

# COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting, Special Meeting  
Remote Meeting

Monday, August 24, 2020  
7:00 a.m.

## MINUTES

The Colchester Board of Education held a Special Board Meeting on Monday, August 24, 2020. Governor Scott signed H.681 into law in March of 2020, making temporary changes to Vermont's Open Meeting Law. Part of those changes allow school districts to hold school board meetings remotely with no designated meeting location. Those in attendance of the remote meeting were: Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Craig Kieny, Lindsey Cox, Curt Taylor, and Nic Longo; Superintendent Amy Minor and Business and Operations Manager George Trieb.

### I. Call Meeting to Order

Board Chair Mike Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

### II. Operational Needs Discussion: Employee Childcare

### Action

The board discussed the Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) allocated to Vermont by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES). The CRF funds are intended to be used by school districts to reimburse eligible costs incurred or that will be incurred in FY'20 and FY'21 due to COVID-19. The board reviewed the list of eligible items and discussed which items the district would be seeking reimbursement for.

With all regional school districts opening in a hybrid model, providing childcare for CSD employees that are required to work in-person four days a week quickly became a critical component in adequately staffing the schools. The Family First Coronavirus Act (FFCRA) provides leave time for school district employees who are unable to find childcare. Without reliable childcare offered to employees, it is possible employees would need to take leave which would require the district to fill that position. The district's work force is essential in the reopening of school and finding childcare for employees is crucial to providing a strong educational experience for students this fall.

Colchester Parks and Recreation (CPR) will be offering an in-person learning day program for grades K-5 for their assigned remote learning days. The program will offer two- or three-day options that will follow the school calendar. CPR agreed to open the program up to CSD employees first to ensure that any teachers or support staff who needed childcare, could get it. They will open it up to families on Wednesday, August 26.

With several neighboring districts covering the cost of childcare for their employees, the board engaged in a discussion about doing the same for CSD employees.

*Director Taylor moved to enable CSD to contribute funds to any municipality run child care program reimbursable under coronavirus relief funding for the period during which CSD is providing a hybrid model of education, seconded by Director Longo. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

**III. Adjournment**

*Director Cox moved to adjourn at 7:57 a.m., seconded by Director Kieny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

Recorder:



Amy Minor  
Superintendent of Schools

Board Clerk:



Lindsey Cox  
Board Clerk