

# COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Remote Meeting

Tuesday, May 4, 2021  
7:00 p.m.

## MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Governor Scott signed H.681 into law, 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. LCATV provided coverage through a live stream and citizens were provided online and telephone options to participate in the meeting. Those in attendance were Directors: Craig Kieny, Lindsey Cox, Nic Longo, Laurie Kigonya, and Ben Yousey-Hindes; Superintendent Amy Minor; Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli; Business and Operations Manager George Trieb; Principals Michele Cote, Jordan Burke, Chris Antonicci and Carolyn Millham; and Attorney Heather Lynn of Lynn, Lynn, Blackman & Manitsky, P.C.

### I. Call to Order

Board Chair Craig Kieny called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### II. Citizen Participation

None.

### III. Hear Title IX Presentation by Attorney Heather Lynn Informational

Attorney Heather Lynn from Lynn, Lynn, Blackman & Manitsky provided the board with an overview of the changes to the federal Title IX law.

### IV. First Reading of Prevention of Sexual Harassment as Prohibited by Title IX Policy Action

This is a new policy that was created by the Vermont School Board Insurance Trust (VSBIT) in response to changes to the federal Title IX law. Attorney Heather Lynn from Lynn, Lynn, Blackman & Manitsky crafted the model policy and was present at the meeting to answer several clarifying questions from the board.

*Director Cox moved to approve the first reading of Prevention of Sexual Harassment as Prohibited by Title IX Policy. The motion passed unanimously.*

### V. Approval of Contract Agreement with Colchester Education Association Support Staff Action

Director Longo gave an overview of the two-year contract agreed upon by both parties. In addition to some language changes, non-instructional support staff will receive an average salary increase of 3.6% and educational support staff will receive an average salary increase of 3%. The Support Staff Unit ratified the agreement prior the school board meeting.

*Director Kigonya moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement with the Colchester Education Association Support Staff Unit for the years 2021-2023 as outlined. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VI. Approval of New Roof at CMS Action**

The district has been replacing the roof at CMS in sections to minimize the annual expenditure. This is the last section of the project. Business and Operations Manager George Trieb provided the board with bids from three companies and a diagram of the roof. The district has worked with all three companies and the board agreed to take the most competitive bid.

*Director Longo moved to accept the bid from A.C. Hathorne Company and authorized the Business and Operations Manager to execute the necessary documents to make it happen. The motion passed unanimously.*

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

As part of the board's ongoing policy work, they will be reviewing policies related to fiscal management over the next six months. This policy was recently reviewed in 2019, but offers an important overview that provides foundational knowledge for reviewing the other financial policies included in the Business and Non-Instruction Operations section of the policy manual. Business and Operations Manager George Trieb did not recommend any changes.

*Director Cox moved to approve the first reading of the Fiscal and Business Management Policy: E1. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VIII. COVID-19 Update Informational**

Superintendent Amy Minor noted that this week is nationally recognized as Teacher Appreciation Week. In Colchester, the district celebrates all school employees; recognizing the many contributions employees makes to their schools. Given the unusual nature of this year, she expressed gratitude to the families, students and parent organizations who are making this week special for school staff.

Employees in the district have had the opportunity to participate in voluntary COVID-19 surveillance testing for the past five months. The Agency of Education (AOE) announced that with the high percentage of vaccinated school staff, they will be suspending surveillance testing statewide. Superintendent Minor then gave an overview of COVID-19 case data in the district. There were eight cases in April which is in line with the monthly average throughout the winter and early spring.

Superintendent Minor outlined the learning environment changes taking place in each school in response to guidance changes from the AOE. The changes will go into effect on May 10th and last through the final five weeks of school. The District Leadership Team is already looking ahead to the fall and is hopeful that all students will be in school five days a week for in-person learning. While the guidance for the fall is not out yet, Superintendent Minor is anticipating a mask requirement and the possibility for distancing requirements. The AOE is aiming to have a first version of next year's school guidance by the end of May.

On May 25, the district will host the final session in its five-part virtual Family Night series. The topic is Promoting Independence in Children and will be facilitated by CSD Behavior Specialists Jayme Gaudet and Dan Gaudet.

**IX. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda**

**Action**

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

**PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**

**Board Meeting Date: May 4, 2021**

**REVISED**

**Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)**

<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>FTE/Hours</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Agenda Information</b>	<b>Person Replacing</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Admin Support</b>
Teacher	Daniel	Leonard	New Hire	Music Teacher, Long-Term Substitute	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Bridgette Tozzi	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Megan	Talbot	New Hire	Spanish Teacher	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Meghan Tiernan Fisher	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Abigail	Markowski	New Hire	Math Teacher	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	John Helme/Nicholas Corrigan	Yes	Yes
Individual Contract	Lindsey	Campion	Transfer	Nurse Supervisor	1.0 FTE	CHS/DW	Notice of Transfer	Deborah Deschamps	Yes	Yes
Individual Contract	Moriah	McCullagh	Transfer	Nurse Supervisor	1.0 FTE	CHS/DW	Notice of Transfer	Deborah Deschamps	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Timothy	Lynch	New Hire	Math Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	Julie Rutz	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Conor	O'Loughlin	New Hire	Science Teacher - One Year Only	0.2 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	Marijke Reilly	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Tara	Sharkey	Leave of Absence	Math Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request Leave of Absence for 20/21 School Year			Yes
Teacher	Tara	Sharkey	New Hire	Math Instructional Coach - Middle Grades	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Ashley	Laurent Marlow	Leave of Absence	Elementary Teacher	1.0 FTE	MBS	Request Leave of Absence for 20/21 School Year			Yes
Teacher	Ashley	Laurent Marlow	New Hire	Math Instructional Coach - Elementary Grades	1.0 FTE	MBS	Request to Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Lisa	Ryan	New Hire	Alternative Education Teacher	1.0 FTE	CAP/CHS	Request to Hire	Miriam Mahar	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Jillian	Mori	New Hire	Math Teacher - One Year Only	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	Tara Sharkey	Yes	Yes

**Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), *Informational***

<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>FTE/Hours</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Agenda Information</b>	<b>Person Replacing</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Admin Support</b>
Co-Curricular	Jaclyn	Dixon	New Hire	Head Girls Cross Country Coach		CHS	Notice of Hire	Cheryl Aley	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Mapigano	Karubandika	Transfer	Custodian	40	UMS	Notice of Transfer	Maxwell Howard	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Emily	LaCroix	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	UMS	Notice of Hire	Sarah Thompson	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Ginger	Grout	End of Employment	Food Service Worker	30	MBS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Erin	McIntyre	End of Employment	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Debbie	Bannister	Transfer	Food Service Worker	36.25	MBS	Notice of Transfer	Ginger Grout	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Alexis	Currie	New Hire	Assistant Track & Field Coach		CMS	Notice of Hire	open position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Lynsey	Hartshorn	End of Employment	Payroll Specialist	40	CO	Notice of End of Employment			Yes

*Director Cox moved to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda for May 4, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.*

**X. Approval of Meeting Minutes: April 6, 2021 Action**

*Director Longo moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 6, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.*

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

- Upcoming board retreat agenda planning

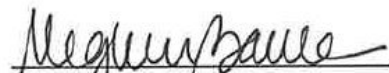
**XII. Future Agenda Items Informational**

- COVID-19 updates and recovery planning
- Policy work
- Quarterly financial and special education reports

**XIII. Adjournment**

*Director Cox moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.*

Recorder:

  
Meghan Baule  
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:

  
Nie Longo  
Board Clerk