

Colchester School Board

Meeting Agenda and Packet

December 17, 2019

**Colchester School District
Board of Education Meeting Agenda
Colchester High School – Media Center
December 17, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance | |
| II. Citizens Participation* | |
| III. Report from Building Principals | Informational |
| IV. Vermont Science Assessment Presentation | Informational |
| V. FY'21 Budget Presentation and Discussion | Informational |
| VI. Second and Final Reading of Custodial, Joint Custodial and Non-custodial Parental Rights and Responsibilities Policy: F6A | Action |
| VII. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda | Action |
| VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes: December 3, 2019 | Action |
| IX. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports | Information |
| X. Future Agenda Items | Information |
| XI. Adjournment | |

On the Third Tuesday of Each Month*

During the meeting, the school board will review the top questions and themes submitted to them via email to SchoolBoard@colchestersd.org. Note: All submissions must be received before noon on the third Tuesday of every month.

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: CUSTODIAL, JOINT CUSTODIAL AND NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

DATE ADOPTED: DRAFT

POLICY STATEMENT

The Colchester School District recognizes the value of providing information concerning a student's school participation and progress to both parents where the parents are separated, estranged or divorced. In such cases, the Colchester School District and its employees will attempt to respect the legal rights of both parents with respect to involvement in their child's education, including access to records, educational decision-making, and notice and participation in school meetings and activities, to the extent provided by state and federal law.

When the whereabouts of both parents are known to the school, school staff shall not unilaterally afford greater rights, authority, or access to one parent over the other. It is not in the interests of a child or of the operation of the school system for school personnel to engage in taking sides or in excluding one parent of a child from an educational process at the request of the child's other parent. It is not the role of school staff to mediate or decide marital differences, or parent custodial rights.

Only when the school is provided with a court order (such as a divorce decree or child custody order), statute or similarly binding document that curtails or limits one parent's rights with regard to the education of the child, will the school make such modifications.

For example, both parents generally have the right:

- a. To view the child's educational records;
- b. To receive school progress and Section 504 reports and (where applicable) certain special education notices and records;
- c. To visit the child briefly at school;
- d. To attend school functions open to the public or to all parents; and
- e. To participate in parent teacher conferences and meetings about the child.

When one parent has been awarded full physical and legal rights and responsibilities, the other parent continues to have a right of access to educational records of their child, unless a court order expressly denies or limits such access. When parents are living separately and upon written request to the child's school, the school will subsequently and routinely mail (or send home via the student) to each parent copies of all child-specific information which is normally sent home with the child. This will include copies of report cards, parent-teacher conference invitations, etc. This practice will continue for the remainder of the school year in which the request is made. This service may be requested annually.

Last Adopted: May 18, 2004
 Date Warned: November 26, 2019
 First Reading: December 3, 2019
 Second Reading: December 17, 2019

The parent with sole physical responsibility and each joint custodial parent has the responsibility to keep the school office informed (a) of their address (residence) and phone number, and (b) of a means of contacting the parent at all times. The non-custodial parent has the responsibility to provide the school office with their phone number and address.

The school district will follow the most recent court order when determining which individual has the authority to remove the child from school property. Typically, both parents may visit or observe the child at school, however, only the parent with physical responsibility for the child will have the authority to remove the child from school property. When the court has awarded joint physical rights and responsibility, both parents have this authority, unless stated otherwise in the court order. If a parent wishes to have the school limit this authority, the parent must provide to the school a copy of a court order or similarly binding document expressly requiring such limitation. If a parent with sole physical responsibility wishes to allow the other parent to remove the child from the property, permission must be provided to the school in writing.

A copy of this policy shall be provided to any parent upon request.

WHEN THE STUDENT TURNS 18

Under Vermont law, a child reaches the age of majority upon their 18th birthday. Under federal law, at that time the parents' rights with respect to access to information contained in education records transfers to the student. It is the policy of this school board to allow continued access to such records to the parent of a dependent student, as that term is defined by Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as permitted (but not required) by law. Where the student who has turned 18 objects to such disclosure, the school administration shall consider the student's reasons for the objection, and determine whether it is in the interests of the child to permit access to the records by the parent.

