



Board of Education Regular Meeting

August 19, 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
Michael Hornyak
Sandra Luke
Kimberly Russo
Catherine Staunton

Absent Board Members:

Omar Francis

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Also present were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, and Business Manager Carolyn Dickey.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

Norma Serrano, a parent who serves on the Project Graduation committee, requested that the Board set a firm date for graduation.

3. Minutes - Approval

3.A. Regular Meeting of July 15, 2019

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 15, 2019, passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays - 1 Abstained.

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

3.B. Special Meeting of August 15, 2019

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes of the special meeting of August 15, 2019, passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Michael Hornyak.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

4. Communications

Discussion:

S. Luke reported that the Kenya Connect project raised over \$3,000.

5. Administrative Reports

5.A. Introduction of New Directors

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell introduced two new administrators to the Board and provided a brief background on each of them. Kim Pearce, the new Special Services Director, and Lewis Pappariella, the new Athletic Director, thanked the Board and indicated they are looking forward to the new opportunities and challenges ahead.

5.B. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

5.B.1. 2018-2019 Food Services Report

Discussion:

Jon Siciliano, Food Services Director, reviewed the philosophy and goals of the food service program. He detailed the sources of revenue and expense, and recommended no increase in the meal prices for the 2019-20 school year.

He also discussed the breakout of staff given the closing of Pierson School and provided a budget report that shows an overall profit for the 2018-19 year.

5.B.2. Review and Possible Approval of 2019-2020 Meal Prices

Motion Passed: To approve the 2019-2020 menu prices as presented passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

5.B.3. Summer Maintenance Report

Discussion:

Gonzalo Carrion, Director of Buildings and Grounds, provided a report on the projects tackled this summer. Pierson has been cleaned and closed. Joel, Eliot, and Morgan have been cleaned, and a variety of projects including gym divider installment, A/C unit replacement, breaker upgrades, bathroom construction, and the reconfiguration of the parking lot at Eliot have been completed.

The Board viewed a video showing the new drop-off and pick-up procedures for students at Eliot. Questions followed regarding plowing and event parking.

Mr. Carrion continued with his report citing safety inspections that had been performed on the sprinklers, extinguishers, alarms, and emergency lights. He praised his crew for the commendable work done this summer by his staff who he said have remained flexible, dedicated, and professional.

The Superintendent echoed the praise for the maintenance and custodial crews and for the work done cost-effectively and professionally by G. Carrion.

5.B.4. General Update

5.C. Assistant Superintendent's Report

5.C.1. 2019-2020 Professional Development Overview

Discussion:

M. Famiglietti provided a list of the major professional development planned for this year. He shared a table of activities and their correlation to the district's strategic plan. He also stated that school faculty meetings and teacher collaboration time would be used to support ongoing professional development.

5.C.2. General Update

Discussion:

Principal Keri Hagness will present at a future Board meeting about the recent report from NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation of The Morgan School and their upcoming visit in 2021.

Board members were invited to attend the New Teacher Orientation on August 20th. The agenda for the day was reviewed.

Each school will run three days of preparation for all teachers on August 21-23. There will be a push this year to increase instructional leadership by the district's group of teacher leaders.

The revised teacher evaluation plan has been accepted by the state. The revised document will be posted online.

5.D. Business Manager's Report

Discussion:

5.D.1. Bills Payable

Discussion:

There were no questions regarding bills payable.

5.D.2. General Update

Discussion:

Uploading of reporting to the state website continues. The required end date is September 1st. The auditors will arrive on September 23rd.

End-of-year funds are approximately \$250K but there are still outstanding invoices to be closed out and paid which will impact the final year-end balance.

An FOI request has been made regarding the end-of-year funds. Once finalized, the number will be reported.

6. Superintendent's Report

6.A. Legislative Update

Discussion:

The legislative update summary provided by attorneys Shipman & Goodwin was attached for Board review. Many of the mandates are in regard to curriculum. Administration will update district policies accordingly.

Discussion followed regarding MBR (Minimum Budget Requirement), unfunded mandates for new courses and the possibility of a new Safe School Climate survey provider.

6.B. Transportation Routes Info

Discussion:

The transportation routes have been posted on the website. There have been a few inquiries regarding the bus changes. M. O'Donnell explained the process for evaluating route change requests.

Questions followed regarding the timing of buses, when students can enter the buildings, tightening up the schedule, and a bus tracker app.

6.C. Business Person of the Year

Motion Passed: To select Amy Trahant and Lisa Bousquet of Take Aim Photography as the recipients of the 2019 Business Person of the Year award passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays - 1 Abstained.

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

6.D. Strategic Plan Update

Discussion:

The Superintendent provided an outline of the major initiatives for year two of the Strategic Plan.

6.E. General Update

Discussion:

The substitute teacher breakfast will take place on Tuesday, August 27th. Board members were invited to attend and then tour the buildings afterwards.

Convocation will take place on August 23rd. The Board was invited to the cookout at 12:15 p.m. and the ceremony at 12:45 p.m. in the Morgan auditorium.

For the first day of school, Board members were invited to assist in welcoming the students as they arrive. The first day of school is Wednesday, August 28th.

7. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

7.A. General Updates

Discussion:

L. Ruggiero inquired about rebranding efforts. S. Luke provided an update on the committee's focus and process. M. O'Donnell stressed the need to elevate who and what the district represents in a polished and unified way.

8. Review and Possible Approval of 2019-2020 Building Rental Fees

Discussion:

Discussion revolved around technology fees, fees that are returned to the town to help offset capital, and use by non-profit and parent groups. It has been three years since the last increase.

Motion Passed: To approve the 2019-20 Building Rental Rate schedule as presented passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Catherine Staunton.

5 Yeas - 1 Nays.

Erica Gelven	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	No
Omar Francis	Absent
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes
Catherine Staunton	Yes

9. Review and Possible Approval of 2019-2020 Tuition Rate

Motion Passed: To set the regular education 2019-2020 tuition rate at \$17,889 per student passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

10. Review and Possible Approval of 2019-2020 Substitute and Lunch/Recess Aide Rates

Discussion:

Discussion followed regarding hours and supervisory pay.

Motion Passed: To approve the 2019-20 substitute and lunch/recess aide rates passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

11. Review and Possible Approval of Revised 2019-2020 School Year Calendar

Discussion:

The pros and cons of having a fixed graduation date were discussed,

Motion Passed: To revise the 2019-2020 school calendar to denote June 10, 2020, as the fixed date for the Class of 2020 Graduation passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

12. Second Reading of Policies

12.A. 5000 Series

The following motion passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke:

Motion Passed:

To delete current policies #1314, #1324, #3541, #3541.3, #3514.4, #3514.5, #6115, #6121, #6141.321, #6141.322, #6141.323, #6141.324, #6153, #6162.51 and amends current Series 5000 by deleting policies #5000, #5112, #5113.1, #5117, #5118.1, #5121, #5124, #5126, #5128, #5131, #5131.1, #5131.3, #5131.5, #5131.6, #5131.7, #5131.8, #5131.21, #5131.62, #5131.91, #5131.911, #5134, #5141.1, #5141.2, #5141.21, #5141.211, #5141.22, #5141.25, #5141.3, #5141.4, #5141.5, #5142.1, #5143, #5144.1, #5145.11, #5145.12, #5145.124, #5145.14, #5145.15, #5145.2, #5145.5, #5145.6, #5145.71, #5146 for the reasons set forth in the "Series 5000 Policy Recommendation Chart" considered by the Board in conjunction with this action.

Further, the Board adopts new and revised Series 5000 policies as follows:

Number	P/R	Title
5111	P	Admission/Placement
5113	P/R	Attendance, Truancy, and Chronic Absenteeism

Number	P/R	Title
5114	P/R	Student Discipline
5116	P	Physical Activity and Student Discipline
5118	P	Nonresident Attendance
5119	P/R	Homeless Children and Youth
5120	P	Pledge of Allegiance
5122	P	Assigning Students to a Teacher and Classes
5123	P	Promotion/Acceleration/Retention
5125	P/R	Confidentiality and Access to Student Records
5127	P	Drug and Alcohol Use by Students
5129	P	Chemical Health for Student Athletes
5130	P/R	Bullying Prevention and Intervention
5132	P	Student Dress and Grooming
5138	P/R	Adding or Eliminating Interscholastic Sports or Clubs
5140	P	Wellness
5141	P	Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
5142	P	Psychotropic Drug Use
5143	P	Management Plan and Guidelines for Students with Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease
5144	P/R	Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students and Use of Exclusionary Time Out
5145	P/R	Students and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act
5146	R	Health Assessments/Screenings
5147	R	Immunizations
5148	P	Child Sexual Abuse and Assault Response and Reporting
5149	P/R	Suicide Prevention and Intervention
5150	P/R	Search and Seizure
5151	P/R	Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment
5152	P/R	Non-Discrimination
5153	R	Educational Stability Procedures
5154	P/R	Fundraising Activities
5155	P/R	Field Trips
5156	P	Student Privacy
5157	P/R	Student Use of the District Computer Systems
5158	P	Use of Private Technological Devices by Students
5160	P	Transportation

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

Discussion:

The Policy Subcommittee was commended for accomplishing this work.

13. Personnel Items

13.A. Staff Appointments

13.A.1. Appointment of Certified Staff - 0.54 FTE Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

Motion Passed: To appoint Rachel Coffee as a 0.54 FTE Pre-Kindergarten Teacher assigned to Joel School beginning with the 2019-2020 school year 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	Absent
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes
Catherine Staunton	Yes

13.A.2. Appointment of Certified Staff - 0.60 FTE Art at Joel & Eliot

Discussion:

The Board agreed to allow the Superintendent to find a suitable candidate for the art position and start that person at the schools before the Board's final approval of that staff member.

Motion Passed: To table the appointment of a 0.60 FTE Art Teacher at Joel & Eliot passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

13.A.3. Appointment of Extra Pay Position - Cross Country at Morgan

Motion Passed: To appoint Jeff Duda as the Cross Country Head Coach at Morgan effective with the 2019-2020 school year passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Sandra Luke.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

13.B. Information

Discussion:

Information regarding transfers was included in the Board packet.

14. Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 10:03 p.m. passed with a motion by Sandra Luke and a second by Lois Ruggiero.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

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

Sandy Luke, Board Secretary

Allison Friday, Board Recorder