

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Mary Tomasi, Suesen Hickey, Jessica Morozowich, Amy Domeika, Mitch Koziol at 6:19 pm., Student Member Shannon Hickey.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chair Chris McGlynn Joanne Rose.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Superintendent Jeffrey Burt, Principal Colchester Elementary School Principal Judy O'Meara, Jack Jackter Intermediate School Principal Elise Butson, Director of Teaching and Learning Charles Hewes, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education Kathleen Perry, Director of Education Operations Mario Hurtado, Director of Human Resources Shannon Ramsby, Darren Smith Director of Digital Learning and Innovation.

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Mary Tomasi called this Regular Board of Education meeting to order at 6:06 pm with a roll call for attendance. A quorum was present. Chair Tomasi led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Superintendent Burt requested the addition of Item 9.1 Language Arts Curriculum and Item 10.2 Dissolution of Ad-Hoc Consolidation Committee.

Motion by: J. Morozowich

to approve the addition of Item 9.1 Language Arts Curriculum and 10.2 Dissolution of Ad-Hoc Consolidation Committee.

Second by: S. Hickey.

Vote: Unanimous

3. CELEBRATIONS

3.1 Welcome Back Video

A video from some of the Board of Education members, parents, students and First Selectman Mary Bylone welcomed the students and teachers back to school.

3.2 New Employees Slides

Superintendent Burt presented a slide showing to introduce new teachers and staff.

District - Kendra Kickinson – ELL Coordinator

Dawn LePage – Human Resources Assistant

Heather Petit – Teaching and Learning Office Professional

Ann Marie Sammataro - Communications Office Professional

CES – Christina Cornell Kindergarten Teacher

Emily Derick – Kindergarten Teacher

Lauren Muller

Kindergarten Teacher

Vanessa Santos Grade 1 Teacher

Madison Soucy – Grade 2 Teacher

Katilyn Turner – Speech Pathologist

Ashlea Wilson – Front Entrance Security

Board of Education
September 8, 2020 – Regular Meeting
ZOOM Meeting

JJIS – Matthew Dolbey – Grade 5 Teacher
Mariah Lipscomb – Special Education Teacher
Meaghan Menesale – Special Education teacher
Julie Pelland – Music Teacher
Sophia Peters – Grade 4 Teacher
Katie Russo – Social Worker
Ana Rose Webster – Grade 3 Teacher
Hailey Wilk – Grade 4 Teacher

WJJMS – Jessica Rhodes – Math Teacher

BA - Bhupal Babajiyavar – Business Teacher
Jaime Grzych – Math Teacher
Michael Orfao – Special Education Teacher
Kenneth Rosa – Front entrance Security

3.3 Employee Longevity Awards

A slide show of the Employee Longevity Awards was shown. Receiving recognition for 20 years of service are: Deborah Bialowas, Karen Graves, Anne Lemke from CES; Thomas Bech, Linda Kurczy Marjorie Perry Juia Putnam from JJIS; Cynthia Dako and Sharon Hatch-Duffy from WJJMS; and from BA, Christine Depew and Angie Parkinson.

Awards for 25 years go to Pamela Cannata, Tamson Rogers and Susan Tuohy from CES; Jill Leonard from JJIS; Karen Christianson, Anna Dipierro, Jodi Mendlinger and Raymond Watson from BA; Phyllis Taylor and Sandra Onderdonk from the District.

An award for 30 years was given to Lori Barrack from JJIS.

Awards for 35 years were given to Margaret Bonham from CES and to Nancy Condon from WJJMS

3.4 Staff of the Year

Congratulations were given to Teachers of the Year, Paraprofessionals of the Year and Classified Staff Member of the Year as follows:

Teacher Amy Rau, Paraprofessional Linda Rubin, and Classified Staff Member Susan Bartholomew from CES.

Teacher Linda Lane, Paraprofessional Holly Bolduc and Classified Staff Member Leanne Ranheim from JJIS.

Teacher Rebecca Nadeau, Paraprofessional Knikka Wetzel, and Classified Staff Member Jennifer Major from WJJMS.

Teacher Jennifer LaBombard, Paraprofessional Marquis Lawson and Classified Staff Member Susan McKiernan from BA.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments received.

5. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

5.1 Communications

No communications received.

5.2. First Day of School Update

Superintendent Burt stated that the first day of school went extremely well. There was high enthusiasm giving credit to the staff. Shannon Hickey said there was no First Day celebration as in past years but things went well.

5.3 2020-2021 Budget Update

There is no update at this time as the monthly budget meeting was cancelled due to work on grants and quarterly reports. This will be an ongoing item on the agenda.

6. POLICIES/REGULATIONS FOR FIRST READING

6.1 5000.4T Use of Face Coverings in School

Shipman Goodwin has provided this new, temporary COVID19-related policy on Use of Face Coverings in School. This policy will be revisited post-pandemic.

