



## Board of Education Regular Meeting

February 05, 2018 7:30 PM  
Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137-B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

### Attendance Taken at 7:31 PM:

#### Present Board Members:

Todd Pozefsky  
Lois Ruggiero  
Erica Gelven  
Peter Giannotti  
Sandra Luke  
Kimberly Russo

#### Absent Board Members:

Doug Traynor

#### Updated Attendance:

Todd Pozefsky was updated to present at: 7:33 PM

### 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, Brett Martin, and Kayla Pellegrini.

#### 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

##### Discussion:

All stood for the pledge.

### 2. Public participation/recognition

##### Discussion:

Kirk Carr presented a memorandum on his ideas for reducing the budget.

### 3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meetings of January 2, 2018 and January 29, 2018

**Motion Passed:** To approve the minutes of the regular meetings of January 2, 2018, and January 29, 2018, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

#### 6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

#### **4. Communications**

Discussion:

Three pieces of communication were noted:

CABE's invitation for Board members to attend "A Day on the Hill" on March 7th;

a thank you note from Andrea Reu for The Model UN Program and Morgan teacher Emily Russell's leadership of the program; and

a request for sponsors of the Morgan Musical playbill. Interested Board members should contact S. Luke.

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

Discussion:

O. Silver added her praise of Ms. Russell and the Model UN program. On February 10th, a JV state fencing tournament will be held in North Haven. The cheerleading team came in 2nd at the last competition but is hoping to take 1st place at the next competition on February 10th. Former WWE star Marc Mero will be sharing his story with students on February 8th to help prevent bullying. Spring sport sign-ups have begun.

UConn English Professor Emeritus Lee Jacobus will speak with the Morgan Political Club on February 7th at 2:15 on the subject of art and the intersection of politics. The track team will compete at the states on Saturday February 10th.

Medical students from Quinnipiac University are coming to the high school to perform brain and kidney dissections on February 9th with students enrolled in biology and anatomy classes at The Morgan School. The 3rd annual College Knowledge Night was a success.

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

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

###### **6.A.1. General Update**

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

###### **6.B.1. Update on Homework Study Group**

Discussion:

The group met earlier in the evening to revisit the homework policy that was updated this summer.

###### **6.B.2. Update on TAG/Enrichment Evening Presentation**

Discussion:

At 7 p.m. on March 6th, Clinton Public Schools will be hosting a Talented and Gifted Enrichment night in the Board room. Information on the identification process, state statute that governs the process, and opportunities for enrichment in all four schools will be presented.

###### **6.B.3. Update on Perkins Supplemental Grant Application**

Discussion:

M. Famiglietti is working with engineering and technology education teachers to complete this \$33K supplemental grant.

#### **6.B.4. General Update**

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

#### **6.C.1. Audit Update**

Discussion:

Three documents regarding the audit were attached for the Board's review, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Federal and State Compliance Report, and the Implemented Corrective Action Plan. The financial report points to three different issues which are addressed in the corrective action plan.

#### **6.C.2. General Update**

Discussion:

An RFP for a 5-year student transportation services contract has been posted and a pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for February 9th. RFPs are due on February 23rd.

There have been two incidents of ruptured sprinkler heads that occurred in January due to the extreme cold weather. One was in a Joel classroom, the other was in Central Office. An insurance claim will not be filed as the deductible is \$5,000 per incident and the cost for the repairs was below that threshold. Many thanks to the Clinton Fire Department and our maintenance department; their quick actions helped prevent further damage.

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

#### **7.A. Legislative Update and ECS Funding**

Discussion:

The CAPSS Public Policy Agenda was attached for the Board's review. Included in the document are recommendations to be advocated for at the state level. Governor Malloy's preliminary budget for 2018-19 includes approximately \$5.1mm for Clinton. This is a decrease from previous years, but it is not as drastic as what was originally proposed for 2017-18. We will need to watch this year's session closely before we can be confident in the amount of state funding for Clinton.

#### **7.B. Strategic Planning Survey Release and Timeline**

Discussion:

The survey will be released by February 26th via several methods including weekly blasts and the website. Staff will be asked to complete the survey on March 3rd. Responses will be monitored and, in April, feedback sessions with stakeholders will be held. By June, a strategic plan will be developed in response to the survey and other feedback.

#### **7.C. District Board of Education Newsletter**

Discussion:

A new Board of Education newsletter will be published this week highlighting December and January celebrations, curriculum updates, and budget information.

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

Discussion:

On February 2nd, the district received news that it would be reimbursed through a state school security grant for several security upgrades already implemented. The district should be receiving a letter of process on how to take delivery of the funds.

Ownership of the Stanton House in town is changing. As a result, a section of Pierson's playground may be affected, and a lease sought.

## 8. Proposed 2018-2019 Budget

Discussion:

E. Gelven shared her vision for discussing, prioritizing, and possibly making changes to the proposed 2018-19 budget this evening.

