



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2023 7:00 PM

Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137 B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 7:01 PM.

Jason Adler: Absent
Erica Gelven: Present
Michael Hornyak: Present
Peter Nye: Present
Alan Samet: Present
Jack Scherban: Present
Catherine Staunton: Present

1. Opening Exercises

A. Roll call

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Business Manager Carolyn Dickey and Student Representatives Sean Davis, Madelyn Sacta Guartazaca, and Mason Jakober.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All participants stood and recited the pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

3. Minutes - Approval

A. Regular Meeting of October 2, 2023

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 2, 2023. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Catherine Staunton.

Jason Adler: Absent
Erica Gelven: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Abstain
Peter Nye: Yea
Alan Samet: Yea
Jack Scherban: Yea
Catherine Staunton: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1

B.Special Meeting of October 10, 2023

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the special meeting of October 10, 2023. Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Jack Scherban.

Jason Adler: Absent
Erica Gelven: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Alan Samet: Yea
Jack Scherban: Yea
Catherine Staunton: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

4.Communications

There were no communications.

5.Report of Student Representatives

The Board welcomed new student representatives M. Sacta Guartazaca and M. Jakober. Both students gave a brief introduction and thanked the Board for the opportunity.

S. Davis reported on activities at Morgan including a journalism class field trip to Southern CT State University related to media and the effect on democracy, recently completed PSAT testing for grades 9-11 that were fully online, and senior nights for football and boys soccer. He also noted that Morgan was the winner, for the second year in a row, of the cardboard boat races that the ECE Physics class participates in with many other school districts. Students are adjusting well as we approach the end of the first quarter and many seniors are working on the college application process. The top 30% of the senior class is eligible for automatic admission to various state colleges and universities via the CT Automatic Admission Program (CAAP). Upcoming events include professional development for staff, a conference on Artificial Intelligence and its effects on education being attended by some staff, a fundraiser volleyball game, and a Veterans Day Assembly on November 10. Spirit week will be held November 6-10 to coincide with the homecoming game on November 10 and the homecoming dance on November 11.

M. Jakober updated the Board on activities at Eliot that have happened so far this school year, including highlighting the program held this summer for incoming grade 5 students where 87 out of 104 attended. PBIS has been implemented and 279 students have been given "caught doing good" passes so far this year with the grade 6 class receiving the most overall and one student receiving 5 total. Students attend the *Start with Hello* assembly presented by Sandy Hook Promise and students recently raised \$250 for breast cancer awareness by selling bracelets during a spirit day where students wore pink. There is a walk-a-thon being held on October 26. In sports, the girls soccer team has had a number of wins, the boys soccer team is undefeated, many students have medaled in cross country, and the field hockey team recently achieved their first win.

M. Guartazaca reported on activities at Joel including upcoming professional development, photo retakes scheduled for November 7, and the upcoming Monster Mash on October 21.

6.Administrative Reports

A.Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

1.General Update

B.Assistant Superintendent's Report

1.General Update

M. Famiglietti reported that last week the district was awarded \$51,000 through a competitive grant to provide tutoring in mathematics during the school day to students in grades 6 through 9. Last week, the Joel and Eliot administrators and literacy specialists visited Westerly, Rhode Island schools to observe their use of the EL Education curriculum, which they have been using for several years now. Also last week, guests from Regional School Districts 13 and 16 were welcomed to participate in a working session related to the implementation of the EL Education program. M. Famiglietti explained that many other districts are going to be joining throughout the year as districts work to share costs and collaborate. This week, there will be some administrators and teachers attending a conference related to Artificial Intelligence and its use and effect on education.

Paraeducators are participating in professional development as well this week and the learning will be targeted to their roles.

C.Business Manager's Report

1.Bills Payable

2.Quarterly Expenditure & Revenue Reports

C. Dickey reviewed the quarterly expenditure and revenue reports with the board. There was a brief discussion regarding lunch debt and meals purchased at each school.

3.General Update

C. Dickey reported that her office is working on providing current year information to the auditors and on trending and projections analysis for the new year budget development.

7.Superintendent's Report

A.General Update

M. O'Donnell noted that the paraeducator participation in professional development was due to new state legislation. The next date will be in March and she is working with paraeducator representatives to plan meaningful sessions. M. O'Donnell updated the Board that the LED lighting project is about 80% complete and that switches to dim brightness should be received and installed within the next two weeks. November 15 is the target for substantial completion with hopes of having the project fully closed out by November 30. The final rooftop unit for the Joel HVAC project has been received and installers are working to fully integrate it with our system controls and close out the project.

8.Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

A.General Updates

9.First Reading of 2024-2025 District Calendar

The Board reviewed the proposed 2024-2025 district calendar. M. O'Donnell noted that teacher leadership has also reviewed the proposed calendar and that school breaks follow the regional calendar recently adopted by LEARN. The calendar will be on the agenda at the next regular meeting for a second reading and possible adoption.

10.First Reading of 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule

The Board reviewed the proposed dates for regular meetings in the 2024 calendar year, which follow the general format of previous schedules. There will be a second reading and possible approval at the next regular meeting.

11.Personnel Information

The Board reviewed the current vacancies in the district.

12.Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Catherine Staunton.

Jason Adler:	Absent
Erica Gelven:	Yea
Michael Hornyak:	Yea
Peter Nye:	Yea
Alan Samet:	Yea
Jack Scherban:	Yea
Catherine Staunton:	Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Michael Hornyak, Board Secretary

Cassie Cannamela, Board Recorder