

## COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Colchester High School Media Center

Tuesday, November 20, 2018  
7:00 p.m. (General Session)

### MINUTES (General Session)

The Colchester Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, at the Colchester High School Media Center. Those in attendance were Board Chair Mike Rogers; Directors: Lincoln White, Craig Kieny, Curt Taylor and Lindsey Cox; Student Representative Sophia Brigante; Superintendent Amy Minor; Director of Special Education Carrie Lutz; Director of Curriculum and Instruction Gwen Carmolli; and Principals Michele Cote, Jordan Burke, and Chris Antonicci.

There was 1 community member in attendance.

#### **I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

#### **II. Citizen Participation**

None.

#### **III. Report from Building Principals**

#### **Information**

UMS Principal Chris Antonicci shared that they had a really good turnout for family conferences this year. They normally see about 85% participation. The UMS Holiday Sing-A-Long is coming up and will be streamed live on Facebook.

MBS Principal Jordan Burke gave thanks to Shearer Chevrolet who recently sponsored an assembly called Sweethearts and Heroes. The presentation was focused on bullying prevention and it was very well received and impactful to students and staff alike. The month of December will focus on kindness and gratitude throughout the school and PreK will be hosting a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald house.

CMS Principal Michele Cote said her school is also focusing on kindness during the month of December. They will be hosting events and activities to help kids better understand hazing, harassment, and bullying. Speaker John Halligan, who lost his son Ryan to suicide after he was bullied online will tell Ryan's story to students during the day and speak to parents in the evening.

#### **IV. Grades 6-8 School Report: CMS**

#### **Information**

CHS Principal Michele Cote presented the school report for CMS. It included an overview of school enrollment and demographics, behavior data, as well as their work on proficiency-based learning and common instructional practices. She highlighted the positive impact of adding two 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers in response to the large enrollment in that grade. Class sizes are down to 22 or 23 a class as compared to 27 or 28 per class without those new positions.

The middle school is using a new math program this year called Everyday Mathematics. It is the same program MBS uses which should help students as they transition from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The two new 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers have experience with the program. With the old program, Math used to be taught in 50-minute blocks but that is not long enough to teach a full Everyday Mathematics lesson from beginning to end and still have time to do some small group and individual work. Math is now 100 minutes three times a week and 25-30 minutes twice a week. The smaller time blocks are used for targeted curriculum based on individual student needs.

Director White asked what the opportunities are for students who may be advanced in a specific subject and are not being challenged by the curriculum. Principal Cote explained that students can test into upper-level math courses but for the most part, teachers are able to identify and push students who need it. She said as a school they are working to personalize learning so all students can explore and create a path for their own learning. Principal Cote shared an example of a personalized learning project which connected students with the town's parks and recreation department to help purchase trash cans for Thayer Beach. In addition to personalized learning, they are also working to foster community with team and school-wide meetings to help empower students and acknowledge success.

Director White also asked about the current shape of the facilities. Principal Cote said although exterior cosmetics get noticed by community members, she is more concerned with the interior of the building. She pointed out that they are at capacity and space is an issue. She said they need to figure out how to better allocate the existing space since there is another large class coming in from MBS next year.

**V. Second and Final Reading of the Threats and Disruptions to School Operations: F7      Action**

No additional changes or edits were recommended.

*Director Taylor moved to approve the second and final reading of Threats and Disruptions to School Operations Policy, seconded by Director Kienny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

**VI. Approval of Personnel Consent Agenda      Action**

The following Personnel Consent Agenda was presented for November 20, 2018.

**PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA**  
**Board Date: November 20, 2018**

**Licensed Employees (Teacher/Administrator)**

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Teacher	Micaela	Flagg	New Hire	Elementary Teacher, Long-Term Substitute	1.0 FTE	PPS	Request to Hire	Meg Hershman	Yes	Yes

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

Contract Type	First Name	Last Name	Category	Position	FTE/Hours	Building	Agenda Information	Person Replacing	Budgeted	Admin Support
Co-Curricular	Gregory	Murray	New Hire	Ice Hockey Assistant Coach		CHS	Notice of Hire	Chad Dion	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Elizabeth	Cubit	End of Employment	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	CMS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Sonam	Gyalso	New Hire	Custodian	40.0 hr	CHS	Notice of Hire		Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Sonam	Gyalso	End of Employment	Custodian	40.0 hr	CHS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes
Support Staff	Emma	Hoppe	New Hire	Paraeducator - Special Education	32.5 hr	PPS	Notice of Hire	New	Yes	Yes
Support Staff	Anila	Lawrence	End of Employment	Paraeducator/Paraeducator-Special Education	16.25 hr/16.25 hr	PPS	Notice of End of Employment			Yes

*Director Cox moved to approve the personnel consent agenda as provided, seconded by Director Taylor. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

**VII. Approval of Minutes: November 6, 2018 Action**

*Director White moved to approve the minutes of November 6, 2018, seconded by Director Kienny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

**VIII. Approval of Minutes: November 7, 2018 Action**

*Director Kienny moved to approve the minutes of November 7, 2018, seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

**IX. Approval of Minutes: November 13, 2018 Action**

*Director Taylor moved to approve the minutes of November 13, 2018, seconded by Director Kienny. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

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

- Outright Vermont will provide presentations for families and the community in the spring.
- The district will be sending out a communications survey to district families after the holiday break.

**XI. Possible Future Agenda Items Information**

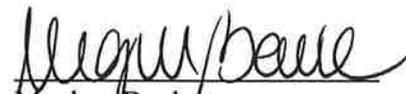
**Future Meetings:**

- Budget Discussions
- Discipline Policies
- District Nursing Report

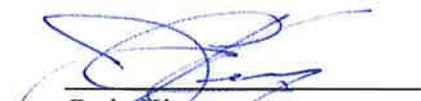
**XII. Adjournment**

*Director Cox made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Director White. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.*

Recorder:

  
Meghan Baule  
Recording Secretary

Board Clerk:

  
Craig Kienny  
Board Clerk