

Board of Education  
January 10, 2017 – Regular Meeting  
Colchester Elementary School Cafeteria  
315 Halls Hill Road

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Ronald Goldstein, Donald Kennedy, Bradley Bernier, Michael Voiland, Renie Besaw, Mitchell Koziol; Student Member Anthony Tyler, Student Member Janaea Duddie.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mary Tomasi.

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:** Superintendent Jeffry Mathieu, Bacon Academy Principal Matthew Peel, William J. Johnston Middle School Principal Chris Bennett, Colchester Elementary School Principal Judy O’Meara, Jack Jackter Intermediate School Principal Elise Butson; Director of Teaching and Learning Charles Hewes, Assistant Director of Pupil Services and Special Education Josh Vinoski.

**Others present:** Board of Finance Liaison Andrea Migliaccio, Board of Selectmen Liaison Denise Mizla, CFO Maggie Cosgrove.

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Ronald Goldstein called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. CES second grade students Gehrig Bartiss, Jacoby Eisenberg, Jonathan Edwards, and Elizabeth Floyd along with Navy Seaman First Class Thomas O’Meara, Jr., and Army Private First Class Ray Ryan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Mathieu and Chairman Goldstein presented each student with a thank you card for their participation. The students presented thank you cards that they made to Seaman O’Meara and Private Ryan.

**1.1 Election of Vice Chairman**

Vice Chair Kennedy announced at the Board’s December meeting that, effective with the election of a new Vice Chair, he would no longer serve as Board Vice Chair. Board Chair Goldstein asked for nominations for a new Vice Chair.

**Motion by:** D. Kennedy

To nominate B. Bernier for the position of Vice Chairman of the Board of Education.

**Second by:** R. Besaw.

No other nominations received.

**Vote:** Unanimous to elect B. Bernier to the position of Vice Chairman.

**2. Citizen Comments**

No comments received.

**3. Additions to the Agenda by the Board of Education**

No additions this evening.

**4. Citizen Comments on Additions to the Agenda**

No additions, no comments.

**5. Consent Agenda**

- 5.1 Approval of Minutes
- 5.2 Field Trips (within the U.S.)
- 5.3 Removal of Obsolete Materials

**Motion by:** B. Bernier

To approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

**Second by:** R. Besaw.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**6. Communications/Correspondence**

One letter has been received and will be reviewed for the next meeting.

**7. Celebration**

7.1 **Strategic Plan Goal:** Students use academic, technical, social, and creative skills to innovate and solve personally meaningful real-world problems in a global context.

- Colchester Public Schools Give Back to Colchester and Global Communities

Colchester Public Schools and the entire District team continue to support a range of community initiatives. Superintendent Mathieu listed some of the most recent efforts and thanked the Schools for their outstanding thoughtfulness and generosity in giving back to the Colchester and Global Communities.

**8. Administrative Reports**

8.1 Superintendent's Report

8.1.1 JJIS Students Share Higher-Order Thinking (HOT) School Experiences

JJIS Principal Elise Butson introduced fifth grade teacher Helen Desrochers who in turn introduced students Noah Auden, Shayla Babcock, Madelyn Koziol, and Audra Putorti. The students shared their HOT School experiences with the Board, including their work with one of Jack Jackter's resident artists as well as work with JJIS production companies.

"The Higher-Order Thinking Schools program works with select Connecticut schools to promote teaching and learning in, about, and through the arts in a democratic setting."

Superintendent Mathieu and Chairman Goldstein presented each student with a Certificate of Appreciation.

8.2 Financial Reports

8.2.1 Budget Reports

Budget Chairman D. Kennedy reviewed the budget for the month ending December 31, 2016.

8.2.2 Request for Budget Transfer

A request to transfer \$\$10,000 from Information Technology Salary to Professional Development for training of the recently hired interim Senior Network Engineer.

**Motion by:** D. Kennedy

To approve the transfer as requested.

**Second by:** B. Bernier.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

8.2.3 Notification of Transfers

None this meeting.

8.2.4 Health Insurance Account

The Health Insurance Account was reviewed. Detailed account analysis is included in the information Packet for this meeting.

