

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Colchester High School Library

Tuesday, May 3, 2022
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, in the Colchester High School Library. Board members in attendance were Board Chair Lindsey Cox, Board Directors Nic Longo, Ben Yousey-Hindes, Laurie Kigonya, and Felix Anderson, and Student Board Representative Gloria Kigonya. District administrators 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 no audience members.

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

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. Approval of Purchase for Classroom Audio Amplification System

Action

The district has been working with the University of Vermont and Dr. Margaret Overman, an educational audiologist, to explore universal classroom supports for auditory processing and attention. Director of Student Support Services, Carrie Lutz, explained how the district is hoping to use federal grant dollars to outfit each classroom in the district with an auditory system to amplify the teacher's voice. Not only will it increase the access of learners with auditory or attention challenges, but the improvements will benefit all learners. Audio amplification systems allow students to hear more clearly throughout the classroom and reduce the amount of repetition and missed instruction. After comparing two systems with Dr. Overman, Ms. Lutz recommended moving forward with the product from Phonak as it will best meet the needs of the district at a lower per-unit price.

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to approve the recommended purchase for classroom audio amplification systems as provided and authorized the Director of Student Support Services to finalize the necessary purchase and grant paperwork for the purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Consolidated Federal Programs & IDEA-B Grant and Assurances

Action

Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Gwen Carmolli, and Director of Special Education, Carrie Lutz, provided an overview of the official allocations for the Consolidated Federal Programs Grant and the IDEA-B Grant. To apply for these funds, the district must assure that it will comply with federal regulations.

Director Longo moved to authorize the Superintendent to sign the attached assurances and submit the Consolidated Federal Program IDEA-B grants by June 30, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Hear Quarterly Financial Report

Information

Business and Operations Manager, George Trieb, provided an overview of the year-to-date financial report for the district. Revenue and expenditures are tracking mostly as expected. He explained that if the current spending trend continues, the district should expect a slight surplus of \$472,855.

VI. Approval of Proposed 2021-2022 Calendar Change

Action

Vermont statute requires school districts to provide 175 learning days for students. Colchester's school calendar contains an additional student day for a total of 176 student days. This year, because of emergency closings/snow days, the 176th student day now falls on a Monday. A recommendation was made to convert that 176th student day into an in-service day for teachers and educational support staff, allowing students to end the year on a Friday. Teachers would use Monday to finish grading and close out the school year.

Director Anderson moved to authorize the Superintendent to take the necessary steps to make Friday, June 10 the last day of school for students and to convert Monday, June 13 to an in-service day for teachers and educational support staff. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Approval of Consent Agenda

Action

The following Consent Agenda was reviewed by the board. The board had personnel questions regarding the consent agenda that warranted a discussion in executive session. With executive session already on the agenda at the end of the meeting, Board Chair Cox tabled the motion to approve or deny the consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Meeting Date: May 3, 2022

REVISED

Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Ellen	Knowles	Resignation	Speech Language Pathologist	0.60	MBS (PREK)	Request to End Employment 6/30/2022			
Teacher	Gregg	Galati	Transfer	Title I Math Teacher	1.00	MBS	Request to Transfer	Mark Winchester	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Ian	Parker	Resignation	Special Education Teacher	1.00	CMS	Request to End Employment 6/30/2022			
Teacher	Daniel	Leonard	New Hire	General Music/Chorus Teacher	1.00	CMS	Request to Hire	Bridgette Tozzi	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Ashley	Lederc-Pellerin	New Hire	Speech Language Pathologist	1.00	PPS & MBS (PREK)	Request to Hire	New Position / Ellen Knowles	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Courtney	Thomas	Leave of Absence	Elementary Teacher	1.00	UMS	Request Leave of Absence For 2022/2023 School Year			
Teacher	Courtney	Thomas	New Hire	Math Interventionist	0.50	UMS	Request to Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Amanda	Bloom	New Hire	Elementary Teacher	1.00	PPS	Request to Hire	Kelly Ryan	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Megan	Tighe	New Hire	Special Education Teacher	1.00	MBS	Request to Hire	Deanna Walker-Cook	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Alex	Wells	Resignation	School Psychologist	1.00	DW	Request to End Employment 6/30/2022			
Teacher	William	Albright	Resignation	Art Teacher	1.00	CMS	Request to End Employment 6/30/2022			
Teacher	Michael	Bjella	New Hire	General Music/Band Teacher	1.00	CMS	Request to Hire	Emily Desautels	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Suzanne	Abbott	New Hire	School Nurse	1.00	PPS	Request to Hire	Lindsey Campion	Yes	Yes
Admin	Jean	Shea	New Hire	Director of Instructional Support Services	1.00	DW	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Teacher	Jessica	Murray	Resignation	504 Coordinator	1.00	CHS	Request to End Employment 6/30/2022			

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	Jerrica	Robare	Leave of Absence	Paraeducator	32.50	CMS	Request leave of absence May 10, 2022 - May 18, 2022			

Non-Licensed Employees (Support Staff), Informational										
Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Individual Contract	Jayne	Gaudet	New Hire	SEL Coordinator	1.00	DW	Notice of Hire	New Position	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Allison	McCuin	New Hire	Food Service Worker	22.50	CMS	Notice of Hire	Donna Thompson	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Henry	Makuba	Resignation	Custodian	40.00	UMS	Notice of Resignation			

VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes: April 5, 2022 **Action**

Director Kigonya moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 5, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes: April 26, 2022 **Action**

Director Anderson moved to approve the special meeting minutes from the meeting held on April 26, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- The CSD Art Show will be held in the CHS gym next week, May 9-13.
- CHS is honored and privileged to host the Vermont All-State Music Festival and its approximately 350 participants from around the state at the end of the week.
- The renovations at the new Colchester Alternative Program are well underway and on schedule to be ready to receive students in August.
- Superintendent Amy Minor and Director of Student Support Services Carrie Lutz are both serving on the interview committee for the next director of the Burlington Technical Center.
- The board will need to decide a date for an upcoming retreat focused on district facility needs.

XI. Future Agenda Items **Informational**

- Board Meeting Calendar and Retreat Dates
- Summer Student Programs
- Kindergarten Enrollment Update
- Policy Work

XII. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations and a Personnel Matter **Action**

Director Yousey-Hindes moved to enter executive session at 7:44 p.m. to discuss negotiations and a personnel matter.

Director Kigonya moved to exit executive session at 8:21 p.m.

Director Longo moved to approve the licensed employee changes and to deny the non-licensed employee board approval section of the Consent Agenda dated May 2, 2022.

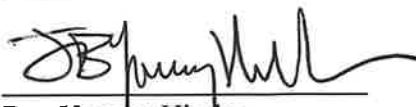
XIII. Adjournment

Director Anderson moved to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorder:


Meghan Baule
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:


Ben Yousey-Hindes
Board Clerk