Procedural rights of students who are eligible for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA") also transfer from the parent to the student at the time the student turns 18. Thereafter, as required by law, the parents shall have a continued right to receive copies of certain notices, but otherwise all procedural rights under the special education law shall transfer to the child. Special rules apply if a court has appointed a legal guardian for the student, or the child has been determined to be unable to provide consent with respect to his/her educational program under State procedures. If these provisions may apply, the parent or guardian should discuss the application of this policy with the school principal or their designee.

PARENTAL RIGHTS: SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504

In addition to the above parental rights and responsibilities, parents of children who have been found to be eligible for special education services under the IDEA, or who have been determined to be protected under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, have additional rights. Copies of written statements of parental rights in special education are available from special education staff at each school, and rights with respect to Section 504 are available through each principal.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Board Date: December 17, 2019

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support

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	Mirela	Pasic	End of Employment	Intensive Needs Interventionist	35	CMS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Kathryn	Couillard	End of Employment	IT Systems Administrator	40	CHS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Darlene	Lamphier	Transfer	Fixed Asset/Accounting Clerk	24	CO	Notice of Transfer		Yes	Yes

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

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

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Craig Kieny, Lindsey Cox, Lincoln White and Curt Taylor; Student Board Member Mitch Gadapee; Superintendent Amy Minor; Business and Operations Manager George Trieb; Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz; Principals Heather Baron and Michele Cote. There was one audience member.

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.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Report from Building Principals

Informational

Colchester High School Principal Heather Baron shared that the school is gearing up for the 13th annual gingerbread community service project which starts next week. Teachers will spend some time during their next faculty meeting to write individual notes and cards to every student in the school. They did this last year and it was very well received by students. Winter sports are starting up and the combined chorus and band winter concert is Friday, December 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Colchester Middle School Principal Michele Cote shared that their winter band concert is December 12th and the chorus concert will take place the following week on the 19th. Both start at 7 p.m. in the CHS Performing Arts Center. During Wednesday's early release day, the school will do different activities for their 2nd annual Kindness Counts event. One of the more popular activities is creating wreaths to give to various centers and organizations throughout the town.

Both principals shared that they are looking forward to the professional development that will take place after the students dismiss early on Wednesday. At both schools, their faculty and support staff will participate in joint trainings which is a nice opportunity to have the whole staff together. At CMS, they are focusing on restorative practice training and at CHS they are continuing their work with Rebecca Haslam from Seed the Way.

IV. VHV Apprenticeship Program Presentation

Informational

VHV is a full mechanical construction contractor based in Winooski. Company President Dick Wilcox along with Pamela Lambiase from their human resources department explained that most of the equipment they work with supports the mechanical needs of commercial and industrial properties. They came to present to the school board because they continue to struggle finding

skilled trades craftsmen to work in their industry. Their goal as a company is to collaborate with school districts to help expose students to the mechanical industry for future employment. Once employed, the company will provide training programs to allow employees to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the mechanical trades. Ms. Lambiase gave an overview of the robust apprenticeship program offered through VHV. Directory Kieny asked if their hiring issues were specific to Chittenden County and Mr. Wilcox stated that it is everywhere and other companies are also struggling, not just theirs. Student Representative Mitch Gadapee asked what the company's next steps would be following this presentation. Mr. Wilcox stated that they would like the opportunity to speak directly with students. The administrators then brainstormed ways to make that happen such as attending AT, job and career fairs, or setting up a booth in the lobby during lunch.

V. Act 173 Update

Informational

Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz gave an update on Act 173, which will change special education funding from a reimbursement model to a census-based model in all districts throughout Vermont. The main purpose of this statute is to enhance the effectiveness, availability, and equity of service. The switch will allow for more flexibility in how funds are used. Ms. Lutz gave an update on the implementation of the statute since it has been delayed at the state level. The purpose of the delay is to provide the State Board of Education time to change the State Special Education Regulations. This delay is also allowing the Agency of Education time to support districts as they implement programmatic shifts. Director Taylor asked if more delays were anticipated, she responded that it is definitely possible.

