

## COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, January 15, 2008  
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at the Colchester High School Library. Those in attendance were: Chair, Dirk Reith; Directors: Dan Carver, Mike Rogers, Dick Pecor, and Paul Smith; Student Representative Jessica Guter; Superintendent, Larry Waters; Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb; Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli; Principals: Amy Minor, John Barone, Barbara Nason, Jim Marshall, Chris Antonicci and eight members of the community.

### MINUTES (General Session)

#### **I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance**

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

#### **II. Act on Minutes of January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008**

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Dan Carver to approve the minutes of January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **III. Citizen Participation**

None

#### **IV. School Board Communication, Committee Reports, Correspondence**

Principal of Union Memorial School Chris Antonicci updated The Board on the Homework Committee, stating that the philosophy has been finished, and the final program will be completed by the end of the year.

The Facilities Committee has been waiting on further analysis from Mike Burke on the PPS septic system, looking at different ways to become more energy efficient.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli informed the Board that the Tech In-service day is on January 21<sup>st</sup> and happening throughout the district. It consists of 25 workshops and teachers will be selecting two to attend.

#### **V. Superintendent's Recommended Budget**

Superintendent, Larry Waters presented his recommended budget at an 8.67% increase, along with the factors that determined said budget. Mr. Waters believes this budget is consistent with the Colchester School District Vision Plan. Projected class size was addressed, along with the

proposed addition of an All Day Kindergarten, other new programs and personnel. Mr. Waters then spoke of seven factors which affect the tax rate and that can't be controlled. This includes Common Level of Appraisal (the largest driver of the tax rate). He gave his recommended reductions, and looked at the increases when comparing the proposed fiscal year '09 budget to fiscal year '08 budget. To finish, Mr. Waters showed the factors that go into the tax rate calculation, and left it to the Board for discussion.

## **VI. Board Approval of FY'09 Budget**

Chair Dirk Reith applauded the Superintendent for focusing on the needs of "The Learner" with this budget. Chair Reith continued by stating that this budget is streamlined, with no room for cuts, and the 2.3 million dollar increase is due to the cost of outside factors (transportation, technology centers, stipends etc.). Chair Reith reassured the community that All Day Kindergarten is a necessity. The Board continued to discuss the merits of ADK, citing Federal mandates requiring higher standards and equity for all students K through 12. Director Dan Carver wanted to remind the community what little effect the budget has on the overall Tax Rate.

Chair Dirk Reith reassured the community that reductions have been made to the original budget in the amount of \$425,000, and the Board feels strongly that nothing more should be cut.

Director Mike Rogers moved that the Board adopt a budget of thirty million, six hundred and seventy-nine thousand five hundred and sixty-three dollars (\$30,679,563) necessary for the support and operation of schools for the next year beginning July 1, 2008, seconded by Director Dan Carver. Motion passed unanimously.

## **VII. Article to Establish a Capital Reserve Fund**

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb asked the Board to review the wording of the article to establish a Capital Reserve Fund.

Director Paul Smith moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers that the Board add an article to the warning for the 2008 Annual Town School District meeting to see if the voters would approve the establishment of a capital reserve fund built from surplus funds from the previous year, not to exceed two (2%) percent of the upcoming annual budget commencing on July 1<sup>st</sup>, pursuant to the provisions of 24 V.S.A 2804, for the purposes of capital maintenance, repairs and related improvements beginning in fiscal year 2008, any excess to be added to the revenue for the following year. Motion passed unanimously

Director Paul Smith moved, seconded by Director Dan Carver that the Board warn the year 2008 Annual Town School District meeting by signing the warning for said meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. Announce Tuition Rates for School Year 2008-09**

Director Mike Rogers moved, seconded by Director Dan Carver that the Board set and announce the tuition rates for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

<b>Elementary:</b>	<b>\$9,500</b>
<b>Grades 7 – 8:</b>	<b>\$9,800</b>
<b>Grades 9 – 12:</b>	<b>\$10,200</b>

Special Education tuition will be the announced tuition plus any additional cost incurred by the district. Motion passed unanimously.

**IX. Review of Regional Calendar for 2008-09**

Superintendent, Larry Waters introduced a regional calendar for the 2008-2009 school year which was agreed by the superintendents in our region (Chittenden, Franklin, and Addison Counties) Most of the days are nonnegotiable, however, during November no school will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> (election day), that will be used as an in-service day, and classes will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, but not the 26<sup>th</sup> (Thanksgiving Recess). This gives Colchester School District 176 student days, two conference days, and nine in-service days, leaving graduation on June 13<sup>th</sup>, the second Saturday in June.

**X. Review Colchester Middle School Search Process:**

Superintendent, Larry Waters presented an outline of the principal search process, and asked for a member of the Board to join the Committee. Director Mike Rogers volunteered to join the committee.

**XI. Act on Personnel Consent Agenda**

Superintendent Waters presented the following consent agenda:

**Personnel Consent Agenda:  
Dated: January 10, 2008**

**ADMINISTRATOR**

NEW HIRES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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RESIGNATIONS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
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LEAVE REQUEST:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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**TEACHER**

NEW HIRES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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RESIGNATIONS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
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NON-RENEWAL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
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CHANGE IN FULL TIME EQUIVALENCY:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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LEAVE REQUEST:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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**CO-CURRICULAR**

CONTRACT OFFER:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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RESIGNATIONS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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**SUPPORT STAFF**

LEAVE REQUEST

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Admin. Support</u>
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**POSITION DESCRIPTION(S)**

**SUPPORT STAFF INFORMATION**

NEW HIRES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
Lisa Nagle	Title I Tutor	PPS
Connie Lamont	Instructional Assistant-SPED	MBS
Michael Bessette	Custodian	MBS

RESIGNATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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TERMINATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building</u>
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CHANGES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
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Director Mike Rogers moved, seconded by Director Dan Carver to accept the personnel consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**XII. Hear Possible Future Agenda Items**

- Tax Sensitivity Information
- PPS Presentation on Technology
- “Getting the Budget Passed-What is our plan?”
- Quarterly Financial Reports

**XIII. Adjourn**

Chair Dirk Reith moved, seconded by Director Dan Carver to adjourn General Session at 8:49 p.m. and move to Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

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Mark Ellingson  
Reporting Secretary

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Michael Rogers