



Board of Education Regular Meeting

December 7, 2020 7:00 PM
via Zoom Teleconference

Attendance Taken at: 7:00 PM

Present Board Members:

Erica Gelven
Michael Hornyak
Jason Adler
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, Aiden Maurais, and Jessica Flanagan. Director of Athletics Lew Pappariella, coaches, and student athletes attended remotely as well.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: All recited the pledge.

2. Election of Officers

Allison Friday, Clerk of the Board, opened the floor to nominations for the position of Board Chair. M. Hornyak nominated E. Gelven. No other nominations were made.

Motion Passed: To elect Erica Gelven as the Board Chairperson, effective immediately, passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

E. Gelven was congratulated on her appointment. She assumed the Office of Board Chair and then opened the floor to nominations for the Office of Secretary. E. Gelven nominated M. Hornyak. No other nominations were made.

Motion Passed: To elect Michael Hornyak to the position of Board Secretary, effective immediately, passed with a motion by Erica Gelven.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

M. Hornyak was congratulated and assumed the Office of Secretary.

3. Public participation/recognition

There was no public participation.

4. Minutes – Approval - Regular Meeting of November 16, 2020

Motion Passed: To approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 16, 2020, passed with a motion by M. Hornyak and a second by C. Staunton.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

5. Communications

Discussion: No report was made but M. Hornyak thanked the Board members for flowers sent to him during his recovery.

6. Report of Student Representatives

Discussion: E. Lindsay, J. Flanagan, and A. Maurais reported on events at all three schools. They discussed the transition back to the hybrid learning model that took place on December 3rd including staff and student feedback, increased student engagement, and challenges and solutions. The Junior Portfolio has been adapted to accommodate unprecedented times. Report cards for grades one through four will be sent on December 9th. Board members were encouraged to read the latest edition of the Morgan PawPrint.

7. Fall Sports Update

Discussion: Athletic Director L Pappariella introduced the fall sports coaches who, along with their players, updated the Board on their teams’ activities for the past few months. Despite the restrictions imposed due to Covid-19, all teams expressed their gratitude to administration and the Board for creating opportunities to play and practice this fall. Teams used a variety of

creative ways to train, play, and share their knowledge with other schools. All teams improved comradery, technique, and skillsets. L. Pappariella briefly discussed the winter sports season and CIAC's plan to consider a winter season after January 19. CIAC is also considering an alternative season and will be meeting to determine any necessary modifications to schedules. He thanked the community for its support and understanding.

The Board thanked Mr. Pappariella for all his efforts in making fall sports possible and noted the collaboration and hard work of the Clinton community, parents, student athletes, Department of Public Works, coaches, and administration in making the season a reality.

8. Administrative Reports

8.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

8.A.1. General Update

Discussion: No report

8.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

8.B.1. General Update

Discussion: In addition to the hybrid learning model starting on December 3rd, M. Famiglietti added that concurrent teaching had begun as well. Temporary remote students at Eliot and Morgan have been reincorporated and orientation programs were provided for them.

Professional development took place on December 4 to support the hybrid model as well as transitioning remote students, giving teachers time to look at available resources and plan accordingly.

8.C. Business Manager's Report

8.C.1. Bills Payable

Discussion: There were no questions regarding bills payable.

8.C.2. General Update

Discussion: Work with the auditors is finishing soon. 2021-22 budget preparation work continues. The business manager is in the process of requesting reimbursement for expenditures under the Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant.

9. Superintendent's Report

9.A. Learning Model Update

Discussion: M. O'Donnell discussed how the hybrid learning model was brought under a unified approach. Work continues to refine the model with the goal of streamlining schedules and supporting students, staff and families. The district is examining ways to move forward in the next few months including how to have meaningful assessments, support mental health, and deal with shifting quarantine guidelines. M. O'Donnell reviews the Covid numbers every week and is hopeful that Clinton can continue in the right direction so full in-person learning can take place in the new year.

9.B. Winter Sports Update

Discussion: Administration is preparing for whatever direction the CIAC decides to take mid-January. She thanked the Athletic Trainer for providing virtual opportunities for students. Cameras are slated to be installed soon with the goal of filming Morgan games in January.

9.C. General Update

Discussion: Budget meetings with administrators and directors are scheduled for the week of December 14. Items will be examined line by line to look for opportunities to stay fiscally responsible while providing students with a quality education.

The roofing projects need to be inspected and dates will be set by the manufacturer.

10. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

10.A. General Updates

Discussion: E. Gelven encouraged all Board members to participate in the budget process to provide perspective. The budget timeline was included in the Board packet.

11. First Reading of 2021-22 School Year Calendar

Discussion: None.

12. Personnel Information

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

13. Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 8:51 p.m. passed with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Catherine Staunton.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

Michael Hornyak, Secretary of the Board

Allison Friday, Clerk of the Board