

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, March 21, 2023
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Felix Anderson, Laurie Kigonya, and Student Board Representative Olivia Dallamura. District administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor, Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli, and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz. There were no audience members.

I. Call to Order

Superintendent Amy Minor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Citizen Participation

None.

III. Hear Nominations for School Board Reorganization and Approval of Newspaper of Record

Action

Nominations were held for school board chair, vice chair, and clerk, as well as the official newspaper of record.

Director Longo moved to nominate Lindsey Cox as Board Chair. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to nominate Nic Longo as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Director Anderson moved to nominate Ben Yousey-Hindes as Board Clerk. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve The Colchester Sun as the official newspaper for the district for legal notices. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

IV. Second and Final Reading of School Board Policy: B1

Action

No changes were made.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the second and final reading of the School Board Policy: B1. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Second and Final Reading of Code of Ethics for School Board Members Policy: B2 Action

No changes were made.

Director Longo moved to approve the second and final reading of the Code of Ethics for School Board Members Policy: B2. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. First Reading of Family/Parental and Medical Leave Policy: D14 Information

The Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is a federal law that requires employers to provide employees with job-protected, unpaid leave for qualified medical and family reasons. To prepare for this policy review, the district's attorneys made several additions to keep the district compliant with federal and state laws. Their changes include adding various types of qualifying leave for current and veteran service members and their family members.

The Vermont School Board Association does not have a policy in its manual regarding FMLA. If the law were to change, it would supersede any local policy. Superintendent Minor recommended removing this policy from the district's policy manual and instead making it an accessible procedural document managed by the human resources department. That department regularly navigates FMLA qualifications and eligibility when consulting with employees.

The board was supported of this recommendation and asked some clarifying questions about how employees would be notified of the change.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the first reading of the Family/Parental and Medical Leave Policy: D14. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Approval of Recommendation for Administrator Contract Renewals 2023-2024 Action

Superintendent Amy Minor provided the board with an updated memo outlining the contracts that she recommends renewing for the FY'24 school year.

Director Longo moved to approve the recommended administrator contracts for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Approval of Recommendation for Teacher Contract Renewals 2023-2024 Action

Superintendent Amy Minor provided the board with a memo outlining the contracts that she recommends renewing for the FY'24 school year.

Director moved to approve the recommended teacher contracts for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion passed 3-0, with Board Chair Cox and Director Anderson abstaining.

IX. Approval of School Calendar 2023-2024 Action

Superintendent Amy Minor outlined the draft calendar for next school year. The calendar is based on the contract agreement which indicates there will be 176 student days, 8 in-service days, 1 teacher prep day, and 2 family conference days for a total of 187 days. New this year, the calendar reflects several days when the district will not hold afternoon or evening events in observance of

several holidays. This addition was a regional decision among area superintendents and other district's calendars will reflect the same change. Superintendent Minor stated this is the first step that Superintendents in the region are taking to have a more inclusive school calendar to demonstrate a commitment to multi-cultural observances that are important to students and families. Also included on the calendar were four early release days. Superintendent Minor stated the early release days continue to be a success for professional development. She also noted that Colchester Parks and Recreation agreed to continue to offer childcare for K-5 students.

Director Anderson moved to approve the four early release days in the 2023-2024 calendar as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Approval of Consent Agenda	Action
--------------------------------------	---------------

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board. Several employees have announced their resignations. Superintendent Minor, district administrators, and the Board expressed gratitude for their service to the district.

CONSENT AGENDA
Board Meeting Date: March 21, 2023

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Hannah	Mavin	New Hire	SLP	1.0 PPS, MBS	Request to Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Courtney	Thomas	New Hire	Math Interventionist	0.5 UMS	Request to Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Courtney	Thomas	Resignation	Elementary Teacher	1.0 UMS	Request to end employment 06/30/23	Courtney Thomas	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Brooke	Morse	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.0 UMS	Request to Hire	Request to end employment 06/30/23			
Teacher	James	Bean	Resignation	Elementary Teacher	1.0 MBS	Request to Hire	Request to end employment 06/30/23			
Teacher	Kelly	Ryan	New Hire	Reading Teacher	1.0 PPS	Request to Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Kelly	Ryan	Resignation	Elementary Teacher	1.0 PPS	Request to Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Courtney	Boetsma	New Hire	Drivers Education Teacher	0.1 CHS	Request to Hire	Request to end employment 06/30/23			
Teacher	Emily	Desautels	Resignation	Music Teacher	1.0 CMS	Request to Hire	Request to end employment 06/30/23			
Teacher	Tessa	MacNeil	Leave of Absence	Special Education Teacher	1.0 PPS	Request for unpaid leave of absence (mid-Nov through June 2024)				
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										
Handbook	Kim	Newton	Resignation	Accounts Payable Bookkeeper	40 CO	Technology Directory	1.0 DW	Request to end employment 06/30/23		
Handbook	Pam	Barclay	Resignation	Head Varsity Softball Coach	CHS	Notice of Hire	Connie Sheets	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Angie	Boyer	New Hire	JV Baseball Coach (split)	CHS	Notice of Hire	Ryan O'Hara	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	John	Luter	New Hire	JV Baseball Coach (split)	CHS	Notice of Hire	Ryan O'Hara	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Jason	Lefebvre	New Hire	Long-Term Sub Food Service Worker	25 PPS	Notice of Hire	Barbara Laria	Yes	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Mary	Nolan	New Hire							

Director Kingonya moved to approve the consent agenda as provided. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Approval of Meeting Minutes: March 7, 2023 Action

Director Anderson moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 7, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- Superintendent Minor will provide information about student enrollment at the April 4th meeting of the Colchester Planning Commission.
- Consultants, Black River Design, met with middle school administrators and toured the building. Superintendent Minor requested the Board add a facility work session in May to hear a status update.
- Representatives from the Town agreed to meet with the Board share feedback regarding the information campaign they conducted that resulted in the approval of the Colchester Recreation Center.
- Director Yousey-Hindes thanked the community and everyone who voted on Town Meeting Day.

XIII. Future Agenda Items Information

- Auditors Report
- Policy Review Cycle

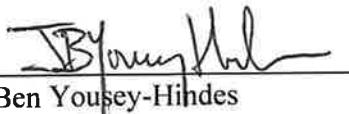
XIV. Adjournment

Board Chair Cox moved to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:


Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:


Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk