

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, February 18, 2020
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 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; Superintendent Amy Minor; Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli; Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz; Principals: Heather Baron, Chris Antonicci, and Carolyn Millham. There were no audience members.

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

Union Memorial School Principal Chris Antonicci shared that Colchester Representative Sarita Austin visited the school. She observed several classrooms and focused on seeing literacy instruction in action. The school's musical was a huge success. He gave thanks to the high school for the use of the Performing Arts Center and for the students who ran the booth. On the recent early release day, the faculty continued their work with implementing the new science curriculum. He elaborated that they are nearing the end of this initiative and will move on to social studies soon.

Representative Sarita Austin also visited Colchester High School to observe instruction stated CHS Principal Heather Baron. She said Austin's visit was just one of several over the past few weeks to include Leadership Champlain and a local instructional leadership academy. Faculty from CHS also recently presented at the Proficiency-Based Learning Symposium to share the work that's happening here in Colchester. Their recent early release day involved continued work with Rebecca Haslam from Seed the Way. They did an equity audit with both the school's physical space and the curriculum. The highly popular and anticipated Variety Night Competition is coming up next month. Each grade level writes, directs, choreographs, and designs and builds the set for a 20 minutes skit. Student participation is extremely high and the audience is always packed. She invited the board to come to one of the performances. She also shared a recent event hosted by the new social justice alliance group. They got a donation of 200 carnations and decided to offer an alternative to Valentine's Day. They encouraged students to write a note to someone they appreciate to deliver along with a flower. It was extremely well received by students and another nod to the close-knit school community at CHS.

Porters Point School Principal Carolyn Millham stated her school's PTA meeting was earlier in the night and they are in the final planning stages of their 100 Day Dance that will be held this Friday. It is a big deal for students at the school and a fun tradition. She noted that report cards will also be

sent home on Friday and faculty are gearing up for conferences on March 2nd. They are looking forward to talking to families about the progress their students are making.

IV. Approval for the Purchase & Installation of a New Paging System at CHS **Action**

Superintendent Amy Minor went over a memo from Business and Operations Manager George Trieb regarding the purchase and installation of a new paging system at Colchester High School. The current system is difficult to maintain because it is old and antiquated and there are some features that no longer work. The district has been diligent about applying for grants to put towards this type of project. They successfully secured a safety grant through the State of Vermont, Department of Public Safety in the amount of \$25,000 for the purchase and installation of a new paging system at CHS. Directory Kieny asked if the school day would be disrupted by the work. Technology Director Pam Barclay stated they will work during the upcoming school breaks and will make a strong effort to minimize any disruptive work until after dismissal at 2:20 p.m. Board Chair Rogers asked the superintendent to bring an updated list of maintenance projects similar to this that are on the horizon.

Director Kieny moved to approve the purchase and implementation of a new paging system by Twinstate at CHS, part of which will be paid for by a \$25K grant from the State of Vermont, and to authorize the Business and Operations Manager to execute the necessary documents to make it happen, seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

V. First Reading of Management of Policies Policy: A1 **Action**

This policy was last reviewed in 2014. It was brought before the board as part of the policy revision cycle. Aside from being aesthetically reformatted, there were a handful of content changes including adding the definition of a policy and adjusting the review cycle of each policy to the district's current practice of every five years. Director Kieny asked to clarify the timeframe in which the public should expect updated policies to be posted to the website after the board approves them.

Director Taylor moved to approve the first reading of the Management of Policies Policy: A1, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VI. First Reading of Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Americans with Disabilities Act. Policy for Non-discrimination on the Basis of Disability Policy: F27 **Action**

This policy was last reviewed in 2000. It was brought before the board as part of the policy revision cycle. There were no content changes other than formatting the headers to be consistent with other district policies. The board did not request any additional changes.

Director Taylor moved to approve the first reading of the Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Americans with Disabilities Act. Policy for Non-discrimination on the Basis of Disability Policy: F27, seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VII. First Reading of Non-resident Students Policy: F17 **Action**

This policy was last reviewed in 2018. It was brought before to the board as a result of the administrative team working on revisions to the district's attendance policy (F30). When reviewing the attendance policy, they found that it outlines eligibility for kindergarten, first grade, and transfer

students. Since these components apply to students who have not yet enrolled, it was determined that they should not be a part of the attendance policy. After careful consideration of a more appropriate place to put enrollment information, they decided on the non-resident student policy since it already addresses admission to schools in Colchester. The new draft version of this policy has more inclusive language regarding the different types of admission and it has been renamed to “Admission of Students”.

Director Kieny moved that we approve the first reading of Admission of Students policy: F17, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

VIII. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda

Action

Superintendent Minor highlighted that the district was able to successfully hire four paraeducators but also received two resignations.

PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**Board Date: February 18, 2020****REVISED****Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)**

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Ann Carol	Moffett	End of Employment	Special Education Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to end Employment effective June 30, 2020			Yes
Teacher	Hilary	Carter	End of Employment	English Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to end Employment effective June 30, 2020			Yes
Teacher	Kara	Pawlusiak	Leave of Absence	Guidance Counselor	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request Leave of Absence from approximately 06/01/20-End of School year			

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	Jessy	Lamphere	Transfer	Behavior Interventionist	35	UMS	Notice of Transfer		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Matthew	Nerbak	New Hire	Paraeducator-Special Education	32.5	MBS	Notice of Hire	Dorothea Alter	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Angela	Hoguet	End of Employment	Paraeducator-Special Education	32.5	UMS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Debra	Campbell	End of Employment	Paraeducator-Bus	15	MBS	Notice of End of Employment		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Chelsea	Audette	New Hire	Paraeducator - Bus	15	MBS	Notice of Hire	Deb Campbell	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Renee	McLaughlin	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	UMS	Notice of Hire	Angela Hoguet	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Kaitlin	Hodge	New Hire	Paraeducator-Special Education	32.5	CHS	Notice of Hire		Yes	Yes

Director White moved to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda as provided. Seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

IX. Approval of General Meeting Minutes: February 4, 2020 Action

Director Taylor moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 4, 2020, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

X. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: February 10, 2020 Action

Director White moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 10, 2020, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

XI. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: February 17, 2020 Action

Director Kienny moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 17, 2020, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

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

- Water collection for lead testing has been completed. The district has not received any results yet.
- The district's solar project is up and running and the first credits were just received.
- Board Chair Rogers will not be present for the next two meetings. Since he will miss Director White's last meeting, he shared how pleased and grateful he is of Director White's eight years of service to the school board. He spoke to his commitment, involvement, professionalism and overall value to the community. He thanked him for the work he has done to better our community and the schools. Director White said it has been an honor to work with an amazing team and that he has been glad to be a part of it.

XIII. Future Agenda Items Informational

- Audit Report
- Contract Renewals
- Continued Policy Work
- Lead Testing Results
- 2020-2021 School Year Calendar
- Presentation from Rachel Cohen: Rowland Fellowship

XIV. Executive Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations Action


Director White made a motion to enter executive session at 7:38 p.m. for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Director Taylor moved to exit executive session at 8:47 p.m., seconded by Director Kienny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

XV. Adjournment

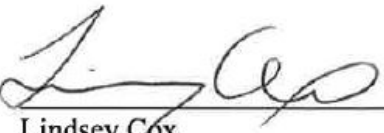
Director Taylor made a motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. seconded by Director Cox. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Recorder:



Meghan Baue
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Lindsey Cox
Board Clerk