



## Board of Education Regular Meeting

January 02, 2018 7:30 PM

The Morgan School

Learning Commons

71 Killingworth Tpke

Clinton, CT 06413

### Attendance Taken at 7:32 PM:

#### Present Board Members:

Todd Pozefsky

Erica Gelven

Peter Giannotti

Sandra Luke

Kimberly Russo

#### Absent Board Members:

Lois Ruggiero

Doug Traynor

### 1. Opening Exercises

#### 1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Business Manager Carolyn Dickey, and Student Representatives Olivia Silver and Brett Martin.

#### 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the Pledge.

### 2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

Clinton Resident Phil Sengle expressed his concerns about the Board of Education budget and the impact on residents. He provided some suggestions for reducing costs. The Board thanked him for his input.

### 3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of December 4, 2017

**Motion Passed:** To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 4, 2017, passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Sandra Luke.

#### 5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

#### **4. Communications**

Discussion:

S. Luke thanked Board members for making personal contributions to purchase a 1/2 page ad in the yearbook.

#### **5. Report of Student Representatives**

Discussion:

The representatives reported on upcoming midterms, Eliot skiers' trip to Mt. Southington, a fencing invitational on January 6th at Morgan, and the Husky Leaders trip to New York to see Dear Evan Hansen.

#### **6. Administrative Reports**

##### **6.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers**

##### **6.A.1. Substance Use Trends & Prevention in Clinton Presentation**

Discussion:

Morgan Principal Keri Hagness and Kelly Edwards from Partners in Community provided data trends on the use of various substances by teens in Clinton. They also discussed prevention, awareness, and enforcement. The results are based upon survey data collected since 2005, and indicate that Clinton youth substance use rates in 2017 are at the lowest levels recorded.

Upcoming informational events include a motivational speaker, Marc Mero, at Morgan on February 8th at 8 a.m., and Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict, on February 15th.

##### **6.A.2. General Update**

##### **6.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

##### **6.B.1. General Update**

Discussion:

M. Famiglietti reported on professional development regarding the continuation of MAP assessments, and growth patterns on MAP with teachers in grades 3 through 8.

The first tech expo will take place on January 12th at Morgan for middle and high school teachers. Grade 6-12 teachers will select 3 out of about 10 sessions to attend. All courses are being taught by in-house experts.

The Gifted and Talented committee is working to beef up the list of resources available to parents and students. On January 24th, the district will host an evening of various enrichment opportunities.

##### **6.C. Business Manager's Report**

##### **6.C.1. General Update**

Discussion:

The audit is over after two and a half months.

C. Dickey's office is gathering and analyzing budget data.

The mid-January report will be sent to the town.

#### **7. Superintendent's Report**

##### **7.A. Donations**

Discussion:

### **7.A.1. Funds for School Lunch Accounts**

Discussion:

An anonymous donation of \$100 was made to student lunch accounts at Joel during the holidays.

### **7.A.2. SMART Board**

Discussion:

The donation of a SmartBoard is being used at Pierson.

### **7.A.3. Wrestling Uniforms**

Discussion:

The donation of wrestling uniforms has been accepted with a reminder of how the donation process works.

### **7.B. Survey Draft Review - Strategic Planning**

Discussion:

A general survey is being developed to be sent out to the community in order to get feedback from various groups regarding district priorities for future planning. Stakeholder feedback groups will also be established to elicit broad, general areas to provide focus, as well as reaction to the new mission statement and strategic priorities.

### **7.C. Budget Initial Analysis and Information**

Discussion:

The public feedback session held in November resulted in general themes with diverse opinions but a willingness to collaborate. While there were no surprises, it was helpful to discuss viable ideas.

The Superintendent also discussed the budget calendar, operating budget drivers and trends, the capital budget, and debt service.

The big budget drivers are salaries, special education transportation and tuition, regular transportation, health insurance, and utility costs. Transportation is going out to bid so M. O'Donnell may not have the exact dollar amount on that line item before presentation to the joint town boards. Transportation costs are also expected to increase almost 20%, moving the district more in line with current market pricing.

T. Pozefsky had questions regarding behavioral consultants, transportation, and homeless students.

Health insurance renewal numbers look more favorable than anticipated due to lower claim rates and the anticipated move of more employees to a high deductible plan.

Utilities are expected to increase due to increased costs and expiring contracts.

In all, the budget increase currently stands at approximately 5%. The Superintendent understands that this number is not palatable and agreed that no line item is off the table including all staff and programs. She asked the Board's assistance in providing direction moving forward, although choices will be difficult because for years administration has been making cuts leaving no "low hanging fruit."

Mr. Pozefsky had questions regarding collective bargaining negotiations and S. Luke had questions regarding the aging out of special education students.

The capital budget request for 2018-19 is \$476,500 and includes an increase of \$183,762.

The debt service request jumps 32% to \$623,228.

None of these numbers are desirable and tough budgeting decisions will need to be made. The Superintendent suggested defining targets and deciding what the district wants to look like in the future.

ECS (Educational Cost Sharing) funds from the state are not as dire as earlier threatened. \$5,729,482 has been signed into the state budget for Clinton, but there is uncertainty about future cuts.

Ms. O'Donnell expects the current Board's budget increase to be adjusted when finally presented at the end of the month. All possibilities are being examined including class size, staffing, contracts, health insurance, early retirement models, etc. She encouraged all Board members to attend the budget presentations on January 6th and 19th.

