



## Board of Education Regular Meeting

February 03, 2020 7:00 PM  
Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137-B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

### 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

#### Updated Attendance:

Christopher Passante was updated to present at: 7:30 PM

### 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 Representative Jenna Kareliussen.

#### 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

#### Discussion:

All stood for the pledge.

### 2. Public participation/recognition

#### Discussion:

There was no public participation.

### 3. Minutes - Approval

#### 3.A. Special Meetings of January 13, 2020

**Motion Passed:** To approve the minutes of the two special meetings of January 13, 2020, passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Kimberly Russo.

### 5 Yeas - 0 Nays

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

### **3.B. Special Meeting of January 22, 2020**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the minutes of the special meeting of January 22, 2020, passed with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Jason Adler.

#### **5 Yeas - 0 Nays**

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

### **3.C. Regular Meeting of January 27, 2020**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 27, 2020, passed with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Kimberly Russo.

#### **5 Yeas - 0 Nays**

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

### **4. Communications**

#### **Discussion:**

The Joel School will be holding its 100th Day Celebration on February 28 from 9-10 a.m. Board members were invited to attend.

### **5. Report of Student Representatives**

#### **Discussion:**

J. Kareliussen reported on the success of the Kindergarten and 1st grade math night at Joel. The winter session of the After Hours program at Eliot has ended. Shrek the Musical Jr. has been selected as the Eliot musical. Eliot boys basketball has two games the week of February 3 against Westbrook and Lyme/Old Lyme.

At Morgan, mid-terms are over. Tickets for Taste of Shoreline and Silent Auction, which supports Project Graduation 2020, have sold out.

## 6. Review and Possible Action re: 2020-2021 Budget

**Motion Passed:** To approve the Proposed 2020-21 Operating Budget as presented passed with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Catherine Staunton.

### 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

#### Discussion:

M. O'Donnell indicated three Proposed Operating Budget 2020-21 line items which have changed since the last Board meeting on January 27: the non-certified employee pension, electricity, and tuition. The adjustments will bring the proposed budget request down to an increase of 1.85%. This would bring the total proposed budget increase (including the proposed Operating, Debt and Capital budgets) to 1.63%.

Details of the changes were provided: Electricity increases will be offset by the closing of Pierson so the line item will drop \$25K. M. O'Donnell, C. Dickey, and the actuaries have recommended funding the non-certified pension at a rate of \$491,221, a drop of approximately \$50K from the January 27th numbers. An increase of \$30K to the special education tuition line has been recommended.

Questions followed regarding the types of assets in the pension and the percentage contribution by employees.

C. Passante arrived at 7:30 p.m.

The Superintendent provided a brief overview of the pension plan and recent updates to it. C. Dickey stressed her office's focus on reducing liability, the conservative nature of the bank administering the plan, and the movement toward a fully funded plan.

Questions followed regarding FMLA unpaid leave, a part-time cafeteria position at Joel, and special education outplacement expenses/insurance/contracts.

After the approval of the budget, M. O'Donnell described the next steps in the budget process. It will be presented to the Town Manager on February 11 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall. On February 20, the BOE budget will be discussed and the Town Council will be able to ask questions. Budgets will be finalized by Town Council on March 3 and the budget will be sent to a public hearing on April 8.

## 7. Administrative Reports

### 7.A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

#### 7.A.1. General Update

### 7.B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

#### 7.B.1. General Update

#### Discussion:

M. Famiglietti informed Board members that the Next Generation Accountability Results (NGAR) for 2018-19 have been released by the state. The NGAR provides a type of report card on districts state-wide using twelve indicators including math, literacy, and science state summative assessment scores. He will provide a full presentation at the next Board meeting in March, but highlights include Pierson

school being named a School of Distinction for "high needs" growth in math and all schools showing an increase in math achievement.

The district is pursuing two competitive grants, one for ESL (English as a Second Language) students, and the other for immigrant students and their families as they transition to the area. A supplemental Perkins Grant is also being applied for in conjunction with the Tech Ed department.

The scheduling process for the 2020-21 school year has begun at Eliot and Morgan.

## **7.C. Business Manager's Report**

### **7.C.1. Bills Payable**

Discussion:

There were no questions regarding bills payable.

### **7.C.2. Audit Results 2019-20**

Discussion:

The audit results for 2018-19 were presented to the town by the auditors on January 22, 2020. The Superintendent described the process as thorough and credited C. Dickey and the Business Office for the positive audit results. She highlighted strong communication and partnership with the Town Finance Office.

### **7.C.3. General Update**

Discussion:

Application to the state for the new roofing projects is underway.

The new Food Services Department software application is being set up, as well as a new online payment system for the lunch program.

## **8. Superintendent's Report**

### **8.A. Roof Project Update**

Discussion:

M. Hornyak gave an update on the Eliot and Joel school roofing projects. A vendor, Silver Petrucelli & Associates, has been chosen. Having already done roof work for the district, the vendor will be able to streamline the process. The cost for the Joel roof is approximately \$2.1MM. The cost for the Eliot roof is approximately \$528K. Work should start as soon as school closes this summer and is scheduled to finish by August 24th.

### **8.B. General Update**

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell continues to monitor state legislation.

## **9. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees**

### **9.A. General Updates**

Discussion:

The Public Relations subcommittee will be working on a budget newsletter.

The Wellness subcommittee will be working on updating the wellness policy and incorporating suggested language from the recent food services audit.

A new Food Services software application is being implemented district-wide to provide improved payment options for parents.

The Building and Grounds subcommittee will be focused on the Eliot pipe replacement project.

The Policy subcommittee will focus on revising the 4000 and 6000 series policies.

The Board reviewed the subcommittee rosters. E. Gelven detailed the subcommittee schedule for the Board. E. Gelven and M. O'Donnell will determine dates and email suggestions to the Board.

## **10. Field Trip Update**

Discussion:

The Board was made aware of a second grade field trip to Garde Arts Center in New London in March.

## **11. Second Reading and Possible Adoption of Policies**

### **11.A. Revised #5164 - Graduation Requirements**

**Motion Passed:** To adopt revised policy #5164 - Graduation Requirements as presented passed with a motion by Kimberly Russo 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

Discussion:

Discussion followed regarding the Honors Algebra and Honors Spanish courses at the Eliot school.

## **12. Personnel Items**

### **12.A. Staff Appointments**

#### **12.A.1. Appointment of Extra-Pay Staff - Girls Tennis at Morgan**

**Motion Passed:** To appoint Larry Chapman as the Girls Tennis Head Coach at Morgan passed with a motion by Kimberly Russo 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

### **12.B. Information**

### 13. Adjournment

**Motion Passed:** To adjourn at 8:41 p.m. passed with a motion by Catherine Staunton 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

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Michael Hornyak, Secretary of the Board

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Allison Friday, Clerk of the Board