Language Arts/Social Studies, Grades 7/8	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	New	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Elizabeth	Clapp	New Hire	ELL Teacher	0.5 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Erica Merrell	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Lauren	Landrigan	New Hire	Special Education Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Request to Hire	Nadine Zane	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Melissa	Richard	New Hire	Math Teacher, Grades 7/8	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Lois Whitney	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Yara	Hanna	Transfer	Arabic Teacher	.20 FTE	CHS	Request to Transfer		Yes	Yes
Teacher	Emma	Pedrin	Transfer	Spanish Teacher (One-Year Only)	.20 FTE	CHS	Request to Transfer	Carolyn Robinson	Yes	Yes

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), *Informational*

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Support Staff	Joanne	Beaubien	End of Employment	Paraeducator - ESL	32.5 hr	CMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Craig	James	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	CMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Bradley	Smith	End of Employment	Paraeducator/Paraeducator - Special Education	29.5 hr/3.0 hr	UMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Mark	Ellingson	New Hire	Athletic & Activities Director	1.0 FTE	CHS	Notice of Hire	Bernard Cieplicki	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Angela	Hoguet	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	20.0 hr	UMS	Notice of Hire	Bradley Smith	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Richard	Bird	Transfer	Data Manager	1.0 FTE	DW	Notice of Transfer	Michelle Devino	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Kevin	Kane	Transfer	Lead Custodian	40.0 hr	MBS	Notice of Transfer	Sandra Boyd	Yes	Yes

Director Kiemy moved to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda as provided, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VIII. Approval of Minutes: April 2, 2019 Action

Director Cox moved to approve the minutes of April 2, 2019, seconded by Director White. The motion unanimously, 5-0.

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

- The district is hosting a Suicide Prevention Discussion for parents, families, and caregivers. The event will take place on Thursday, May 2nd in the CHS library at 6:30 p.m.

X. Possible Future Agenda Items Information

- Summer Purchases
- Assurances
- Strategic Planning

XI. Adjournment

Director White made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Recorder:



Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Lindsey Cox
Board Clerk