#### **7.D. General Update**

Discussion:

Sprinkler head repair at Joel has been completed. The two affected classrooms have been relocated and work is scheduled to be completed by January 12th. First responders/employees were instrumental in keeping damages to a minimum. Preventative measures are in place to keep similar events from happening. Thanks were extended to teachers, custodians, maintenance staff, and administrators for coming in on a vacation day to help out.

#### **8. Reports**

##### **8.A. Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees**

**8.A.1. Budget & Finance/Negotiations Subcommittee (TBD, Todd Pozefsky, Lois Ruggiero, D. Traynor)**

**8.A.2. Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee (Lois Ruggiero, Doug Traynor)**

**8.A.3. Instruction Subcommittee (TBD, Peter Giannotti, Sandy Luke, Erica Gelven)**

**8.A.4. LEARN (Doug Traynor is the BOE Liaison to LEARN)**

**8.A.5. Policy Subcommittee (Peter Giannotti, Sandy Luke, Lois Ruggiero, Erica Gelven, Doug Traynor)**

Discussion:

Policies have been submitted for their first readings.

**8.A.6. Public Relations Subcommittee (Sandy Luke, Erica Gelven, Todd Pozefsky)**

Discussion:

The newsletter is in draft form. The Superintendent will meet with S. Luke to move forward.

**8.A.7. School Nutrition Subcommittee (Erica Gelven, Lois Ruggiero)**

Discussion:

The committee met on December 11th to continue work on the new wellness policy. The Food Services Department continues to see revenues outpacing expenses this school year.

**8.A.8. Technology Subcommittee (Lois Ruggiero, Peter Giannotti)**

##### **8.B. Town of Clinton Committees**

**8.B.1. Capital Expenditure Committee**

**8.B.2. Morgan Building Committee**

Discussion:

The committee should receive Morgan's certificate of occupancy soon. Work continues on system refinements.

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

## 9. Interdistrict Cooperative Magnet School Agreement

**Motion Passed:** To approve the continued participation of Clinton Public Schools in the Interdistrict Cooperative Magnet School Program in New Haven for the 2018-2019 school year passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

### 5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

## 10. Field Trip Update

### 11. Personnel Items

#### 11.A. Resignations/Retirement/Termination

##### 11.A.1. Retirement of Certified Staff at Eliot

**Motion Passed:** To accept the retirement of Valerie Gilcher effective at the end of the 2017-18 school year passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

### 5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

##### 11.A.2. Resignation of Classified Staff - Kindergarten Para

**Motion Passed:** To accept the resignation of Jill McDonough from the position of kindergarten paraprofessional effective December 31, 2017, passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Kimberly Russo.

### 5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.A.3. Resignation of Classified Staff - Behavior Technician**

**Motion Passed:** To accept the resignation of Michael Thompson from the position of Behavior Technician effective January 2, 2018, passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.A.4. Resignation of Extra-Duty Staff - JV Baseball at Morgan**

**11.A.5. Resignation of Extra-Duty Staff - Girls JV Lacrosse at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To accept the resignation of Lainey Congdon from the position of girls JV lacrosse coach at Morgan passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Kimberly Russo.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B. Appointments (Certificated, Classified, Extra Duty)**

**11.B.1. Classified Staff - Secretary at Pierson**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Elizabeth "Betsy" Rock to the position of 10-month secretary at Pierson, 6 hours per day, Step 5, \$19.65 per hour, passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B.2. Classified Staff - Secretary at Eliot**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Shannon Coletta to the position of 10-month secretary at Eliot, 6.5 hours per day, Step 5, \$19.65 per hour, passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B.3. Classified Staff - Custodian at Eliot**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Jonathan Mizger to the custodian position at Eliot, 8 hours per day, Step 2, \$15.94 per hour passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B.4. Classified Staff - Custodian at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Marco Ramos as the evening custodian at Eliot, 8 hours per day, Step 2, \$15.94 per hour passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B.5. Extra-Duty Staff - Assistant Winter Track at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Chris Zawadski to the position of Assistant Winter Track at Morgan, stipend \$2,288, passed with a motion by Kimberly Russo and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B.6. Extra-Duty Staff - Assistant Wrestling at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Edward Carroll to the position of Assistant Wrestling Coach at Morgan, stipend \$2,623, passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Sandra Luke.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.B.7. Extra-Duty Staff - Varsity Girls Lacrosse at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of William Lindsay as the Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach at Morgan, stipend \$4,252 passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Kimberly Russo.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes



**11.B.8. Extra-Duty Staff - Varsity Boys Lacrosse at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the appointment of Brendan Hylan as the Varsity Boys Lacrosse coach at Morgan, stipend \$4,252, passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Kimberly Russo.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes

**11.C. Transfers**

**11.D. Information**

**12. Policy Review and Revision**

**12.A. First Reading - Policy 4111/4211 - Recruitment and Selection**

**12.B. First Reading - Policy 5113 - Attendance and Excuses**

**12.C. First Reading - Policy 5118.1 - Homeless Students**

**12.D. First Reading - Policy 5125 - Student Records; Confidentiality**

**13. Financial Items**

**13.A. Bills Payable**

**14. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** To adjourn at 10:20 p.m. passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes



---

Sandy Luke, Board Secretary



---

Allison Friday, Board Recorder