The Superintendent provided an update on anticipated savings in the Special Services' budget which will bring the increase to the Operating Budget to 2.98%. Discussion followed among members, mostly regarding staffing, with agreement that any further cuts to the budget would substantially affect programs for students. Board members have participated in the budget process since October and, while concerned about the fiscal realities in the state and the impact on taxpayers, acknowledge that the Board's task is to approve and present a responsible budget that provides a quality education for Clinton students.

M. O'Donnell reminded everyone that budgeting is a process; that the district will continue to collaborate with the town, will continue to think of ways to find savings, and will continue to affect change that is thoughtful and sets the stage for the future.

After the vote, E. Gelven thanked everyone for their dedication to the process.

**Motion Passed:** To approve the 2018-2019 budget in the amount of \$33,135,941 as presented passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Todd Pozefsky.

### 6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

## 9. Reports

### 9.A. Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

#### 9.A.1. Budget & Finance/Negotiations Subcommittee (Erica Gelven, Todd Pozefsky, Lois Ruggiero, Doug Traynor)

Discussion:

The subcommittee is looking for Board members to serve on the paraprofessionals' contract negotiations in the spring.

#### 9.A.2. Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee (Lois Ruggiero, Doug Traynor)

Discussion:

L. Ruggiero, and M. O'Donnell met to review current projects including tanks and roofing. The projects are all being managed through the municipal building committee and Gonzalo Carrion, Director of Building and Grounds.

#### 9.A.2.a. Facilities, Projects and Planning Update

Discussion:

Facilities strategic planning will be getting underway in March.

**9.A.3. Instruction Subcommittee (Erica Gelven, Peter Giannotti, Sandy Luke, Kimberly Russo)**

Discussion:

The Homework Study Group met prior to the Board meeting to review implementation of the revised policy. The group will be sending a follow-up survey to students, parents, and staff for their feedback.

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

Discussion:

No report.

**9.A.5. Policy Subcommittee (Peter Giannotti, Sandy Luke, Lois Ruggiero, Kimberly Russo, Doug Traynor)**

Discussion:

The subcommittee is due for a meeting in March.

**9.A.6. Public Relations Subcommittee (Sandy Luke, Todd Pozefsky)**

Discussion:

The subcommittee met on January 23rd to discuss what and how the district communicates, and how best to disseminate public budget information. The superintendent will schedule the next meeting.

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

Discussion:

A meeting will be scheduled to continue work on the Wellness Policy.

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

Discussion:

L. Ruggiero and M. O'Donnell met with IT Director Frank Rossi last month to discuss CEC and technology-related topics.

**9.B. Town of Clinton Committees**

**9.B.1. Capital Expenditure Committee**

Discussion:

No report.

**9.B.2. Morgan Building Committee**

Discussion:

The committee's work is almost complete, with the final commissioning of HVAC systems in process.

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

Discussion:

No report.

## 10. Field Trip Update

Discussion:  
No report.

## 11. Personnel Items

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

#### 11.A.1. Retirement of Classified Staff - Para-Educator at Eliot

**Motion Passed:** To accept the retirement of Patricia Dow effective at the end of the 2017-18 school year passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

#### 6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

#### 11.A.2. Resignation of Extra-Duty Staff - Varsity Field Hockey at Morgan

**Motion Passed:** To accept the resignation of Melissa Stiver from the position of Varsity Field Hockey Coach at Morgan passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Peter Giannotti.

#### 6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

#### 11.A.3. Resignation of Extra-Duty Staff - Assistant Track & Field Coach at Morgan

**Motion Passed:** To accept the resignation of Garreck Seales from the position of Assistant Track & Field Coach at Morgan passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kimberly Russo.

#### 6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

**11.A.4. Resignation of Classified Staff - Custodian at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To accept the resignation of Marco Ramos from the position of custodian at Morgan passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

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

**11.B.1. Appointment of Classified Staff - Assistant Cook at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To appoint Deborah Cole to the Assistant Cook position at Morgan, Step 5, \$12.54 per hour, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

**11.C. Transfers**

**11.C.1. Transfer to Kindergarten Para-Educator position**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the transfer of Carol Schmardel to a kindergarten para-educator position passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

**11.D. Recall of Classified Staff**

Discussion:

The Superintendent explained that despite recalling three staff members, the district is still saving money due to the recent loss of two other staff members, a paraeducator and a behavior analyst.

**Motion Passed:** To recall Rosalie Amato, Susan Haggerty, and Kiersten Terrible to para-educator positions passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

**11.E. Information**

**12. Policy Review and Revision**

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

**Motion Passed:** To approve revised policy 4111/4211 as presented passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

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

**Motion Passed:** To approve revised policy 5113 as presented passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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



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

**Motion Passed:** To approve revised policy 5118.1 as presented with one change of the word "Board" to "District" passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

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

**Motion Passed:** To approve revised policy 5125 as presented passed with a motion by Peter Giannotti and a second by Sandra Luke.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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

**13. Financial Items**


**13.A. Bills Payable**

**14. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** To adjourn at 9:10 p.m. passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kimberly Russo.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

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



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Sandy Luke, Board Secretary



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Allison Friday, Board Recorder