M. Koziol joined the meeting at the end of this discussion.

Motion by: S. Hickey

to approve the new, temporary COVID19-related Policy of Use of Face Coverings in School.

Second by: J. Morozowich

Vote: Abstaining: M. Koziol.

In favor: All others present. Approved.

7. PRIORITY DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Pay to Play Fees

A discussion followed of the Pay-To-Play policy considering a shortened season and less play time. Superintendent Burt recommended waiting until end of the season, if the season is shortened there may be a possibility of a pro-rated refund. Games will begin in October and are practicing in small groups.

8. GRANTS/OTHER FINANCIALS

8.1 ESSER Grant

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund) was established as part of the Education Stabilization Fund in the CARES Act. State education agencies (SEAs) will award subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs) to address the impact that the new Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the Nation.

C. Hewes noted that this grant will allow additional technology software to support distance learning.

Motion by: J. Morozowich

to accept the grant ESSER Grant in the amount of \$193,903.99.

Second by: M. Koziol.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

8.2 Donation of Video Security System Equipment

A donation of a video security system has been received from Peter Jones of Colchester complete with six cameras, a DVR for recording and all necessary information.

Motion by: S. Hickey
to accept this generous offer of the Video Security System equipment from Mr. Jones.

Second by: A. Domeika
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

8.3 Budget Transfer Over \$5,000 (None at this time)

9. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/ASSESSMENT

9.1 English Language Arts Curriculum

The revised English Language Arts Curriculum was approved by the Curriculum Committee to move to the full Board for approval.

Motion by: A. Domeika
to approve the revised English language Arts Curriculum.

Second by: M. Koziol.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

9.2 Digital Literacy & Innovations Curriculum

The Curriculum Committee B reviewed the curriculum and moved to the full Board for approval.

Motion by: J. Morozowich
to approve the revised Digital Literacy & Innovations Curriculum for 2020-21.

Second by: A. Domeika.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

9.3 Health and Wellbeing Curriculum

The Curriculum Committee reviewed the Curriculum and has moved it to the full Board for approval.

Motion by: J. Morozowich
to approve the Health and wellbeing Curriculum.

Second by: A. Domeika.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

9.4 Adoption of Education Evaluation Plan for 2020-2021

The Professional Growth and Development Committee has recommended to the Board of Education adoption of the proposed flexibilities afforded by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) to the Education Evaluation Plan for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Motion by: S. Hickey
to approve the Educator Evaluation Plan for 2020-2021.

Second by: A. Domeika.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

9.5 Update on Hybrid Model and At-Home Instruction

Superintendent Burt said the Hybrid Model was launched today. All students will be at home on Wednesdays with live instruction. Wednesday is considered an early release day. All teachers are working in teams. There are approximately eight percent of students staying at home full time.

10. CONTINUED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

10.1 WJMS Building Project Update

The concrete issues were solved by repouring, the sewer line issue has been resolved and the athletic fields are in good shape. The Building Committee will be contacted to complete the process by turning over the school to the Town.

10.2 Diversity Committee

Bylaw 9131 Standing Committees and Bylaw 9132 Adhoc Committees explain the differences between the two committees. The Board needs to make the determination whether the Diversity Committee is a Standing Committee or an Adhoc Committee. Chair Tomasi suggested this action be tabled as the focus groups are working and training. Another two months or so would give the Board more information. This item was tabled with an update to be given at the next BOE meeting.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

11.1 August 27, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

11.2 August 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion by: M. Koziol

to approve the Consent Agenda.

Second by: J. Morozowich.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

12. REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

12.1 Policy - none

12.2 Budget - none

12.3 Personnel - none

12.4 Ad-Hoc Curriculum – no further report

12.5 Ad-Hoc Consolidation

Chair Tomasi stated this committee should be dissolved as no action from the committee has taken place.

Motion by: M. Koziol

to dissolve the Ad-Hoc Consolidation Committee.

Second by: A. Domeika.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

12.6 Welcome Back Video – No further report.

13. REPORTS FROM BOARD LIAISONS

13.1 No reports at this time.

14. BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION ITEMS

14.1 Next Meetings

MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Personnel Committee	9/14/2020	5:30pm	BOE
Policy Committee	9/21/2020	5:30pm	BOE
Budget Committee	10/8/2020	9am	BOE
Board of Education	10/13/2020	6pm	CES

14.2 Enrollment Report – Enrollment for September 2020 is 2273 students.

14.3 Regulations – (None at this time)

14.4 Approved Committee Meeting Minutes (None at this time)

14.5 Monthly Budget Reports (None at this time)

14.6 Cafeteria Fund (None at this time)

14.7 Budget Transfer Under \$5,000 (None at this time)

Information items, no action taken.

15. INFORMATION ITEMS: NON-SUBSTANTIVE POLICY CHANGES

None at this time.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tomasi adjourned this Regular Meeting at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Recording Secretary