VI. FY'21 Budget Presentation and Discussion

Informational

Superintendent Amy Minor provided the board with another summary of enrollment numbers, class sizes, and projections for next school year. She explained the process that she and the other central office administrators went through with school principals to understand what their building needs are. Ms. Minor then gave an overview of the district's top eight needs, tiered into three priority levels: A, B, and C.

The top priority would be to maintain current staffing levels. Other priority A items included 2 FTEs for reading teachers in grades k - 2 (one for each K-2 school), .5 FTE for an English language teacher at CMS, and an instructional leadership position for grades 6-12. The Priority B column included 1 FTE for a special educator at CMS. The Priority C column included .2 FTE to add to the current Arabic teacher, 1 FTE for a technology coordinator in the Performing Arts Center, and 1 FTE for a districtwide transportation coordinator.

Next, she provided an extensive list of facility needs. Items included things such as bathroom renovations, security upgrades, furniture needs, and additional paving. All of the items outlined were provided by Ms. Minor in a concise overview format; she committed to explaining each in more detail at a future meeting. Student Representative Mitch Gadapee spoke in agreement for any renovations that may happen at the middle school. As a tuition student, he pointed out that students from the Islands are now choosing which district to attend for 7th grade and it would go a long way if the facilities were modernized. Director White asked for the administrators to look for opportunities where the high school could add computer science into the curriculum or course offerings.

VII. First Reading of Custodial, Joint Custodial and Non-custodial Parental Rights and Responsibilities Policy: F6A **Action**

This policy was last adopted by the school board in 2004 and was brought before the board as part of the policy review cycle. The district attorney reviewed the policy prior to the meeting and did not recommend any changes. Director Taylor and Kieny requested several language changes throughout the document. None of the proposed changes will alter the intent or actions of the policy.

Director Kieny moved to approve the first reading of the Custodial, Joint Custodial and Non-custodial Parental Rights and Responsibilities Policy: F6A, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

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

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

DRAFT

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Board Date: December 3, 2019

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support

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	Sheryl	Asper	End of Employment	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Chelcy	Branon	End of Employment	Paraeducator - SPED	32.5	CMS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Milan	Marak	New Hire	Drama Coach		CMS	Notice of Hire		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Katharine	Bilodeau	End of Employment	Behavior Interventionist	37.5	UMS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Lara	Breeding	End of Employment	Paraeducator	32.5	UMS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes

DRAFT

Director White moved to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

IX. Approval of Minutes: November 19, 2019 (Work Session) Action

Director Taylor requested to clarify the type of community feedback that the board will be collecting regarding the early education facility improvements.

Director Taylor moved to approve the amended minutes for the work session held on November 19, 2019, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

X. Approval of Minutes: November 19, 2019 (General Session) Action

Two minor corrections were noted.

Director Kienny moved to approve the amended minutes from the general session held on November 19, 2019, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

XI. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports Informational

- Superintendent Minor praised Union Memorial School and Porters Point School for their recent “VTPBIS Exemplar School” status from the Vermont Agency of Education. Both schools were recognized during the Annual Vermont PBIS Leadership Forum. PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Interventions and Support which improves the social culture and the behavioral climate of classrooms and schools which ultimately leads to enhanced academic performance.

XII. Future Agenda Items Informational

- Continued Policy Work
- PPS School Report
- FY’21 Budget Discussions
- Science Test Scores
- Early Education Center

XIII. Executive Session (Added Item) Action

Director Taylor made a motion to enter executive session at 9:04 p.m. to discuss real estate, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Director Taylor made a motion to exit executive session at 9:16 p.m., seconded by Board Chair Rogers. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

XIV. Adjournment

Director White made a motion to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. seconded by Director Kienny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Recorder:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:

Lindsey Cox
Board Clerk

DRAFT