



# Board of Education Special Meeting

August 27, 2020 6:00 PM  
The Morgan School  
Cafe  
71 Killingworth Tpke  
Clinton, CT 06413

## Attendance Taken at 6:02 PM:

### Present Board Members:

Erica Gelven  
Michael Hornyak (via Zoom)  
Christopher Passante  
Catherine Staunton (via Zoom)

### Absent Board Members:

Jason Adler  
Omar Francis  
Kimberly Russo

## 1. Opening Exercises

### 1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

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

### 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All participants stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 2. Review and Possible Action re: Memorandum of Agreement with the Education Association of Clinton (Teachers)

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell explained that she started meeting with the teachers' union leadership in early August as the logistics of this school year impacts working conditions. The BOE attorney as well as the regional union representative for the teachers were involved in discussion. The MOA encompasses all forms of instruction (in-person, hybrid, and remote) as it relates to contracts and expectations. M. O'Donnell thanked the teachers' union for their efforts and continued partnership.

**Motion Passed:** To approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Education Association of Clinton as presented, passed with a motion by M. Hornyak and a second by Christopher Passante.

### 4 Years – 0 Nays

Erica Gelven	Yes
Jason Adler	Absent
Omar Francis	Absent
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Christopher Passante	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Absent
Catherine Staunton	Yes

**3. Review and Possible Action re: Contract Extension with the Clinton Administrators' Association**

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell reported that due to the uncertainty of the current times, all parties agreed that a one-year extension, encompassing the 2021-2022 school year, would be a preferred route as opposed to full negotiations. The only adjustment to the language is regarding payment of union dues, health insurance cost share (at 21.5%), and the salary schedule. The general wage increase is 1.25%, with one administrator receiving an additional 0.25% with step movement, for a total increase of 1.50%. Next summer, the group would begin the full negotiations process for a new three-year agreement.

M. O'Donnell has spoken with Chris Aniskovich and Karl Kilduff regarding the agreement. Previously, the practice has been to send the agreement to the Town Clerk. By law, if no action is taken within 30 days, the agreement stands. K. Kilduff has confirmed that, for full transparency, the agreement will be on the next Town Council agenda and they may take action not to reject the agreement.

**Motion Passed:** To approve a one-year contract extension with the Clinton Administrators' Association of Clinton as presented, passed with a motion by Christopher Passante and a second by Catherine Staunton.

**4 Years – 0 Nays**

Erica Gelven	Yes
Jason Adler	Absent
Omar Francis	Absent
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Christopher Passante	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Absent
Catherine Staunton	Yes

**4. Review and Possible Action re: Memorandum of Agreement with M&J Bus, Inc.**

Discussion:

C. Dickey reported that she has been working with an attorney and M&J Bus, Inc. to iron out specifics. The MOA hopes to address scenarios for in-person, hybrid and remote learning, the bus routes, cleaning supplies and schedules, and overall rider protocols. Discussion followed regarding the number of riders in the hybrid model and development of bus routes. It is hopeful that an agreement will be reached next week and a formal MOA will be available for approval at the next meeting.

**5. Review and Possible Action re: Leave of Absence Request**

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell explained that Stephanie Cox, a Paraeducator at Joel School, has submitted a formal request for a leave of absence. Per the contract, this is something that needs to be approved by the Board. The request also asks for continuation of benefits at the employee cost share. Discussion centered on past practice in regards to granting leaves of absence.

**Motion Passed:** To grant an unpaid leave of absence to Stephanie Cox for the 2020-2021 school year passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Catherine Staunton.

**4 Years – 0 Nays**

Erica Gelven	Yes
Jason Adler	Absent
Omar Francis	Absent
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Christopher Passante	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Absent
Catherine Staunton	Yes

## 6. Fall Sports Update

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell shared several letters that were recently sent by the Department of Public Health (DPH) to the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletics Conference (CIAC) regarding their recommendations for the fall sports season. The CIAC recently met with DPH to discuss the recommendations. On Sunday evening, the CIAC issued a statement that they are recommending that aerobic conditioning and non-contact drills begin on August 29<sup>th</sup> with appropriate mitigation protocols, including cohorting of students, in place. Girls volleyball and football still continue to be areas of concern and playing the season is questionable at this time. C. Passante and C. Staunton talked about the success of summer leagues in our area and the importance of sports and its impact on physical and mental health. M. O'Donnell has met with both Principal Hagness and Athletic Director Pappariella to develop a plan to align conditioning with cohorts and ensure proper mitigation strategies. It is expected that conditioning will begin the week of August 31<sup>st</sup>. L. Pappariella is forming an Athletics Advisory Committee to review guidance and formulate next steps for fall sports.

## 7. Technology Plan Update

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell shared that the district ordered 350 Chromebooks in the spring as part of the normal replacement cycle for students in grades 5 and 9. Additionally, Chrome tablets were ordered for students in PK, K and 1 to prepare for hybrid/distance learning. The district was notified this morning that shipping has been delayed due to production delays and those devices will not be received until early October.

M. Famiglietti reported that Technology Director Frank Rossi is working on developing a plan to repurpose approximately 250 devices to grades 2-4. These are devices that were slated to be replaced as they are still functional, they just will not be supported by Google.

Students in Cohort A will report to school on September 8<sup>th</sup> and receive their devices on the first day of class. Students in Cohort B will pickup devices on September 4<sup>th</sup> and login to Google Classroom on September 8<sup>th</sup>, the first day of school. Discussion occurred regarding student expectations, attendance tracking, and use of Google Meets with teachers. Teachers are planning 5 days of lessons, including recordings, to ensure that students who are in Cohort B begin the school year with instruction.

## 8. Adjournment

Discussion:

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM

**Motion Passed:** To adjourn at 7:26 PM passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Christopher Passante.

### 4 Years – 0 Nays

Erica Gelven	Yes
Jason Adler	Absent
Omar Francis	Absent
Michael Hornyak	Yes
Christopher Passante	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Absent
Catherine Staunton	Yes

Respectfully submitted by C. Cannamela