



Board of Education Regular Meeting

November 2, 2020 7:00 PM
via Zoom Teleconference

Attendance Taken at: 7:00 PM

Present Board Members:

Erica Gelven
Jason Adler
Michael Hornyak
Christopher Passante
Kimberly Russo
Catherine Staunton

Absent Board Members:

Omar Francis

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion: Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Business Manager Carolyn Dickey and student representatives Emma Lindsay and Aiden Maurais.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: All recited the pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion: None.

3. Minutes – Approval

3.A. Special Meeting of October 15, 2020

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes from the special meeting of October 15, 2020, passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Christopher Passante.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

3.B. Regular Meeting of October 19, 2020

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes from the regular meeting of October 19, 2020, passed with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Jason Adler.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

4. Communications

Discussion: No report.

5. Report of Student Representatives

Discussion: The Board welcomed new student representative Aiden Maurais. Emma Lindsay reported on Eliot events. Eliot 7th and 8th graders began remote learning on November 2 and Eliot parent conferences will be held on November 12. Eliot yearbooks are available for discounted pricing of \$16 for a limited time and Eliot students are participating in candy wrapper recycling. Eliot athletic scrimmages for 7th and 8th grade field hockey, soccer and other sports took place this fall with intersquad play. Eliot student athletes were provided practice drills and advice via skill videos created by Morgan team captains.

Morgan events reported on include the launch of a new video series, *Hey Morgan*, spearheaded by principal Keri Hagness. Fall sports are ending. Condolence cards were sent to a Connecticut school that experienced a recent student death, and memories of Morgan students who have passed in the last few years were discussed at school. The Board was encouraged to download the student PawPrint app.

6.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

6.A.1. General Update

Discussion: No report.

6.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

6.B.1. General Update

Discussion: M. Famiglietti shared information about the launch of *GoGuardian* for teachers that was the focus of professional development on October 22. He also informed the Board that the district has received 250 Chrome Tablets that were due in August but were delayed. We are still waiting on a delivery of approximately 350 Chromebooks that have been delayed. Discussion regarding attendance taking followed.

6.C. Business Manager's Report

6.C.1. Bills Payable

Discussion: There were no questions regarding bills payable.

6.C.2. General Update

Discussion: Work with auditors is ongoing and 2021-22 budget work has begun.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.A. Review of Adjusted Public Health Model

Discussion: The Superintendent shared the Department of Public Health's Town-level COVID Response Framework and Addendum 4 that provides updated guidance for decision-making regarding different learning models during COVID-19. M. O'Donnell discussed the distinction between the two and clarified how DPH and the State Department of Education expect districts and towns to utilize them in decision-making. She also discussed the increased restrictions due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the state.

The Board thanked her for her efforts and discussed preparation for switching learning models, advance notice of closures, attendance monitoring, contact tracing, and guidance/reminders for families during the holidays. M. O'Donnell praised teachers and M. Famiglietti for the teamwork exhibited this past weekend.

7.B. Roofing Project Update

Discussion: The roofing projects are wrapping up as a couple of elements are finalized.

7.C. Discussion regarding Weather-Related Closures as Remote Learning Days

Discussion: M. O'Donnell presented some learning model options for weather-related closures and listened to Board opinions regarding the subject. Superintendents were recently notified of the potential for remote learning in lieu of cancellation on days of inclement weather, also referred to as "snow days." The Board weighed the pros and cons of using the remote learning model during snow/weather days. The Superintendent will outline a proposal that meets the requirements outlined by the State Department of Education, including the provision of meals to students on snow-related remote learning days.

7.D. Budget Timeline

Discussion: A draft of the 2021-22 budget timeline was presented to the Board.

7.E. General Update

Discussion: None.

8. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

8.A. General Updates

Discussion: The Budget and Finance Subcommittee is meeting on November 9 with People's Bank regarding the non-certified staff pension. On November 4, the Building and Grounds Subcommittee will meet to discuss the capital plan.

9. First Reading of Policies

9.A. (New) #4322 Code of Ethics

9.B. #4302 Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

9.C. #5151 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 - Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

9.D. #5160 Transportation

Discussion: #4302 and #5151 have been updated to reflect federal changes that took effect in August. The approach to Title IX investigations has become more prescriptive. #4322 is a suggested new policy that complements existing policy #4318. #5160 has been revised in relation to a statutory reporting requirement.

10. Personnel Information

Discussion: The Board welcomed new hires and thanked those employees leaving the district.

11. Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 8:27 p.m. passed with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Michael Hornyak.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

Michael Hornyak, Secretary of the Board

Allison Friday, Clerk of the Board