



Board of Education Regular Meeting

June 06, 2016 7:30 PM
Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137-B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 7:34 PM:

Present Board Members:

Kim Buckley
Peter Giannotti
Sandra Luke
Lois Ruggiero
Annaliese Spaziano
Doug Traynor

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Todd Pozefsky

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

In addition to Board members, Superintendent Jack Cross, Superintendent Elect Maryann O'Donnell, Business Manager Carolyn Dickey, and two of the Student Representatives, Lindsay Harden and Mike Van Ness, were in attendance.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

None.

3. Minutes - Approval - Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 16, 2016

Discussion:

Changes to the minutes of the regular meeting of May 16, 2016:
On page 2, a spelling error: Sienna College was changed to Siena College.

On page 3, item #9.B.4. Audit Selection Committees should read: The Audit Selection Committee item can be removed from future agendas.

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 16, 2016, passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

4. Communications

Discussion:

A note from Paraeducator Sondra Fritz was read thanking the Board for honoring her as the Classified Employee of the Year.

5. Spring Sports Update

Discussion:

The Spring Sports teams, along with Kevin Rayel and the coaches, reported on their seasons.

Highlights of the season:

- Eliot Track's fearless (and successful!) team
- Eliot Baseball: Over 6 runs per game
- Morgan Golf: 4th in Division 4. Raised over \$1000 in their Birdies for Biddle campaign. A girl's golf team will start next year.
- Boys Lacrosse: Played in Shoreline Championships
- Boys Track & Field: 19 members in Shoreline Conference Championships.
- Girls Track & Field: 12-3 season and 4th in Shoreline.
- Softball - Finished with a season loss to Oxford in State Championships.
- Baseball: Playing Cromwell for state semifinal.

Mr. Rayel noted that despite projections that Morgan would have a down year, we pulled off a successful season. He thanked Park & Rec, the DPW, parents, coaches, players and the Board.

The Board thanked the athletes and coaches and encouraged the students to remember the lessons they learned on the field/course/court this year.

6. Move Agenda Item

Motion Passed: To move Agenda Item #8a to #6a passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

7. Report of Student Representatives

Discussion:

The Advanced Placement Biology class, led by Chris Luther, presented two "Cold-Blooded" animal shows at Joel earlier in the day which were very well received.

The junior and senior proms were very successful as were the senior and underclassman award ceremonies. Finals start on Friday, June 10th. The senior picnic took place at the Brownstone Quarry and the calculus field trip was on May 31st. One of the videos the Morgan students submitted for the calculus conference is available online on the Morgan PawPrint. On June 8th, the Advanced Placement Biology and Advanced Placement Environment classes will help the Pierson students during Marine Science Day at the beach.

On behalf of the administration, faculty, and the Board of Education, M. Van Ness was thanked for his leadership and forthright commentary as a representative of the student body. The Board has a better understanding of the high school as a result. Mr. Van Ness was given a small token of appreciation. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to help the community and for being willing to listen to his voice beyond the student reports.

8. Project Purple Presentation

Discussion:

Several parent representatives were on hand to make a presentation and request \$3,000 from the Board for Project Purple.

They are working towards bringing the Project Purple Initiative to the schools for 2016-17. The Project Purple Initiative is "a national anti-substance abuse initiative of The Herren Project, launched to break the stigma of addiction, bring awareness to the dangers of substance abuse and shed light on effective treatment practices."

There has been support and monetary contributions from the town and local sports organizations.

Discussion/questions continued regarding follow-up plans, counseling, integrating a club into Morgan, coordinating with social services, donating Herren's DVD and books to the library, and deadlines.

9. Administrative Reports

Discussion:

A. Spaziano congratulated Jack Cross on his retirement and thanked him for his contributions to the district and the Clinton community. It was noted that, during his tenure, academics and opportunities for students have soared, he has worked diligently to save the district money, and he has taken care to make the community a better one, all of which will have a lasting effect on the district for years to come.

Mr. Cross responded in kind that it's been a pleasure to work with a community that supports students and that has been so encouraging. He expressed his hope that some of the systems the administrative team has built will last and that the new high school will draw more and more people to our community.

Congratulations also came from the audience, specifically Willie Fritz, Deborah Grass, Gerry Vece, and Ethelene DiBona, who all thanked him for his hard work, years of service, and his contributions to molding the district.

M. O'Donnell expressed her gratitude for all his efforts and then invited everyone to break for a brief celebration.

9.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

9.A.1. General Update

9.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

9.B.1. Chromebook Initiative Update

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell has been working closely with IT Director Frank Rossi and the administrative committee. Input regarding classroom use has been sought from teachers and students and process has been discussed

F. Rossi and M. O'Donnell have been working on components that accompany the initiative such as insurance, etc. and have researched Chromebook use in surrounding districts. They would like to share some information at the subcommittee meetings in June or July in order to get some feedback and perspective.

