



## Board of Education Regular Meeting

May 20, 2019 7:00 PM  
Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137-B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

### Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM:

#### Present Board Members:

Erica Gelven  
Lois Ruggiero  
Omar Francis  
Michael Hornyak  
Kimberly Russo  
Catherine Staunton

#### Absent Board Members:

Sandra Luke

### 1. Opening Exercises

#### 1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Superintendent O'Donnell and Business Manager Dickey were present as were student representatives Kayla Pellegrini, Sarah Auletta, and Daniel Radka.

#### 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the pledge.

### 2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

No public participation.

### 3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of May 6, 2019

Discussion:

**Motion Passed:** To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2019, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Michael Hornyak.

#### 4 Yeas - 0 Nays - 2 Abstained.

Erica Gelven	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Omar Francis	Abstain
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Absent
Kimberly Russo	Abstain
Catherine Staunton	Yes

#### 4. Communications

Discussion:  
No communications.

#### 5. Report of Student Representatives

Discussion:  
The Board heard from D. Radka regarding the upcoming Joel Sports-a-Thon and a concert Joel had on May 14th.

Friends of Pierson will be purchasing t-shirts for all students. A concert by Pierson students will be held on May 21st at Morgan.

S. Auletta reported on Eliot School efforts to welcome 4th and 5th graders. Student government is planning a social for May 23rd, and the 8th grade finals are coming up.

Kayla Pellegrini reported on Morgan students who will be participating in the Joel Sports-a-Thon, Marine Science students visiting Avery Point on May 23rd to present their projects to UConn professors, and other upcoming events including senior prom and senior awards night.

The Board thanked the student representatives and gave the senior representatives a small gift of appreciation for their service, insights, and contributions this year.

#### 6. Field Trip Proposal & Possible Approval

Discussion:  
Morgan teacher Brooke Mazzarella presented an overview of a proposed trip to Costa Rica for Morgan students in August 2020. The focus of the trip would be community service and turtle conservation with a tie-in to curriculum. Discussion followed regarding finances, medical issues, and how students would be selected to participate.

The Board thanked Ms. Mazzarella and her colleague, Emily Lisy, for their work putting the trip together.

**Motion Passed:** To approve a field trip to Costa Rica in August 2020, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kimberly Russo.

#### 6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Erica Gelven	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Omar Francis	Yes
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Absent
Kimberly Russo	Yes
Catherine Staunton	Yes

#### 7. Administrative Reports

Discussion:

##### 7.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers 7.A.1. General Update

Discussion:  
No update.

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

### **7.B.1. General Update**

Discussion:  
No update.

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

### **7.C.1. Bills Payable**

Discussion:  
No questions were asked.

### **7.C.2. General Update**

Discussion:  
The Business Office is working on getting the new insurance information to the state to ensure a seamless transition on July 1st.

Work on Medicaid is ongoing as the district prepares for the first year of reporting.

Budget software is being updated to prepare for the new year budget input.

End-of-year numbers should be firmer by the end of May.

## **8. Superintendent's Report**

### **8.A. District Reorganization Update**

Discussion:  
District reorganization information has been posted on the website. All projects are being locked in including a new bathroom in a special education room and installation of sinks in the art room so the room can be divided. The moving company has been selected; a timeline has been received and they should come in under budget. Teachers are in the process of culling books and textbooks. Unused books are being picked up by an outside vendor for recycling.

### **8.B. Legislative Update**

Discussion:  
The Superintendent will forward a link to Board members regarding details of the legislative budget.

### **8.C. District Strategic Plan Year One Evaluation Process**

Discussion:  
At the next two Board meetings, the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will provide an overview of key focus areas for the past year. The strategic plan will guide the work going into next year.

### **8.D. General Update**

Discussion:  
On June 11th, the Eliot promotion ceremony will be held. On June 12th, Morgan graduation will take place in the gym. All Board members were invited.

**9. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees**

**9.A. General Updates**

Discussion:

The next Instruction subcommittee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22nd at 5:30 p.m. regarding talented and gifted, leveling at the high school, a graduation requirements overhaul, and homework.

The Policy subcommittee was thanked for making great headway on the transition to the new Shipman & Goodwin policies.

The next Budget/Finance subcommittee will meet on May 28th at 5 p.m. Minutes from the last meeting are available online.

**10. Review and Possible Approval of Non-Certified Pension Plan & Investment Statement**

Discussion:

The restated pension document has been split into three sections for easier revision to sections that are changeable, i.e., tax rules. The first section is the primary document and includes policies and procedures.. The second section contains the IRS rules. The third section details the unions covered by the plan. The investment plan has been extracted to become a more dynamic document. The changes should make the plan more responsive to market changes. Administration will work with the various groups that are touched by the plan to assure them that no substantive changes have been made. The Board thanked M. O'Donnell and C. Dickey for all their efforts to bring the document up to date.

**Motion Passed:** To approve the updated non-certified pension plan passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Catherine Staunton.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays - 1 Abstained.**

Erica Gelven	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Omar Francis	Abstain
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Absent
Kimberly Russo	Yes
Catherine Staunton	Yes

**Motion Passed:** To approve the non-certified pension plan investment statement passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Kimberly Russo.

**5 Yeas - 0 Nays - 1 Abstained.**

Erica Gelven	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Omar Francis	Abstain
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Absent
Kimberly Russo	Yes
Catherine Staunton	Yes

**11. Personnel Items**

**11.A. Staff Appointments**

**11.B. Information**

**12. Adjournment**

**Motion Passed:** To adjourn at 7:57 p.m. passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Catherine Staunton.

**6 Yeas - 0 Nays.**

Erica Gelven	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Omar Francis	Yes
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Absent
Kimberly Russo	Yes
Catherine Staunton	Yes

---

Sandy Luke, Board Secretary

---

Allison Friday, Board Recorder