

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Central Office Conference Room
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
6:00 p.m. (Executive Session)
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held an executive session board meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 in the Central Office Conference Room. Those in attendance were: Board Chair: Dirk Reith; Directors: Steve Cormier, Dick Pecor, Christine Shepard and Paul Smith; Superintendent Larry Waters, Principal Amy Minor, and Assistant Principal Tim Emery.

MINUTES (Executive Session)

Board Chair Dirk Reith called the executive session meeting to order at 5:56 p.m.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Christine Shepard to enter executive session at 5:57 p.m. for a student discipline hearing. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Paul Smith to exit executive session at 6:52 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Steve Cormier moved, seconded by Director Paul Smith to support the Administration's recommendation with regard to a student matter. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Christine Shepard to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. and reconvene the Board meeting in the Media Center at Colchester High School. Motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 in the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were: Board Chair, Dirk Reith; Directors: Dick Pecor, Steve Cormier, Christine Shepard and Paul Smith. Student Board Member: Emily Berry. Superintendent, Larry Waters; Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb and Director of Special Education, Carrie Lutz. Absent: Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli; Principals: Chris Antonicci, Julie Benay, Dawn Gruss, Jim Marshall and Amy Minor. There were four members of the community in attendance.

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: January 3 & 10, 2012

Director Dick Pecor moved to approve the minutes for January 3 and 10, 2012, seconded by Director Christine Shepard. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Citizen Participation

Carolyn Reilly, owner of Carolyn's Red Balloon, addressed the board urging them to participate in prekindergarten partnerships with area providers under Act 62. She presented a letter of support, signed by parents, which will run in the Colchester Sun. She also encouraged the district to explore the E.E.I grant. Furthermore, a Colchester parent addressed the board advocating for Act 62 and the district's willingness to participate. The board supports the idea of prekindergarten programs; however, the board feels they must apply money where the need is greatest and not being met. A discussion followed between the board and community members as well as administrators regarding Act 62, Head Start and E.E.I grant possibilities.

V. School Board Communication, Committee Reports & Correspondence

Superintendent Waters addressed the board and recognized that due to inclement weather, the building administrators were given the opportunity not to attend tonight's board meeting. As a result, the agenda was altered.

Business and Operation Manager George Trieb presented the quarterly financial report.

Superintendent Waters addressed concerns regarding the use of email for student hearings. Upon meeting with the District's attorney regarding FERPA, our attorney does not feel that any violations are occurring. The report she provided Superintendent Waters was passed forward to the board.

VI. Colchester Middle School Program Update

Director Dick Pecor moved to table the Colchester Middle School Program update to the first meeting in February, seconded by Chairman Dirk Reith. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Colchester Alternative Program and Educational Service Annex Building

Superintendent Waters introduced Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz to present further information regarding the Colchester Alternative Program and Educational Service Annex Building. Director Lutz reviewed the process in which students are placed "out of district" and the cost to the district. At this time, there are 23 "out of district" placements, six being state placed in Colchester. The average out of district placement is \$43,000 per year, per student.

Additionally, Ms. Lutz provided information regarding ways to increase capacity and quality of services if the district were to move forward. She addressed the need to provide not only a new building, but to continue offering rigorous and high quality programs. As a result, a different model with additional staff and positions will be needed.

A discussion followed regarding the costs, funding and a timeframe in moving forward. The board directed the district to continue to move forward with this process.

VIII. Approval of Contract for Association of Colchester Administrators (ACA)

Superintendent Waters presented the tentative agreement with the ACA. This is a three year contract with a 3% salary increase each year. There were additional changes to the contract. The members of the ACA have ratified the new agreement.

Director Dick Pecor moved to approve the new bargaining agreement between the Colchester School Board and the Association of Colchester Administrators for July 2012 to June 2015, seconded by Director Steve Cormier. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Review of Superintendent's Recommended Budget FY'13 and Revenues

Superintendent Waters and Business and Operations Manager Trieb continue to work on the budget to include the two technology integration positions as well as a speech and language pathologist. With these positions the percentage increase would be 3.46%. Director Carrie Lutz reviewed the great need for an SLP position at the EEE level in order to meet their IEPs. With firm percentage increases for health and dental, appropriate reductions that will help offset the increases can be made. A discussion followed with administrators and board members.

X. Personnel Consent Agenda

Superintendent Waters recognized two noteworthy teachers who have announced their retirement, Joan Fitzpatrick and Elizabeth Miles. Each provided many years of quality service to the Colchester School District.

Superintendent Waters presented the following consent agenda:

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**Board Date: January 17, 2012**

Board Date	Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Rationale	Admin Support
01/17/12	Support Staff	Kristina	Brown	New Hire	Paraeducator-SPED	32.5 hrs	CHS	Notice of Hire	Eli See		Yes
01/17/12	Teacher	Joan	Fitzpatrick	End of Employment	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for End of Employment		End of contract year 6/30/2012	Yes
01/17/12	Teacher	Elizabeth	Miles	End of Employment	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for End of Employment		End of contract year 6/30/2012	Yes
01/17/12	Teacher				Speech & Language Pathologist	.5 FTE	MBS-EEE		New Position	Student Need	Yes

Director Steve Cormier moved to approve the personnel consent agenda for January 17, 2012, seconded by Director Christine Shepard. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Possible Future Agenda Items

- Tax Rate and Income Tax Sensitivity
- NECAP Results in Reading/Math – Fall 2011
- Bullying and Harassment Policies
- Action Plans K-12
- New Approach to Drug Policy Violations
- Search and Seizure Policy Update
- Andros Field Trip for 2013
- CAP Recommendation (follow-up)

XII. Executive Session: Discuss Negotiations and a Personnel Matter

Director Steve Cormier moved, seconded by Director Christine Shepard, to adjourn general session and move to executive session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss support staff negotiations and the Business Manager’s contract. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Steve Cormier moved, seconded by Director Dick Pecor, to exit executive session at 9:19 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Paul Smith moved, seconded by Director Dick Pecor, to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Rachel Howes
Reporting Secretary

Paul Smith
Board Clerk