9.B.2. General Update

9.C. Business Manager's Report

9.C.1. General Update

Discussion:

C. Dickey spoke about wrapping up the end of year finances and preparing for the next fiscal year. Her office is in the process of gathering information for the new auditors who will be coming in for a meet-and-greet this week. Fundamental information will be gathered by them to provide a baseline snapshot of the district.

End-of-year status has been reviewed by J. Cross and C. Dickey and approximately \$350K-\$390K is anticipated. This is the result of savings in out-of-district and lower fuel cost in the transportation account. Savings have also been realized in the diminishing number of outside evaluations and consulting services. Utility costs are slightly down. Solar use savings are in the process of being calculated. The high school was converted to oil use for the winter to use up reserves which reduced fuel consumption costs.

D. Traynor inquired as to how we can go from \$928K to \$390K by the end of the year. C. Dickey provided line by line details for him regarding the calculation including retirement payouts, stipends, 2 more payrolls, substitute teachers, overtime, unemployment benefits, balloon payments for the teachers, Social Security, sports, public utilities (phone, etc.), repair and maintenance, software maintenance, repairs, transportation, fuel, field trips, flood insurance for the new high school, communications (telephone and postage), advertising, leasing payments, and photocopying, staff development, Board of Education costs, instructional

supplies, computer repair, instructional materials, oil usage, textbooks, library books, custodial supplies, graduation costs, travel expenses and legal fees, pension work.

10. Superintendent's Report

10.A. College Acceptance List 2016

Discussion:

Included in the Board packet is a list of the schools to which students have applied, have been accepted, and will be attending. Many students are going to state colleges. The Board noted a Naval Academy acceptance.

10.B. Update on new Morgan (move schedule, FF&E)

Discussion:

The state approved the FF&E package but is fine tuning the playground package. Bids have been submitted and approved. Despite delays, we are expecting the vast majority of FF&E will be arriving on time.

K. Buckley asked why the cost of maintenance trucks was put into this project. J. Cross responded that the trucks were originally reimbursable since they were part of the original facility and the committee identified the equipment as appropriate for the project.

10.C. Update on LEARN Regional Calendar

Discussion:

Copies of the proposed 2017-18 and 18-19 calendars were provided to the Board. A group of regional superintendents has worked through the basic framework and the 2017-18 calendar has been adopted by LEARN. The 2018-19 was provided by LEARN as a draft.

10.D. General Update

Discussion:

Special acknowledgement came from C. Norman to K. Hagness for Morgan student involvement in the Joel Sports-a-thon.

10.E. Upcoming Events

10.F. Clinton Celebrates and Monthly Reports

Discussion:

The report is included in the Board packet.

11. Appointment of Maryann O'Donnell as a member of the Eastern CT Health and Medical Cooperative

Motion Passed: To appoint Maryann O'Donnell as the representative member of the Eastern Connecticut and Medical Health Cooperative passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kim Buckley.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

12. Approval of 2016 Morgan Graduates

Motion Passed: To approve the list of potential Morgan School Graduates 2016, passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

13. Reports

13.A. Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

13.A.1. Budget & Finance/Negotiations Subcommittee

Discussion:

A committee has been formed for the teacher and secretary negotiations. The committee will meet at 4:30 p.m. on June 8th prior to a 5:30 preliminary meeting with secretaries.

A representative from the Board of Finance needs to be on the negotiations committee.

Teacher negotiations are beginning July 20th. The process needs to be finished by Sept 8th to avoid mediation and by October 8th to avoid arbitration.

13.A.2. Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee

Discussion:

The subcommittee will be meeting soon and will be presenting to the CEC on November 3rd. Meetings will need to be set in order to meet the year's deadlines. The CEC will meet in July with the subcommittee and a meeting is being set up meeting with Miner Vincent, the new chair of the CEC, to determine expectations.

13.A.3. Instruction Subcommittee

13.A.4. LEARN

13.A.5. Policy Subcommittee

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell will look at calendaring of committee meetings.

13.A.6. Public Relations Subcommittee

13.A.7. School Nutrition Subcommittee

13.A.8. Technology Subcommittee

13.B. Town of Clinton Committees

13.B.1. Capital Expenditure Committee

13.B.2. Morgan Building Committee

13.B.3. OPEB - Other Post-Employment Benefits Board of Trustees

14. Policy Review and Revision - second reading

Discussion:

J. Cross requested that Board members pass concerns, questions, or edits, along to him or A. Spaziano before the next meeting.