**9. Unfinished Business**

9.1 WJJMS Building Project Update

Superintendent Mathieu and Chairman Goldstein provided an update on the status of WJJMS Building project. Bids are being reviewed and construction is expected to begin late March or April.

9.2 Tools for Schools Update

Director of Educational Operations Ken Jackson updated the Board on the Tools for Schools program. Committees for each school have been formed. Director Jackson also updated the Board about the commissioning of the HVAC system at Colchester Elementary School. The Commissioning Report is complete and it includes a listing of issues to be addressed, provided funding is in place, all work should be completed by June.

9.3 Series 4000 Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs Policy – Second Reading

This model policy defines the Board's position in accordance with CT General Statute Section 10-212b\*.

9.4 Series 4000 Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Adults with Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder Policy – Second Reading

This policy is required under Section 46a-11b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

\***Motion by:** B. Bernier

To approve the Series 4000 Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs Policy and the Series 4000\_Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Adults with Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder Policy as a block.

**Second by:** D. Kennedy

**Vote:** Unanimous.

## **10. New Business**

### 10.1 Series 1000 Loitering or Causing Disturbance Policy – First Reading

A minor change to clarify language was added to this policy.  
As this is the first reading, no action was taken.

### 10.2 Bylaw 9322 Public and Executive Sessions – First Reading

The section of this Bylaw that pertains to smoking has been superseded by Board Policy Series 1000 Prohibition on Smoking.  
First reading, no action.

### 10.3 Bylaw 9325 Meeting Conduct – First Reading

The Citizens' Comments section of Bylaw #9325 was clarified.  
First reading, no action.

### 10.4 Request for Use of Unexpended Funds for Capital Projects

Pursuant to long-standing practice, funds remaining unexpended at the end of any fiscal year are earmarked for Board of Education capital needs. Director of Educational Operations Ken Jackson identified three high-priority items and the costs associated with these items (including work required to address the Commissioning Report for CES).

Director of Educational Operations Ken Jackson provided a detailed explanation of the request. The BOE Budget Committee is supportive of the Board sending this request.

**Motion by:** D. Kennedy

To request that the Board of Finance approve, subject to Town meeting (if necessary) the appropriation of prior years' unexpended funds for three capital items: 1) Building system repairs and upgrades at CES; 2) replacement of obsolete VAV controllers at BA; and 3) replacement of the Ford Transit Van, items not to exceed \$117,960.

**Second by:** M. Voiland.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**Motion by:** D. Kennedy

To move Item 11 - Chairman's Report to this point in the agenda.

**Second by:** R. Besaw.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

## **11. Chairman's Reports**

### 11.1 Committee Assignments

Chairman Goldstein reviewed the new assignments with Board members:

Personnel: R. Goldstein, D. Kennedy, M. Voiland

Policy: M. Voiland, D. Kennedy, M. Koziol

Budget: B. Bernier, R. Besaw, M. Tomasi

11.2 Liaison Assignments

New Assignments:

- B. Bernier: Fire Department, Board of Finance, WJJMS Building Committee
- R. Besaw: Board of Selectmen
- R. Goldstein: PTO Collaborative
- D. Kennedy: School PTOs, School Readiness Council, Bacon Academy Graduation
- M. Koziol: Police Commission
- M. Tomasi: Collaborative for Colchester’s Children, Commission on Aging/Senior Center
- M. Voiland: Park & Recreation, Youth and Social Services

10.5 Board Workshop on Innovation Nation

Director of Teaching and Learning Charles Hewes facilitated a Board workshop on the District’s Innovation Nation initiative and the shift to personalized learning.

**11. Chairman’s Report – Moved to earlier in the agenda**

- 11.1 Committee Assignments
- 11.2 Liaison Assignments

**12. Information Items**

- 12.1 Enrollment for December is **2,481** students.
- 12.2 2017-18 School Year Calendar Revised
- 12.3 HOT Schools Professional Development Funding
- 12.4 Facilities Department Project Status Report FY 2015/2016 and 2016/2017  
Information only, no action taken.

**13. Adjournment**

- Motion by:** M. Koziol.  
To adjourn this regular meeting.
- Second by:** D. Kennedy.
- Vote:** Unanimous.

Chairman Goldstein adjourned the meeting at 9:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade  
Recording Secretary