



Board of Education Special Meeting

January 19, 2016 7:30 PM
Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137-B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 7:30 PM:

Present Board Members:

Annaliese Spaziano
Peter Giannotti
Dr. Mike Giordano
Sandra Luke
Lois Ruggiero
Doug Traynor

Absent Board Members:

Kim Buckley

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Absent Board Members:
Kim Buckley

Present Student Representatives:

Lindsay Harden

Absent Student Representatives:

Mike VanNess
Andrew Tessman

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll Call was completed. Additional attendees were Superintendent Jack Cross, Assistant Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell and Business Manager Carolyn Dickey.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

None.

3. Minutes - Approval

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 7, 2015, passed with a motion by Dr. Mike Giordano and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

4. Communications

Discussion:
None.

5. Report of Student Representatives

Discussion:

- Prior to the holiday, the Autism Club had an ugly sweater day to raise funds
- A Girl Empowerment meeting is scheduled for this month
- Students attended a College Life panel (comprised of current college freshmen)
- Mid-terms are this week

6. Introduction of First Selectman: Mr. Bruce Farmer

Discussion:

- B. Farmer thanked the board members for their service
- His role is to help the Board of Education with support and encouragement
- He challenged them to think outside the box and look at other communities
- Within the 18% of the BoE budget with flexibility, he would like to see a zero-based budget
- Market the new high school with its great technology and improved education program to encourage young families to move to town
- Superintendent Cross met with First Selectmen Farmer to make a smooth transition

7. Administrative Reports

7.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

7.A.1. General Update

7.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

7.B.1. Chromebook Initiative and Technology FFE for Morgan

Discussion:

Assistant Superintendent O'Donnell and Technology Director Rossi made a presentation regarding the incorporation of Chromebooks into the learning curriculum. Some key points were:

- The building will have fiber optic and increased band width, hence enhancing the speed
- Standardizes the technology equipment throughout the building
- The Morgan School is being designed as a mobile device environment with charging points and outlets throughout the building
- The new school will have one lab with desktops and four specialty labs
- Every student will be issued a Chromebook for their own use enabling teachers to share information, the student to submit their work and have ownership and management of their device
- Researched the cost difference between the 1 to 1 Chromebook vs the 2 to 1 cart method and the difference was approximately \$17,000
- Through the FFE account there is a 43% reimbursement for the purchase of the Chromebook
- The Chromebook has a battery with a long life (will last the entire school day) and will be on a 5-year replacement schedule

7.B.2. General Update

7.C. Business Manager's Report

7.C.1. Introduction of Annual Town Audit

Discussion:

Introduction of Annual Town Audit:

The Annual Town Audit was distributed with the following:

- o The Financial Statement
- o Federal Single Audit
- o State Single Audit
- o The Management letter was not included in this packet it will be distributed at a later date

After reviewing the material, questions can be sent to C. Dickey and she will discuss them at the next meeting

7.C.2. General Update

7.D. Clinton Celebrates and Monthly Reports

Discussion:

Several highlights were noted.

8. Superintendent's Report

8.A. Expansion of School-Based Health Clinic (Community Health Center)

Discussion:

Mr. Cross provided an update on the current community health care partnership for providing mental health services at Morgan and Eliot as part of the School-based Health Clinic Model. Based on current needs, Mr. Cross hopes to expand the scope of services to Joel and Pierson. He asked for Board support to expand the program at no cost to the Board.

Motion Passed: To approve the expansion of the School-Based Health Clinic passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Dr. Mike Giordano.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

8.B. CAPSS/Regional Legislative Agenda Overview

Discussion:

Superintendents and Legislative representatives are meeting to discuss ideas prior to the passing of bills to eliminate redundancy and unfunded mandates. The next meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2016.

8.C. Audit RFP

Discussion:

The Town is forming a committee to serve in the selection of a new auditing firm. A representative from the Board of Education needs to sit on this committee. M. Giordano volunteered.

8.D. Town Pension Committee (Other Post-Retirement Benefits) - OPEB

Discussion:

A. Spaziano, as chairman of the Board of Education, is the representative on this committee.

8.E. General Update

8.F. Upcoming Events

9. Reports

9.A. Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

9.A.1. Budget & Finance Subcommittee

Discussion:

None.

9.A.2. Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee

Discussion:

None.

9.A.3. Instruction Subcommittee

Discussion:

None.

9.A.4. LEARN

Discussion:

None.