Motion Passed: To approve Policy 5141.21 passed with a motion by Doug Traynor and a second by Peter Giannotti.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

Motion Passed: To approve Policy 5141.3 passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15. Personnel Items

15.A. Resignations/Retirement/Termination

15.A.1. Personnel.Retirement of Certified Staff - Anthony Oskwarek

Motion Passed: To accept the retirement of Anthony Oskwarek effective at the conclusion of the 2015-16 school year, with gratitude for years of service, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Doug Traynor.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.A.2. Personnel.Retirement of Classified Staff - Kathleen Perry

Motion Passed: To accept the retirement of Kathleen Perry effective at the close of business on June 16, 2016, passed with a motion by Doug Traynor and a second by Kim Buckley.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.A.3. Personnel.Retirement of Classified Staff - Christina Shebell

Motion Passed: To accept the retirement of Christina Shebell at the conclusion of the 2015-16 school year passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.A.4. Personnel.Resignation of Classified Staff - Colleen Richards

Motion Passed: To accept the resignation of Colleen Richards effective June 16, 2016, passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.A.5. Personnel.Resignation of Classified Staff - Anne Kenny

Motion Passed: To accept the resignation of Anne Kenny effective June 10, 2016, passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.A.6. Personnel.Resignation of Extra-Pay Staff - Salvatore Fiorillo

Motion Passed: To accept the resignation of Morgan Varsity Softball Coach Salvatore Fiorillo passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

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

15.B.1. Personnel.Appointment of Extra Duty Staff - Paige Trusty - Varsity Volleyball Coach

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Paige Trusty to the position of Varsity Volleyball Coach for the 2016-17 school year passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.B.2. Personnel.Appointment of Extra Duty Staff - Caitlin Woods - Varsity Girls Basketball Coach at Morgan

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Caitlin Woods to the position of Varsity Girls Basketball Coach for the 2016-17 school year passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.B.3. Appointment of Summer School Staff (ESY 2016)

Motion Passed: To approve the appointments of Mrs. Kintz and Mrs. Corrigan to the ESY 2016 program passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.C. Proposal to increase 0.8 FTE English teaching position to 1.0 FTE at the high school for the 2016-17 school year

Discussion:

Since the budget decision to reduce a full-time English teacher, the Board has received a resignation from a 0.8 FTE English teacher. Evaluation of student enrollment and class sizes, as well as programmatic needs in advanced English classes and Freshmen Seminar has resulted in the request to increase the 0.8 FTE English position to a 1.0 FTE English position. This will insure a qualified teacher and continuance on the Advanced English elective class and prevent contractual reduction in force requirements that would disrupt multiple programs and staff in the district.

It was noted that the budget was approved based on the lower numbers but that the value of this decision programatically is a strong factor. It was also noted that due to the resignation, this is a break-even decision cost-wise.

Motion Passed: To approve the increase of the 0.8 FTE English position to 1.0 FTE at the high school for the 2016-17 school year passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kim Buckley.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

15.D. Transfers

Discussion:

After engaging with the music teachers in district, there was consensus to expand the music opportunities at the high school. Next year, the number of instrumental music courses will be increased at the high school. Reorganization, rather than an increase in staff, is allowing us to provide students with more opportunities.

15.E. Information

16. Financial Items

16.A. Bills Payable - June 1, 2016

Discussion:

D. Traynor asked why M. Koziy spent his own money for boxes and packing tape. J. Cross responded that the number of boxes was underestimated (as was the enthusiasm of Morgan teachers to start packing) and that supplies were need immediately rather than five days later. Materials were secured to meet the need in a timely way and appropriate procedures for reimbursement were then followed.

17. Grant Approval - IDEA Grant FY 2017

Special Education, Part B, Section 611 and Preschool Special Education, Part B, Section 619

Discussion:

Discussion centered around payment of benefits. The IDEA Grant is a federal grant distributed throughout the state based on a variety of criteria and is recurring money that's part of entitlement to support states and support special education.

Motion Passed: To approve the Special Education Grant (IDEA 611 and IDEA 619) for the grant period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018, passed with a motion by Kim Buckley and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes

18. Adjournment

Discussion:

K. Buckley will be resigning from the Board on Tuesday, June 7th. The Board expressed its appreciation for her service, her questions, and her consistency.

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 10:02 p.m., passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kim Buckley.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Kim Buckley	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Mr. Todd Pozefsky	Absent
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Doug Traynor	Yes



Sandy Luke, Board Secretary



Allison Friday, Board Recorder