

## COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, October 5, 2010  
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at the Colchester High School Library. Those in attendance were: Board Chair: Dirk Reith, Directors: Paul Smith, John Zenie and Mike Rogers; Student Board Member: Tom Yasewicz; Superintendent, Larry Waters; Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb; Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli. Principals: Amy Minor, Carolyn Dickinson, Julie Benay, James Marshall and Chris Antonicci. Absent: Board Director Dick Pecor and Special Education Director, Carrie Lutz. There were 26 members of the community in attendance.

### MINUTES (General Session)

#### **I. Call to Order**

Board Chair Dirk Reith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Chair Dirk Reith led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes: September 21 and 22, 2010**

Director Paul Smith moved to postpone the approval of the minutes for September 21 and 22, 2010 until October 12, 2010, seconded by Director John Zenie. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **IV. Citizen Participation**

No citizen participation.

#### **V. School Board Communication, Committee Reports & Correspondence**

Principal Amy Minor introduced the new Student Board Member, Tom Yasewicz. Principals Julie Benay, Carolyn Dickinson & Amy Minor reported on the first day of NECAP testing. Each school had a successful day. Director of Curriculum & Instruction Gwen Carmolli reported on a new, district-wide Social Studies curriculum committee and a guidance committee. She also reported available grant money which has been used to purchase Netbooks for the District's administrators. There is additional money and asked the board if they would each like a Netbook. The board is to consider the option and then contact Superintendent Larry Waters. Superintendent Larry Waters and Principal James Marshall have met with Paula Bevins.

#### **VI. Colchester High School – “New England Association of Schools and Colleges” Information and Presentation**

Principal Amy Minor along with teachers Erin Brady and Tara Sharkey presented information about the upcoming NEASC visit. NEASC is an accreditation process based on Standards. It is a ten year cycle, in which the high school is in the final year. The visiting committee is coming

at the end of October and will review reports; interview students, parents, teachers and board members; shadow students; tour the school. The final report will be available in April/May 2011. A discussion followed concerning other high school accrediting organizations, how the members are trained, the cost of the process, the importance of being an accredited high school and whether the committee looks at the VT Grade Level Expectations.

**VII. Hear and Act on Second Reading of Discipline Policy**

Superintendent Larry Waters reported on the continued review of the Discipline Policy. The Discipline policy continues to change and at this time the district is in the process of reviewing documents at each school to ensure they are in compliance with the policy. The policy will be brought back for a final approval.

Director Mike Rogers moved, seconded by Director John Zenie to approve the policy as a second reading. Motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Hear and Act on First Reading of Class Size Policy**

Superintendent Larry Waters reviewed the Class Size Policy, its guidelines and method of calculation. The policy on class size must be provided to the commissioner of education by January 15, 2011. When calculating class size for grades K-8, core teachers (Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts) will be used to determine the average number of students in a classroom. Both minimum average and optimal average grade sizes were reviewed. Board members expressed an interest in looking at and possibly setting a maximum average size.

Director Paul Smith moved, seconded by Chair Dirk Reith to approve the policy as a first reading of Class Size. Motion passed unanimously.

**IX. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda**

Superintendent Waters presented the following consent agenda:

**PERONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**

**Board Date: October 5, 2010**

<b>Board Date</b>	<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>FTE/Hours</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Agenda Information</b>	<b>Person Replacing</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Admin Support</b>
10/05/10	Support Staff	Heather	Matthews	New Hire	Computer Lab Monitor	32.5 hrs	CMS	Notice of hire	Louise Hill		Yes
10/05/10	Support Staff	Shirley	Fleury	New Hire	Food Service Worker	30 hrs	MBS	Notice of hire	Constance Cortez		Yes
10/05/10	Support Staff	Heather	Plouf	Status Change	Intensive Needs Interventionist	32.5 hrs	CHS	Reducing Hours			Yes

Director Mike Rogers moved, seconded by Director John Zenie to accept the personnel consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**X. Possible Future Agenda Items**

- Truancy Policy
- Focus on Act 146
- Mission, vision & strategic planning process

**XI. Executive Session – Discuss Negotiations**

Director John Zenie moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to adjourn general session and move to executive session at 8:31 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Director John Zenie moved, seconded by Director Dirk Reith to exit Executive Session at 8:32 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

**XII. Adjournment**

Director John Zenie moved, seconded by Director Dirk Reith to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Howes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Smith  
Board Clerk