9.A.5. Policy Subcommittee

Discussion:
The January 1, 2016, minutes were submitted.

9.A.6. Public Relations Subcommittee

Discussion:
The December 7, 2015, minutes were submitted.

9.A.7. School Nutrition Subcommittee

Discussion:
None.

9.A.8. Technology Subcommittee

Discussion:
A Chromebook presentation was made.

9.B. Town of Clinton Committees
9.B.1. Capital Expenditure Committee

Discussion:
None.

9.B.2. Morgan Building Committee

Discussion:
None.

9.B.3. Cable Advisory Committee

Discussion:
None.

10. Approval of Proposed 2016-2017 Calendar

Discussion:
A review of the second draft of the 2016-17 school calendar was made.

Motion Passed: To approve the proposed 2016-2017 Calendar, as submitted, passed with a motion by Doug Traynor and a second by Dr. Mike Giordano.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

11. Policy Review and Revisions - first reading

Discussion:

Seven policies were presented for review and update. The Policy subcommittee met to review the policies, and made adjustments as necessary. The board members should review these and be prepared to adopt them at the first meeting in February, 2016.

12. Personnel Items

12.A. Resignations/Retirement/Termination

12.A.1. Resignation of Classified Staff - special education paraprofessional Alea Braga resigned effective January 14, 2016.

Motion Passed: To acknowledge the resignation of Alea Braga effective January 14, 2016, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Dr. Mike Giordano.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.A.2. Retirement of Classified Staff - 10-Month Secretary Gail Lichack will retire on February 26, 2016, after 36 years in the Special Services Department.

Motion Passed: To acknowledge the retirement of Gail Lichack, after 36 years of service, effective on February 26, 2016, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Peter Giannotti.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.A.3. Extra Duty Resignation - Justin Esposito resigned from the position of Eliot Baseball Coach effective for the 2015-16 season.

Motion Passed: To acknowledge the resignation of Justin Esposito from the position of Eliot Baseball Coach effective for the 2015-16 season passed with a motion by Dr. Mike Giordano and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.B. Appointments (Certificated, Classified, Extra Duty)

12.B.1. Classified Appointment - Colleen Richards is the recommended candidate for a special education paraprofessional position assigned to Jared Eliot Middle School for 7 hours per school day. Ms. Richards started work on December 14, 2015. She was placed at step 3, \$13.21 per hour.

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Colleen Richards to a paraprofessional position @ step 3, \$13.21 per hour, effective December 14, 2015, passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Dr. Mike Giordano.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.B.2. Extra Pay Duty Appointment - Dan Litevich is the recommended candidate for the position of Morgan JV Baseball Coach effective for the 2015-16 season. The stipend for this position is \$2,423.

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Dan Litevich as J.V. Baseball Coach at Morgan for the 2015-16 season at the stipend of \$2,423 passed with a motion by Doug Traynor and a second by Peter Giannotti.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.B.3. Extra Pay Duty Appointment - Gary Sklaver is the recommended candidate for the position of Volunteer Wrestling Coach effective for the 2015-16 season. There is no stipend associated with a volunteer position.

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Gary Sklaver to the position of Volunteer Wrestling Coach at Morgan for the 2015-16 school year passed with a motion by Dr. Mike Giordano and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.B.4. Extra Pay Duty Appointment - Ken Grass is the recommended candidate for the position of Volunteer Wrestling Coach effective for the 2015-16 season. There is no stipend associated with a volunteer position.

Discussion:

There is no stipend associated with a volunteer position.

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Ken Grass to the position of Volunteer Wrestling Coach at Morgan for the 2015-16 school year passed with a motion by Dr. Mike Giordano and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12.C. Transfers

Discussion:

None.

12.D. Information

13. Financial Items

13.A. Bills Payable

Discussion:

If there are any questions regarding bills, Board members should contact the Superintendent's Office for clarification prior to the Board meeting.

14. Field Trip Update

Discussion:

- Chinese Classes/Morgan to NYC (Chinatown) February 4, 2016 (29 students and 3 chaperones)
- Civics Class/Morgan to Washington DC, April 17 to April 22, 2016 (6-12 students and appropriate number of chaperones)

Neither of these field trips require Board of Education approval.

15. Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 9:25 p.m. passed with a motion by Doug Traynor and a second by Peter Giannotti.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Kim Buckley	Absent
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Dr. Mike Giordano	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes



Kimberly Buckley, Board Secretary

Wendy McDermott, Board Recorder

