

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, September 19, 2017
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2017, at the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were: Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Lincoln White, Craig Kieny, Lindsey Cox, and Student Board Member Robert Davis; Superintendent Amy Minor; Business and Operations Manager George Trieb; Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz; Director of Curriculum & Instruction Gwen Carmolli; and Principals: Heather Baron, Michele Cote, and Chris Antonicci

There were two people in the audience: one CHS student and a reporter from the Colchester Sun.

I. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Report from Building Principals

Principal Antonicci said the opening of school at UMS went well. They are prepping for the first early release day which occurs next week. The primary focus of their professional development will be preparing to move from a literature-driven science curriculum to a more physical and hands-on approach.

Principal Cote said CMS had good participation at their open house. They were able to share some of the new things happening at the school with many families. She stated that developmental design continues to be a focus at CMS. They will be compiling some comparison data on planning room visits etc. for the upcoming school report.

Principal Baron shared that CHS was awarded a VSAC grant which will allow them to administer PSATs to all 10th and 11th-grade students during the school day free of charge. She also pointed out the new Laker Learning Lab which is housed in a room just off the library. It has had a large response from students and is helping to facilitate personalized learning in the form of individualized research and projects.

The Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli shared a snapshot of the newly released Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) scores for the district. Overall it was a strong year for Colchester. She will give a full presentation at the next board meeting.

IV. Second and Final Reading of Weapons Policy: F24

The board reviewed the proposed changes to the current weapons policy. The updates were recommended by the district's attorneys as well as the Vermont School Board Association.

Director Kieny moved to approve the second and final reading of the Weapons policy, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

V. Second and Final Reading of Tobacco Prohibition Policy: F3

This policy was formally known as Smoking in School Buildings and/or Grounds Policy. It was last reviewed in October of 2012. The changes include the addition of recommended definitions shown in the Vermont School Boards Association model policy, most notably including tobacco substitutes.

Director Cox moved to approve the second and final reading of the Tobacco Prohibition policy, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

VI. First Reading of School Emergency Plans Policy: E3

This policy was last reviewed in 2012. Superintendent Minor highlighted the recent work the district has been doing with the Colchester Police Department to ensure the district's safety protocols and procedures are reflective of current best practice. The recommended edits to the existing policy include changing the name to School Crisis Prevention & Response, using the VSBA's recommended language throughout the document, and removing the procedures section from the policy itself and creating a separate document.

Director Kieny moved to approve the first reading of the School Emergency Plans policy, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

VII. First Reading of School Sponsored Trips Policy: G3

This policy was last reviewed in 2003. Superintendent Minor recommended making a change to the process of approval for overnight trips. Currently, building principals can approve overnight trips that are less than four days. The revised language would require board approval for all trips that involve an overnight stay. For trips that include air transportation or travel outside of New England or New York, board approval would be required at least six months in advance.

Director Cox requested a change in the language under the policy statement to show that curriculum-based trips are available to all students and not just those enrolled in the course. She also noted that prior to any groups requesting trip approval from the board, she would like the building principal and superintendent to review and authorize the trip details.

There was a group discussion about the sixth-month approval requirement for trips outside of New England and New York. It was confirmed that would include single night trips as well as any athletic games or conferences.

Director Cox moved to approve the first reading of the School Sponsored Trips policy, seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

VIII. FY'17 Year End Financial Report

Business and Operations Manager George Trieb presented the fiscal 2017 year-end financial results. Expenses came in slightly under budget by \$259,000 or 0.70%. Most expense categories finished on target. Overspent budget items have been topics of conversation throughout the year and were fully expected. Revenue finished the year \$529,000 over budget and was the result of unexpected special education reimbursement and state placed revenue. Overall, the district finished with a surplus of \$788,000 or 2.1% of the budget.

IX. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was presented on September 19, 2017.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA
Board Date: September 19, 2017

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)									
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Admin Support
Teacher	Tracy	Hughes	Leave of Absence	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	UMS	Request from 12/12/17 - 12/22/17		

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), <i>Informational</i>									
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Admin Support
Support Staff	Anne	Cooch	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	CHS	Notice of Hire	New	Yes
Support Staff	Dawn	Hanf	New Hire	Paraeducator - Preschool	29.5 hr	MBS	Notice of Hire	Andrew Capone/Dale Lyman	Yes
Support Staff	Alyson	Hevey	New Hire	Central Office Assistant	40.0 hr	CO	Notice of Hire	Donna Cross	Yes
Support Staff	Meghan	Mead	New Hire	Paraeducator - EEE Bus	4.0 hr	MBS	Notice of Hire	Dale Lyman	Yes
Support Staff	Amanda	Riley	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	UMS	Notice of Hire	New	Yes
Support Staff	Kristin	Watson	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	UMS	Notice of Hire	New	Yes

Director Cox moved to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda for September 19, 2017, seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

X. Approval of Minutes: August 24, 2017

Director Kieny moved to approve the minutes of August 24, 2017, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

XI. Approval of Minutes: September 5, 2017

Director Cox moved to approve the minutes of September 5, 2017, seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

XII. Approval of Minutes: September 12, 2017

Director Kieny moved to approve the minutes of September 12, 2017, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

XIII. Board/Administration Communications, Correspondence, Committee Reports

- Director Kieny provided the board with an update on contract negotiations with the CEA. No agreements were made during mediation and they have moved into fact-finding.
- Superintendent Minor shared that she has been appointed to the Education and Prevention Subcommittee of the Governor's Marijuana Advisory Commission. She will be serving as the representative for the Vermont Superintendents Association and the Vermont Principals' Association.

XIV. Possible Future Agenda Items

- School Reports
- Quarterly Special Education and Financial Reports

XV. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations with ACA and Healthcare for Handbook Employees

Director Kieny moved to enter executive session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss negotiations with ACA and healthcare for Handbook employees as permitted by 1 V.S.A. § 313, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Director Curt Taylor joined executive session via phone.

Director Kieny moved to exit executive session at 8:57 p.m., seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

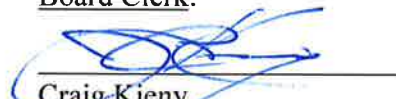
XVI. Adjournment

Director Kieny moved to adjourn at 8:59 p.m., seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Recorder:


Meghan Baule
Communications Specialist

Board Clerk:


Craig Kieny
Board Clerk