



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, November 1, 2021 7:00 PM

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

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Catherine Staunton:	Present
Christopher Passante:	Present
Erica Gelven:	Present
Jason Adler:	Present
Kimberly Russo:	Present
Michael Hornyak:	Present
Peter Nye:	Present

The meeting was moved to the cafeteria in Joel School due to a large number of attendees.

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 to the Board, Jessica Flanagan, Katherine Robinson, and Abel Rodriguez.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

Chairperson E. Gelven recited the rules of conduct regarding public participation at Board meetings.

Clinton resident Tom O'Rourke, 73 Grove Street, shared the importance of data and encouraged the Board to consider a third party firm be hired to audit the district and create a comprehensive school climate report that would include input from students, parents, and staff.

Andrea Rue, Clinton PTA leader and member, stated that she has been an educational advocate over many years in Clinton supporting budgets and the schools. She stated that she is certain and without doubt of the integrity of the Clinton Board of Education members and the administration.

Carol Walter spoke about previously speaking at a Board meeting and that the Superintendent had responded to her by sending information about employment and personnel matters and procedures. She stated that it was time for the BOE and administration to show they are working hard to find solutions and listen to teachers. She then shared additional questions regarding personnel practices and policies. She closed by stating that she felt the Board should take a fresh look at the system and supported the idea of an audit that was shared earlier in public comment.

Heather Moore, PTA President, asked the community to focus on current concerns such as teacher burnout, understaffing, and the mental health of students. She had a number of suggestions for administration, parents, and the community including calendar changes, running for Board of Education, becoming a member of the PTA, and voting.

E. Gelven thanked the participants for their passion and conviction.

3.Minutes - Approval

A.Regular Meeting of October 18, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 18, 2021. Carried with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Christopher Passante.

Catherine Staunton: Yea
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B.Special Meeting of October 26, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the special meeting of October 26, 2021. Carried with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Christopher Passante.

Catherine Staunton: Yea
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

4.Communications

Secretary M. Hornyak shared a thank you note from former student representative to the Board, Aiden Maurais. The Board wished him well in his college career.

5.Report of Student Representatives

E. Gelven introduced and welcomed two new student representatives, Kate Robinson and Abel Rodriguez. Each spoke briefly about their reasons for serving on the Board. J. Flanagan provided a report on events taking place at all three schools. At Morgan, Haunted Hallways, Spirit Week, and the pep rally went well. The cross country team will be participating in States, and Lenny & Joe's Restaurant has been thanked for their contribution to the Gavin Carlisle Fund. At Eliot, fall sports are ending but the ski club is getting underway. At Joel, students were encouraged to come as storybook characters on October 29th.

6.Administrative Reports

A.Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

1.Recognition of Morgan Scholars 2021

Morgan Principal Keri Hagness and E. Gelven presented this year's Morgan Scholar Awards. The students were recognized for ranking in the top 5% of their class. The students were presented with Morgan sweatshirts with "Morgan Scholar" embroidered on them and their accomplishments will be engraved on a plaque displayed in the high school. Local businesses and industries assisted in funding the cost of the sweatshirts and plaques. The students who were recognized were Luke Gagliardi, Eve Gardner, James Nguyen, Bridget Orr, Abel Rodriguez, Muntara Singh, Leah Vath, and Sophia Vigorito.

2.General Update

B.Assistant Superintendent's Report

1.Review and Possible Approval of Goodwin University Early College Advanced Manufacturing Program (ECAMP) Proposal

M. Famiglietti reviewed the proposed partnership with Goodwin University to create an advanced manufacturing pathway for Morgan students. Six semester-long courses and one optional semester could earn students up to 21 college credits in Advanced Manufacturing. The credits could be transferred to other schools or universities depending on the requirements of those institutions. Student representative J. Flanagan spoke favorably about her internship at Bausch Advanced Technologies, a local manufacturing company. M. Famiglietti spoke of his pride in the manufacturing partnerships and noted that positions in the field start at \$70K-\$80K per year. The program, if approved, would begin in the 2022-23 school year.

MOTION: To approve the proposal for Goodwin University to offer Early College Advanced Manufacturing Pathway (ECAMP) courses at The Morgan School in 2022-23. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Kimberly Russo.

Catherine Staunton: Yea
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

2.General Update

M. Famiglietti shared tentative dates for music productions in the district for the rest of the school year. Some of the productions will be simulcast. Invitations will be sent to liaisons and officials for the Veterans Day programs at each of the schools on November 11, 2021.

M. Famiglietti invited Board members to attend the NEASC session on Sunday, November 14 at 5:15 PM. Talking points will be provided.

A "Performance Matters" forum will be held for Connecticut's assistant superintendents and curriculum chairs on December 8. Clinton has been asked to speak about math innovations and the data science course implemented this year at The Morgan School.

C. Business Manager's Report

1. Bills Payable

There were no questions regarding bills payable.

2. General Update

C. Dickey reported on state reimbursement for the Joel and Eliot roof projects. Both projects came in under budget. The proposed \$2.2mm Joel project came in at \$1.2mm and approximately \$512K should be reimbursed. The proposed \$544K Eliot project came in at \$401K and approximately \$167K should be reimbursed. Reimbursement rates are set at 47.9% for eligible expenses.

At Joel, the last details of the solar roof project involve securing the solar arrays to the roof.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. General Update

M. O'Donnell reviewed the 2022-23 budget process and the meetings that have been scheduled. Currently, she is working with school administrators to look at trending, as well as looking at district-wide projections, staffing, and salaries. Capital requests are also in process. Final cost center budget review meetings and presentations will be held in December.

Booster vaccine clinics for staff, hosted by CRAHD, have been scheduled at all schools on November 12.

Vaccine clinics at each of the schools for students aged 5 to 11 are being discussed with the Department of Health and CRAHD.

Plans for a Superintendent's Advisory Council are being made. Student representatives from The Morgan School are being invited to share their insights. Once the committee is up and running, a similar committee will be explored at Jared Eliot School.

8. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

K. Russo was recognized for her years of service to the Board. The Board thanked her for her dedication and wished her well.

A list of upcoming subcommittee meetings was shared. Minutes for the most recent meetings of the Instruction and Wellness subcommittees were included in the Board packet.

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Establish a Standing Subcommittee of the Board of Education for Personnel

Chairperson E. Gelven recommended the establishment of a standing Personnel subcommittee to study operations in this area and to make recommendations for Board of Education action related to such items as hiring, personnel policies, staff supervision/evaluation, human resource processes/procedures, and legal requirements related to personnel. P. Nye expressed support for the idea. J. Adler spoke in support of such a subcommittee as long as appropriate boundaries were maintained. E. Gelven stated that the subcommittee would work thoughtfully and collaboratively with administration. Also, the Technology Subcommittee will be eliminated as it is discussed under the Buildings & Grounds subcommittee.

MOTION: To approve the establishment of a Personnel standing subcommittee of the Board Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Michael Hornyak.

Catherine Staunton: Yea
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

B. General Updates

9. Second Reading and Possible Approval of 2022 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule

MOTION: To approve the 2022 Board of Education Regular Meeting schedule as presented. Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Peter Nye.

Catherine Staunton: Yea
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10. Personnel Information

A personnel update was included in the Board packet.

11.Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Carried with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Catherine Staunton.

Catherine Staunton: Yea

Christopher Passante: Yea

Erica Gelven: Yea

Jason Adler: Yea

Kimberly Russo: Yea

Michael Hornyak: Yea

Peter Nye: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Michael Hornyak, Board Secretary

Allison Friday, Board Recorder