



Board of Education Regular Meeting

March 20, 2017 7:30 PM
Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137-B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

OK

Attendance Taken at 7:35 PM:

Present Board Members:

Annaliese Spaziano
Peter Giannotti
Sandra Luke
Lois Ruggiero
Erica Gelven

Absent Board Members:

Todd Pozefsky
Doug Traynor

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, and Business Manager Carolyn Dickey. Student representatives present were Lindsay Harden and Autumn Johnson.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

None.

3. Minutes - Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2017 meeting

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 6, 2017, passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Peter Giannotti.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Todd Pozefsky	Absent

4. Communications

5. Report of Student Representatives

Discussion:

The student representatives reported on spring sports, the success of the Morgan musical, parent conferences, and Husky Leader meetings. Swoosh for Change will take place on Friday, March 24th. On March 31st, a growth mindset conference will take place and include Morgan staff and students as well as several other out-of-district schools. Pasta Night took place at Eliot last week.

Board members and administration congratulated Morgan on the success of the musical.

6. Administrative Reports

6.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

6.A.1. Presentation on 2016 administration of the PSAT and preparation for the 2017 school-day administration of the SAT

Discussion:

K. Hagness and J. Messina provided an overview and discussed focus areas of the PSAT administration and preparation for the SAT. Messina was praised for doing an outstanding job of breaking down the College Board results and working with staff and students to understand and utilize the data. PSAT data have been shared with Eliot staff as well.

Morgan students scored consistently higher than the state average. Preparation for the SAT is ongoing and staff has integrated the work into their curriculum and Professional Learning Plans.

Students have been provided with a variety of tools and tips to succeed and reduce anxiety while taking the SAT. The state's shift away from Smarter Balanced testing to the SAT has caused the students to treat it more seriously. The students are also using the data to determine the next steps for their 4-year plans and to set their own learning goals.

The Board was pleased that the planning it had done in years past was now benefiting the students and staff. The Board also thanked administration for being so responsive to any red flags in the data from last year.

6.A.2. General Update

6.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

6.B.1. Presentation on Next Generation Accountability Report for 2015-16

Discussion:

M. Famiglietti provided an overview of the Next Generation Accountability Report (NGAR) for 2015-16. The report provides a more complete picture of the schools/district than one based on a single test for students. NGAR focuses on 12 indices including academic growth, absenteeism, graduation rate, physical fitness, and access to the arts.

Joel performed in the top 10% of the state, making it a "School of Distinction" The Assistant Superintendent discussed the achievement gap index, next steps, and measures administration has taken over the past year to reduce chronic absenteeism.

6.B.2. General Update
6.C. Business Manager's Report
6.C.1. General Update

Discussion:

Work continues on the SunGard application especially the reporting functionality. Meetings were held with an accountant to work on revenue ledgers, financial statements, and equities and liabilities. There has been a slight change in approval process at the building level to improve standardization at the school and district levels.

Regarding the current year budget, work continues on the variance report, end-of-year projections, and utility expenses, especially at the high school.

7. Superintendent's Report
7.A. Information on Setting Graduation Date 2017

Discussion:

The graduation date will be set at the next Board meeting. Currently, it is projected to be June 13th.

7.B. Review and Discussion of Policy and Regulation 7551- Naming of Facility

Discussion:

The Superintendent indicated renewed interest by community members to name facilities, especially at the high school, after people. The Board reviewed the policy and regulation and discussed the pros and cons. The Board indicated it would prefer to honor and recognize accomplishments in ways other than naming facilities after people.

There is an interest in engaging students in Clinton's history to keep them aware of important people and events at Morgan and in the town and community.

7.C. Information and Response to Board of Finance related to PA 1360

Discussion:

The Board met in subcommittee to discuss the Board of Finance suggestions related to PA 1360 and drafted a response.

Motion Passed: To accept the response to the Board of Finance on behalf of the Board of Education to address their recommendations related to PA 1360 passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Erica Gelven.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Todd Pozefsky	Absent

7.D. General Update

Discussion:

The Board of Ed budget was approved by the Board of Selectmen (5-0 vote) and Board of Finance (4-2 vote). The Capital Expenditure Budget was reduced by \$60K. There were no changes to the proposed Debt Service and Operating budgets.

8. Reports

8.A. Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

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

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

Discussion:

The next meeting was scheduled for March 30th at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the cut in Capital.

8.A.3. Instruction Subcommittee (Annaliese Spaziano, Peter Giannotti, Sandy Luke, Erica Gelven)

Discussion:

The Homework Study Group met on March 6th to develop student, parent, and teacher surveys. The group hopes to pilot the surveys in April.

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:

The next meeting is scheduled for March 27th at 5:45 p.m. M. O'Donnell will send topics out by March 24th.

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

Discussion:

The subcommittee met earlier in the evening to work on planning for sharing and explaining the Board of Education Budget. The next meeting will be on March 28th at 4:30 p.m. at Morgan.

8.A.7. School Nutrition Subcommittee

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

8.B. Town of Clinton Committees

8.B.1. Capital Expenditure Committee

8.B.2. Morgan Building Committee

Discussion:

The committee is scheduled to meet in April.

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

9. Field Trip Update

Discussion:

The Board was made aware of the following trip: Jessica Mularski, Ted Enoch, and 3 additional chaperones to New York City on April 28, 2017, with approximately 45 Morgan students to take photographs and videos of New York City.

10. Personnel Items

10.A. Resignations/Retirement/Termination

10.A.1. Resignation from Extra Duty Position - Maribeth Simmons

Motion Passed: To accept the resignation of Maribeth Simmons from the position of Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach at Morgan effective immediately passed with a motion by Erica Gelven and a second by Sandra Luke.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Todd Pozefsky	Absent

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

10.B.1. Appointment to Extra Duty Position - Paige Trusty

Motion Passed: To approve the appointment of Paige Trusty to the position of math teacher for MAP during the 2nd semester of the 16-17 school year passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Todd Pozefsky	Absent

10.C. Transfers

10.D. Information

10.D.1. Update on Varsity Softball Coach Scott Chidsey

Discussion:

Coach Chidsey has been cleared to return as the softball coach.

M. O'Donnell requested a Board member serve on the search committee to find a new Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent.

11. Financial Items
11.A. Bills Payable

12. Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 9:20 p.m. passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Peter Giannotti.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Annaliese Spaziano	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Doug Traynor	Absent
Erica Gelven	Yes
Todd Pozefsky	Absent

Sandy Luke, Board Secretary

Allison Friday, Board Recorder