

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, August 3, 2021
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, August 3, 2021, in the Colchester High School Library. Those in attendance were Board Chair Craig Kieny, Directors Laurie Kigonya and Ben Yousey-Hindes. Director Lindsey Cox attended via phone. District administrators in attendance included Superintendent Amy Minor and Director of Curriculum Gwendolyn Carmolli. There was one person in the audience.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Citizen Participation

Colchester resident and parent, Toni Josey, expressed her deep appreciation that the board is actively working to address inequities in the district. She expressed that their duty should remain focused on students in the district and shared her gratitude that the board is leading the district by example.

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

This policy was recently reviewed by the board, however, the Vermont Legislature has since approved H.426 (Act 72) and the Governor approved the bill in June. The bill changes the dollar amount for purchases that require board approval from \$15,000 to \$40,000. This amount has not been adjusted since 1968. Section X of this policy was edited to reflect the statute change. No other changes were made.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the first reading of policy E1: Fiscal and Business Management. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. First Reading of Policy E5: Travel and Expenses Action

This policy was adopted in 2014. There were a few grammar adjustments and one recommended language change regarding meal reimbursement. Director Yousey-Hindes asked if any other controls were monitoring travel-related expenditures. Superintendent Amy Minor shared that in addition to expense-related language in union agreements, there is a dedicated travel and expense request process that goes through at least two supervisors before approval.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the first reading of policy E5: Travel and Expenses. The motion passed unanimously.

V. First Reading of Policy E10: Donations Action

There were no recommended changes to this policy. It was last reviewed in 2019 and has worked well for the district. Director Yousey-Hindes requested the language in some areas be stronger. He also asked for clarification on how actions under this policy would be vetted for conflict of interest concerns.

Director Kigonya moved to approve the first reading of policy E10: Donations. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda

Action

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board. This district has several positions that are still open and Superintendent Minor encouraged community members looking for employment to visit www.csdvt.org/jobs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: August 3, 2021

REVISED

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Angela	D'Amico	New Hire	Special Ed Teacher	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Alexis	Wells	New Hire	School Psychologist	1.0 FTE	DW	Request to Hire	Andy Fulton	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Martin	Burnod	New Hire	Social Studies Long Term Sub	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	Ben Beaudoin	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Eric	Spencer	New Hire	Social Studies Long Term Sub	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	Emma Morrissey	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Ally	Middleton	New Hire	Math Long Term Sub	1.0 FTE	CHS	Request to Hire	Jackie Dixon	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Nick	Corrigan	New Hire	PE Long Term Sub	1.0 FTE	CMS	Request to Hire	Julie Wockenfuss	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Taylor	Houston	End of Employment	Reading Teacher	1.0 FTE	PPS	Request to End Employment effective June 30, 2021		Yes	

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
Support Staff	Ann	Larkin	Leave of Absence	Paraeducator	32.5	CHS	Request Leave of Absence Aug. 19 through Sept. 6			
Support Staff	Gail	Stone	Leave of Absence	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Request Leave of Absence Sept. 8 through approx. Oct. 18			

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	Mark	Jacobs	New Hire	Behavior Int. SEL	29.5	CHS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Michelle	DeVarney	New Hire	Para SLP	32.5	CMS	Notice of Hire	Danielle Cote	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Melissa	Conchieri	New Hire	Certified Occupational Therapist	40	MBS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Rachel	Gavin	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Notice of Hire	Nancy Mock	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Krittiya	Clark	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Notice of Hire	Parker Cadwell	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Nicole	DeOrsey	New Hire	Behavior Int.	35	UMS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Emily	Kayoi	New Hire	EL Para	32.5	CMS	Notice of Hire	Isabel Sanchez	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Shana	Carlson	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	CMS	Notice of Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Martin	Burnod	New Hire	Girls Cross Country Coach		CHS	Notice of Hire	Jackie Dixon	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Morgan	McNall	New Hire	Behavior Int.	35	CMS	Notice of Hire	Hunter Stark	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Melissa	Nutting	New Hire	Title I Tutor	32.5	UMS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Erica	Lovejoy	New Hire	Secretary	40	CHS	Notice of Hire	Phyllis Etienne	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Veronica	Palermo	New Hire	Para SLP	32.5	PPS	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Kathleen	O'Keefe	New Hire	Paraeducator	32.5	PPS	Notice of Hire	Erin McIntyre	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Jeffrey	Martin	New Hire	Behavior Int.	35	MBS	Notice of Hire	Open Position	Yes	Yes

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

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Co-Curricular	Gabrielle	Brooks	New Hire	Assistant Cross Country Coach		CHS	Notice of Hire	Jackie Dixon	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Carmelie	Campos	New Hire	JV Field Hockey Coach		CHS	Notice of Hire	Julie Wockenfuss	Yes	Yes
Co-Curricular	Jeremy	LaRoche	New Hire	Drama Director		CHS	Notice of Hire	Owen Leavey	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Rowan	Post	New Hire	Cafeteria Monitor	15	CMS	Notice of Hire	Angela Plumb	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Timothy	Santimore	New Hire	Communication and Transportation Coordinator	40	CO	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes

Director Kigonya moved to approve the Consent Agenda for August 3, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 22, 2021 Action

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 22, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Admission of Student Request Action

Superintendent Amy Minor gave an overview of policy F17: Admission of Students which outlines the criteria for students to attend school in the Colchester School District. Board Chair Kienny proposed moving into executive session for this agenda item because he believed the discussion could include protected information about a specific student.

Director Kigonya moved to enter executive session at 7:22 p.m. for the purpose of discussing specific student information. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Kigonya moved to exit executive session at 7:46 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to deny the request to allow the non-resident petitioner's children to attend CSD without the payment of tuition on the grounds that it does not comply with Vermont residency law or CSD Policy F17: Admission of Students. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Tuition Request Action

A Colchester resident requested the board to pay tuition for their student to attend Burlington School District for various reasons outlined in an email. Following a discussion by the board, it was decided that Superintendent Minor and the building principal would speak with the family directly to address their concerns. Director Cox encouraged offering the family several resources including access to the district's diversity, equity, and inclusion coordinator and the option to engage in a restorative justice process.

Director Kigonya moved to deny the request for CSD to pay tuition for a Colchester resident to attend another district on the grounds that it does not comply with Vermont residency law or CSD Policy F17: Admission of Students. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- CHS alumni are hosting a jazz concert at Lower Bayside Park on 8/6 at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to the Colchester Food Shelf.
- The district leases the space the currently houses the Colchester Alternative Program (CAP) and the building was recently listed for sale. The current lease ends on June 30, 2022. If it sells, it is unknown if the new owner will renew another lease to the district. This creates a need to accelerate the timeline for a board retreat connected to facilities. That retreat will take place Tuesday, August 31 at Central Office.

- The Governor’s weekly press conference covered guidance for the upcoming school year. The Agency of Education in collaboration with the Vermont Department of Health shared a preview of some of the advisory recommendations that will be released later in the week. Once the written guidance is released, the district will create a comprehensive guide for families and employees that will explain how the state-level guidance will be implemented in Colchester schools.

XI. Future Agenda Items

Informational

- Summer school outcomes
- Food service presentation
- Policy work

XII. Adjournment

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:

Board Clerk:

Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Nic Longo
Board Clerk