

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Tuesday, May 15, 2012
5:30 p.m. (Executive Session)
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held an executive session board meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 in the Central Office Conference Room. Those in attendance were: Board Chair, Dirk Reith; Directors: Steve Cormier, Dick Pecor, Mike Rogers, and Christine Shepard; 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 5:30 p.m.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to enter executive session at 5:31 p.m. to hear two student discipline hearings. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to exit executive session at 6:50 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to adjourn the executive session meeting at 6:50 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, May 15, 2012 at the Colchester High School Library. Those in attendance were: Board Chair, Dirk Reith, Directors: Steve Cormier, Dick Pecor, Mike Rogers, and Christine Shepard. Superintendent, Larry Waters; Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb; Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli; Director of Special Education, Carrie Lutz. Principals: Julie Benay, Dawn Gruss, Jim Marshall, Chris Antonicci, and Amy Minor. Missing: Student Board Member: Emily Berry. There were 3 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: May 1, 2012

Director Christine Shepard moved to approve the minutes for May 1, 2012, seconded by Director Steve Cormier. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Citizen Participation

No citizen participation.

V. School Board Communication, Committee Reports & Correspondence

Superintendent Waters and Principal Minor shared with the school board information which was related to the following topics: Closure of CHS & Organization of CHS. Principal Minor addressed concerns which have come from the faculty and staff, as well as concerns as to where Colchester students would go if the high school were to close. The high school community is proud of where it has come in regards to scores and passionate about the climate, culture and success of the school. A discussion followed with board members.

Mike Rogers encouraged that the physical plant, structure, curriculum, organization, “walls of a classroom” and unforeseen changes at the high school be explored seeing as there have been minimal resources allocated to the high school in past budgets. The board encourages placing all possible ideas and opportunities on the table for CHS and having a discussion regarding the CSD Vision plan and how the high school fits into that. A discussion followed including board members and administrators.

Superintendent Waters provided a 2012 Education Legislation Briefing of the impacts for the upcoming school year including:

- Secretary & Agency of Education
- Public School Choice – Grades 9-12: 2013-2014
- Appropriations and Tax Issues: Tax Rate, Base Amount
- Harassment, Hazing & Bullying
- Payroll Withholding
- Required Immunizations Exemption
- Notable Bills NOT Enacted

VI. Colchester High School Program/Course Offering Comparison

Principal Minor provided an academic/program comparison to other high schools in Chittenden County (CHS, CVU, Essex, BHS, SBHS, MMU, Milton, WHS, and Rice). Due to the great deal of information, there will be a four-part series on “Comparing CHS Experience with School in Chittenden County.” Information will be provided for the following areas: Graduation Requirements, Mathematics, World Languages, and Athletics.

In regards to world languages, CHS offers French and Spanish languages. Recommendations are to add consistent staffing to offer Level V or AP and to add a third language, possibly Arabic, Mandarin or German. Students do have access to world languages on Virtual High school.

In regards to math, all students at CHS must pass Algebra I and Geometry in order to graduate. CHS provides opportunities for support in Algebra or Geometry with an additional course named *Strategic Algebra/Geometry*. Recommendations would be to add Algebra II as a

graduation requirement; provide consistent staffing to offer Strategic Algebra & Geometry; increase elective offerings; and, bring back Einstein & GPS courses.

Finally, there is close alignment with the sports offerings between CHS and Chittenden County. Generally, CHS does not offer freshman teams. Recommendations are for an indoor track and increased funding in order to rely upon the Boosters less.

VII. Transportation Contract with Mountain Transit

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb provided information, and supported the initial cost for a Five Year transportation contract proposed by Mountain Transit. He provided the board with the base contract amount for next year based on a 2.1% increase to the current year's base contract amount. The projected costs are also based on the CPI for illustration purposes.

Director Christine Shepard moved to approve the proposed contract from Mountain Transit as presented and authorizes the Business and Operations Manager to execute the necessary documents to make this happen, seconded by Director Steve Cormier. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Colchester School District Professional Development Plan – Grades K-8

Director of Curriculum Gwen Carmolli presented the official CSD Professional Development Plan for grades K-8. Through collaboration with building administrators, effective and appropriate professional development opportunities were chosen keeping the Common Core Standards in mind as the district begins to implement the new State Standards. In addition, other opportunities will occur throughout the year. The high school program has yet to be completed.

IX. Hear & Act on First Reading of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse Policy

Superintendent Waters provided information regarding the first reading of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse Policy. He highlighted changes and updates throughout the policy. The district's attorney will be reviewing the policy regarding the legal requirements under Vermont law for student discipline and drug violations. The high school is collaborating with CenterPoint to provide further supports to be proactive before student violations go before the board.

A discussion regarding consequences and supports around 1st and 2nd violations occurred with administrators and board members.

Director Christine Shepard moved to act on the First Reading of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse Policy, seconded by Chairman Dirk Reith. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Personnel Consent Agenda

Superintendent Waters presented the following personnel consent agenda:

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Revised Board Date: May 15, 2012

Board Date	Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Rationale	Admin Support
05/15/12	Support Staff	Amanda	Collins	End of Employment	Paraeducator-Title I	32.5 hrs	UMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	John	Carter	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Title I	32.5 hrs	MBS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Natalie	Cowden	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hrs	UMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Donna	King-Johnson	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Library	12.5 hrs	UMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Emily	Pigeon	End of Employment	Paraeducator - 504	32.5 hrs	UMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	James	Robinette	End of Employment	Behavior Interventionist	32.5 hrs	CAP	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Rebecca	Roe	End of Employment	Paraeducator - ESL	32.5 hrs	MBS/CMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Gislaine	Uzzell	End of Employment	Food Service Worker	36.25	CHS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Christine	Verhelst	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hrs	MBS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Support Staff	Linda	Whalen	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Speech	22.75 hrs	MBS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Marilyn	Hindes	End of Employment	Special Education Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Approval for End of Employment			Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	George	Deane	Increase in hours	Social Studies Teacher	.20 for 1.0 FTE	CHS	Approval for Increase in Hours	.20 of E Brady Leave	George is currently a .80 FTE at CHS. Looking to add a .20 FTE one-year only to cover part of E Brady's.40 FTE leave	Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Alicia	Nelson	Increase in hours	Physical Education Teacher	.20 for 1.0 FTE	CAP/CHS	Approval for Increase in Hours	M. Rowan and N. Romond		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Meghan	Tiernan Fisher	Increase in hours	Spanish Teacher	.20 for 1.0 FTE	CMS	Approval for Increase in Hours	Julia Melloni	Meghan is currently a .80 FTE at CMS. Looking to move .20 funding from unfilled science to spanish to increase to 1.0 FTE	Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Rachel	Wood	Increase in hours	Social Studies Teacher	.20 for 1.0 FTE	CHS	Approval for Increase in Hours	.20 of E Brady Leave	Rachel is currently a .80 FTE at CHS. Looking to add a .20 FTE one-year only to cover part of E Brady's.40 FTE leave	Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Marykate	Ellingson	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for Hire	Donna Gallas		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Natalie	LaRose	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	PPS	Approval for Hire	Constance Cummings		Yes

Board Date	Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Rationale	Admin Support
05/15/12	Teacher	Ashley	Laurent	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for Hire	Shelly Forrest		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Katherine	McGrain	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for Hire	Elizabeth Miles		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Elizabeth	Sato	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for Hire	Joan Fitzpatrick		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Jana	Taylor	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for Hire	Aimee Boucher		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Meg	Terrien	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	PPS	Approval for Hire	Claudia O'Neill		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Therese Aimee	Boucher	Transfer	Technology Integration Specialist	1.0 FTE	PPS/UMS/M	Approval for Transfer	New Position		Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Leslie	Noble	Transfer	Special Education Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Approval for Transfer	Marilyn Hinds	Leslie is currently working at PPS/UMS/MB S as a Special Educator	Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Conor	O'Loughlin	Transfer	Science Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Approval for Transfer	Joe Desrosier	Conor is currently a Science Teacher at CAP	Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Claudia	O'Neil	Transfer	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Approval for Transfer	Trish Powsner	Claudia is currently an Elementary Teacher at PPS	Yes
05/15/12	Teacher	Megan	Sweeney	Transfer	Alternative Education Teacher	1.0 FTE	CAP/CHS	Approval for Transfer	Conor O'Loughlin	Megan is currently a .40 FTE Alt Ed Teacher at CMS. Transfer from CMS to CAP vacancy.	Yes
05/15/12				Job Description Approval	Behavior Specialist			Approval of job descriptions for new position	Leslie Noble	Reallocation from existing Special Education Facilitator K-5 position	Yes

Director Dick Pecor moved to approve the personnel consent agenda for May 15, 2012 as amended, seconded by Director Christine Shepard. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Possible Future Agenda Items

- Action Plans K-12
- Major Repairs at CHS
- Curriculum Comparison with Area High Schools – Next Content Areas
- Medicaid Report
- Consolidated Federal Programs Report
- Debt Obligation Approval
- IDEA Assurances
- Vermont School Board Director Visit
- Technology Plan Approval
- Drug Policy Approval

XII. Executive Session: Student Hearings

Director Mike Rogers moved, seconded by Director Dick Pecor, to adjourn general session and move to executive session at 9:11 p.m. to continue discussing two student discipline matters. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to exit executive session at 9:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Dick Pecor moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to support the administration's recommendation with regard to the first student discipline matter. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Steve Cormier moved, seconded by Director Mike Rogers to support the administration's recommendation with regard to the second student discipline matter. Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Adjournment

Director Steve Cormier moved, seconded by Director Dick Pecor, to adjourn general session at 9:35 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Rachel Howes
Reporting Secretary

Steve Cormier
Board Clerk