

## COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, November 1, 2022  
7:00 p.m.

### MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Board Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Felix Anderson, Laurie Kigonya and Student Board Representative Olivia Dallamura. District administrators and employees in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Business and Operations Manager George Trieb, Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz. There were three Colchester School District employees in the audience.

#### I. Call to Order

Board Chair Lindsey Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### II. Citizen Participation

None.

#### III. Food Services Presentation

#### Information

The Director of Food Services Steve Davis and Business and Operations Manager George Trieb provided the board with a summary of the food service program. The FY22 program finished the year with a surplus which is a direct result of universal free meals. Federal funding allowed all districts in the nation to offer breakfast and lunch for free for all students during COVID. That funding was not offered for this school year, but the State of Vermont agreed to continue funding student meals at the state level. It is unknown if this funding for universal meals will continue in future years, but Mr. Davis was hopeful it will continue citing discussion at both the state and federal level.

The FY23 budget shows increases in both revenue and expenses with a projected surplus of \$64K. This surplus is also attributed to universal meals. Universal meals have increased the number of students eating the meals provided by the school which has invigorated the program. At CHS, participation has doubled. Districtwide, about 50% of students are now eating school breakfast and 70% are eating lunch. He stated that the increased participation has reduced the stigma of eating a school-provided meal and has subsequently created a different and hugely positive atmosphere in the cafeteria. The stigma of eating a school-provided meal has basically disappeared because nearly everyone is eating a meal. Students have also become more engaged with the kitchen staff, sharing their opinions and suggestions on food choices. He said they are enjoying hearing from the students and are working to give them options that they enjoy.

He went on to say that the success of having more students enjoying school meals has also led to some challenges, particularly with staffing. As with many industries, the program has struggled to hire and retain employees, both full time and substitutes, which leaves the current employees

shorthanded and often overburdened. He also stated he struggles to compete with higher wages offered by competing food service entities.

**IV. First Reading of Student Activity Account Policy: E4** Action

This policy was reviewed as part of CSD policy revision cycle. Business and Operations Manager George Trieb did not recommend any significant changes to the policy. He stated the policy is used often and has served the district well.

*Director Anderson moved to approve the first reading of the Student Activity Account Policy: E4. The motion passed unanimously.*

**V. Second and Final Reading of HIPAA Policy: D15** Action

This policy was reviewed as part of the CSD policy revision cycle. There were no additional changes requested since the first reading.

*Director Kigonya moved to approve the second and final reading of the HIPAA Policy: D15. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VI. Second and Final Reading of Corporal Punishment Policy: F28** Action

This policy was reviewed as part of the CSD policy revision cycle. There were no changes recommended to this policy, however, the Vermont School Board Association (VSBA) no longer has a corporal punishment policy in their model policy manual. The VSBA deemed it was not necessary since corporal punishment has not been used in schools for decades and it is already prohibited by state statute (Title 33 Human Services, Chapter 035 Child Care, Section 3503 and Title 16 Education, Chapter 025 Attendance and Discipline). The board agreed with the VSBA's rationale for no longer having a corporal punishment policy and agreed to also remove it from the district's policy manual.

*Director Longo moved to remove the Corporal Punishment Policy: F28 from the CSD Policy Manual. The motion passed unanimously.*

**VII. Approval of Consent Agenda** Action

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**Board Meeting Date: November 1, 2022**

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Maureen	Vachereau	End of Employment	Literacy Specialist	1.0 CMS		Request to end Employment effective June 30, 2023			

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Board Approval Required										
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	Robert	King	New Hire	Special Ed Driver	30 DW		Notice of Hire	Martin Welsh	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Caitlin	Beaupre	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5 UMS		Notice of Hire	Caroline Chagnon	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Christopher	Coleman	Termination	Behavior Interventionist	35 MBS		Notice of Termination			
Support Staff	Amissi	Munyugu	Resignation	Custodian	40 MBS		Notice of Resignation			
Support Staff	Pamela	Leopold	New Hire	Food Service Worker	22.5 CHS		Notice of Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes

*Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the Consent Agenda as provided. The motion unanimously.*

**VIII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: October 18, 2022** Action

*Director Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on October 18, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.*

**IX. Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 18, 2022** Action

*Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 18, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.*

**X. Board/Administration Communication, Correspondence, Committee Reports** Information

- The board will have a retreat to discuss facilities on November 29 at 5:30 pm.

**XI. Future Agenda Items** Information

- FY24 budget timeline
- Presentation on early release days
- Continuation of policy review

**XII. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations** Action

*Director Longo moved to enter executive session at 7:39 p.m. to discuss negotiations. The motion passed unanimously.*

**XIII. Adjournment**

*Director Yousey-Hindes moved to exit executive session and adjourn at 9:24 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.*

Recorder:



Meghan Baule  
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:



Ben Yousey-Hindes  
Board Clerk