

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, September 3, 2019
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2019, at the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Craig Kieny, and Lindsey Cox; Director Curt Taylor attended via phone; Student Representative Mitch Gadapee; Superintendent Amy Minor; Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz; Principals: Michele Cote and Jordan Burke.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Chair Mike Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then held a moment of silence in honor of Perry Nunn, a Colchester Middle School teacher who passed away the week prior.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Report from Building Principals

Information

Colchester Middle School Principal, Michele Cote, shared that they changed the format of the school's open house this year and so far, they have received positive feedback. They held it the night before school started and it was very well attended. They also changed the structure to allow more families to meet their student's advisor.

Mallett's Bay School Principal, Jordan Burke, stated they enjoyed a smooth opening of school for all grades including preschool which opened that day. She also shared that she completely renovated the bi-weekly family newsletter. The changes she made were in response to feedback gathered during a district-wide communication survey. The newly revamped newsletter went out on Sunday and families seem pleased with the changes.

Colchester High School Principal, Heather Baron, shared some ways the faculty, staff and students are working to make new ninth graders feel welcomed in the building. A group of seniors made the rounds through the freshman humanities classes to share what it means to be a Laker by giving some advice and talking about their high school experiences.

IV. Second and Final Reading of Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: F11

Action

No further edits were requested.

Director Cox moved to approve second and final reading of the Bloodborne Pathogens Policy: F11, seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

V. First Reading of Fiscal and Business Management Policy: E1 **Action**

In light of reviewing the Donations Policy: E10 at the August 20th meeting, the board engaged in a discussion about investments. Specifically, the decision making, management and oversight of investment portfolios; all of which, are included in this policy. At that meeting, much of the conversation centered around a single donation that, at the time of the donation, was suggested to be kept in a mutual fund. Since that meeting, Director Kieny met with the donor on behalf of the board and shared the board's discomfort with the risk involved in managing a mutual fund investment. The donor supported the board's decision to move the money into a low-risk investment and subsequently the board is updating this policy to remove the two sentences in section VIII that speak specifically to that donation.

Director Kieny moved to authorize the Business and Operations Manager to move the donor's investment from a mutual fund account to a low risk investment, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Director Cox moved to approve the first reading of the Fiscal and Business Management Policy: E1, seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

VI. Strategic Plan Update: Vision and Mission Statement **Information**

Superintendent Amy Minor unveiled the district's draft vision and mission statements.

Vision Statement: We strive to prepare each student for success in life by providing an enriching, welcoming and safe environment.

Mission Statement: Colchester Schools offer diverse educational experiences filled with rigorous and responsive teaching practices. In our collaborative learning community, students are inspired to think critically, act responsibly, communicate effectively and learn continuously to achieve their fullest potential.

The new statements are part of the work happening to create the district's next strategic plan. Over the past year, employees, community members, families and students have provided input and feedback on several draft of these statements. Mrs. Minor also led the board through the three foundational goal areas of the strategic plan which include fostering successful learners, connected communities, and coherent systems. The board was supportive of the new statements.

VII. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda **Action**

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was presented for September 3, 2019.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Board Date: September 03, 2019

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Andrew	Hedden	New Hire	Alternative Education- Long Term Substitute	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Perry Nunn	Yes	Yes

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Support Staff	Ben	Mitchell	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5	CMS	Notice of Hire	Ben Mitchell (previously resigned)	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Jason	Washginton	End of Employment	Autism Interventionsit	35	PPS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Hilarie	Jones	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5	PPS	Notice of Hire	Kelley DesLauriers	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Logan	Lemnah	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5	UMS	Notice of Hire	Nichole DeOrsey	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Korin	Rideout	New Hire	Paraeducator- Special Education	32.5	MBS	Notice of Hire	Melissa Labrie	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Steven	Galente	End of Employment	Technology Specialist I	40	CHS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Gregg	Galati	New Hire	Paraeducator- Special Education	32.5	MBS	Notice of Hire	Katharine Bilodeau	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Sophie	Gregg	New Hire	Paraeducator- Bus Rider	15	MBS	Notice of Hire	Megan Mead	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Patrick	Candon	End of Employment	Paraeducator- Special Education	32.5	CHS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Kelley	DesLauriers	End of Employment	Paraeducator- Special Education	32.5	PPS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes

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

VIII. Approval of Minutes: August 20, 2019

Action

Director Taylor noted 2 edits.

Director Kieny moved to approve the amended minutes for August 20, 2019, seconded by Director Cox. The motion unanimously, 4-0.

IX. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports

Information

- Superintendent Minor shared several updates:
 - Student enrollment is up slightly for this school year.
 - The Vermont Athletic Committee and Vermont American Legion expressed their thanks for the use of the district's facilities for their state tournament. They said the facilities and grounds were well maintained and the employees they interacted with displayed a high level of professionalism.
 - The district is hiring a company to conduct a traffic study as part of the research stage for a new early education center on Blakely Road. Data will be collected from Blakely Road, Main Street, and Porters Point Road between 7am – 9am; 2pm – 3:30pm; and 4pm – 6pm. The company estimates it should be completed by October 11th.
- The board discussed potential retreat dates to convene and talk further about the updates surrounding the district's facilities.

X. Future Agenda Items


Information

- Continued Policy Work
- Strategic Plan
- CHS Music Trip to NYC
- Early Education Center


XI. Adjournment

Director Cox made a motion to adjourn at 7:48 pm seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Recorder:


Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:


Lindsey Cox
Board Clerk