



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, November 6, 2023 7:00 PM

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

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Jason Adler: | Present |
| 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 Director Carolyn Dickey, Board Recorder Allison Friday, and Student Representatives to the Board Sean Davis, Mason Jakober, and Madelyn Sacta Guartazaca.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the pledge. Attendees were reminded that the meeting was being recorded.

2. Public participation/recognition

There was no public participation.

3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of October 16, 2023

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 16, 2023. Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Peter Nye.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Abstain: 1

4. Communications

There were no communications.

5. Report of Student Representatives

The student representatives shared highlights and news from each of the schools. The Morgan School girls soccer won the Shoreline Championship and dedicated their win to recently deceased coach Steve Sullivan. The Climate Committee and National Honor Society are both in full swing. The homecoming game and dance are set for Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11, respectively. At Eliot, the annual walk-a-thon raised over \$7,000. Veterans Day assemblies will take place at all three schools on Friday, November 10. The Eliot school musical this year will be *The Addams Family* and performances are scheduled for April 19 and 20, 2024. At Joel, the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department ran safety demonstrations for the students. At Joel, the annual Monster Mash was very successful, and Family Math Night will be held on November 9.

6. Administrative Reports

A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

1. Recognition of Morgan Scholars 2023

The Board and administrators recognized the following students who, through their academic performance, earned the Morgan Scholar Award this year:

- Kasey Allin
- Kayla Brinkman
- Nina Fishman
- Isabella Johnson
- Katie Nguyen
- Olivia Ruotolo
- Oliver Taboada

M. O'Donnell acknowledged the sacrifice both parents and students made in attaining this achievement. The students were awarded a Morgan Sweatshirt with "Morgan Scholar" embroidered on it in recognition of their achievements. In addition, the students' accomplishments will be engraved on a plaque displayed in the high school's academic showcase. This year's announcement makes 282 students honored as Morgan Scholars since the program's inception in 1990.

General Update

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. General Update

M. Famiglietti reported on upcoming professional development for related arts teachers. Revisions to the elementary report cards are ongoing in order to reflect the new literacy program. The PDEC (Professional Development Evaluation Committee) met recently and formed subcommittees to make revisions to the teacher evaluation process. The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being explored to enhance teaching, streamline administrative tasks, and improve student outcomes. The district is collaborating with Clinton Human Services to increase suicide awareness and prevention.

C. Business Manager's Report

1. Bills Payable

There was a question regarding repair and maintenance costs shared with DPW.

2. Food Service Corrective Action Plan

C. Dickey reviewed a plan that was recently submitted and required by the state to reduce the Food Services Department's excess operating balance. She noted that Food Services Director Jon Siciliano was instrumental in identifying approximately \$300K in school kitchen equipment and tools that could be applied in the corrective action plan.

3. General Update

The audit of FY23 is ongoing. Budget conversations for FY25 have started.

7. Superintendent's Report

A. School Security Grant

The district applied for two school security grants last year. The School Security Grant Program (SSGP) was not awarded any funding, but \$6,730.52 was awarded under the Multi-Media School Security Grant Program (MMSSGP). The funds will be sent to the town finance department.

B. General Update

Veterans Day Assemblies will be held on Friday, November 10. Eliot School will hold it's assembly at 8:30 AM, Morgan's will be held at 10 AM, and Joel will hold it's ceremony at 2:15 PM. Board members were invited to attend.

8. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

A. General Updates

The minutes of the last Budget/Finance Subcommittee meeting were included in the Board packet.

9. Second Reading and Approval of 2024-2025 District Calendar

MOTION: To approve the 2024-2025 district calendar as presented. Carried with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Alan Samet.

Jason Adler: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Alan Samet: Yea
Jack Scherban: Yea
Catherine Staunton: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

10. Second Reading and Approval of 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule

MOTION: To approve the 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting schedule as presented. Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Peter Nye.

- Jason Adler: Yea
 - Erica Gelven: Yea
 - Michael Hornyak: Yea
 - Peter Nye: Yea
 - Alan Samet: Yea
 - Jack Scherban: Yea
 - Catherine Staunton: Yea
- Yea: 7, Nay: 0

11. Review and Approval of Revised 2023-2024 Substitute Rates

M. O'Donnell reviewed the 2023-24 hourly rates for substitutes.

MOTION: To revise the 2023-2024 substitute rates to reflect the increase in minimum wage effective January 1, 2024. Carried with a motion by Jack Scherban and a second by Jason Adler.

- Jason Adler: Yea
 - Erica Gelven: Yea
 - Michael Hornyak: Yea
 - Peter Nye: Yea
 - Alan Samet: Yea
 - Jack Scherban: Yea
 - Catherine Staunton: Yea
- Yea: 7, Nay: 0

12. Personnel Information

M. O'Donnell shared the latest personnel information.

13. Executive Session Anticipated re: Pending Claim or Litigation

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 7:44 PM and invite Superintendent O'Donnell and Business Manager Carolyn Dickey to discuss a pending claim or litigation. Carried with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Michael Hornyak.

- Jason Adler: Yea
 - Erica Gelven: Yea
 - Michael Hornyak: Yea
 - Peter Nye: Yea
 - Alan Samet: Yea
 - Jack Scherban: Yea
 - Catherine Staunton: Yea
- Yea: 7, Nay: 0

14. **Adjournment**

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:02 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. Carried with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Peter Nye.

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

Yea: 7, Nay: 0