



## **Board of Education Regular Meeting**

Monday, May 1, 2023 7:00 PM

Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137 B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Jason Adler: Present

Erica Gelven: Present

Michael Hornyak: Present

Peter Nye: Absent

Alan Samet: Absent

Jack Scherban: Present

Catherine Staunton: Present

Attendance Update Taken at 7:10 PM.

Peter Nye: Present

### **1. Opening Exercises**

#### **A. Roll call**

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, and Business Manager Carolyn Dickey. They were joined by student representatives Abel Rodriguez and Caroline King. Attendees were reminded that the meeting was being recorded.

#### **B. Pledge of Allegiance**

All stood for the pledge.

### **2. Public participation/recognition**

There was no public participation.

### **3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of April 3, 2023**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 3, 2023. Carried with a motion by Catherine Staunton and a second by Jack Scherban.

Jason Adler: Yea  
Erica Gelven: Yea  
Michael Hornyak: Abstain  
Peter Nye: Absent  
Alan Samet: Absent  
Jack Scherban: Yea  
Catherine Staunton: Yea  
Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 2, Abstain: 1

#### **4.Communications**

There were no communications.

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

A. Rodriguez reported on The Morgan School events. Junior Portfolio took place on April 6. Students attended the Yale Art Gallery, and the Yale Physics competition where they came in 4th place. Quinnipiac law students visited Morgan to speak about immigration. Upcoming events include a chorus concert on May 3, the band concert on May 10, Jr. Prom on May 19, Senior Prom on May 26, Senior Week starting May 31, and a senior trip to Six Flags. Eleventh grader Maeve Madura scored her 100th career lacrosse goal. C. King also provided a report on activities at Jared Eliot School, specifically the success of *Willy Wonka Jr.*, Nature's Classroom, the fifth graders' trip to Bushy Hill, and upcoming concerts including the band concert on May 8 and the chorus concert on May 16. Eighth grade graduation is scheduled for June 9. Smarter Balanced testing will take place in May. Field Day is taking place on June 7, and Career Day is May 26. At the Joel School, Kindergarten students are learning sign language for a presentation on May 24, Progress reports are due on May 5, June 1 is a field day, and students enjoyed a retirement party for Gizmo, a therapy dog, on April 21. Marine Science Day is May 25.

#### **6.Review and Possible Approval of Field Trip**

Morgan teachers Eric Carroll and Shannon Robinson, along with principal Keri Hagness presented their proposal for a field trip to Venice, Florence, and Rome, Italy for Spring 2024. Expenses, relevancy to curriculum, scholarships, chaperones, travel, and equity and accessibility in the application process were discussed.

MOTION: To approve a field trip to Italy in April 2024 as presented. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Catherine Staunton.

Jason Adler: Yea  
Erica Gelven: Yea  
Michael Hornyak: Yea  
Peter Nye: Yea  
Alan Samet: Absent  
Jack Scherban: Yea  
Catherine Staunton: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### **7.Administrative Reports**

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

## **1.General Update**

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

#### **1.General Update**

M. Famiglietti informed the Board of a letter sent to parents of Joel and Eliot students regarding the new literacy program. In conjunction with the state's Chief Manufacturing Officer Paul Lavoie, the Morgan school will host the Second Annual Advanced Manufacturing Open House on June 6. Local advanced manufacturing companies will host booths and display employment opportunities for students who choose an advanced manufacturing pathway. On June 7, an end-of-year picnic is scheduled for Joel ESL teachers, teachers, and immigrant families.

He also detailed the rigorous search for a new principal at Joel School. Finalists will be selected by the week of May 5 and interviews with the Superintendent will be scheduled for the week of May 8.

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

#### **1.Bills Payable**

J. Scherban had a few questions regarding payees.

#### **2.Quarterly Expenditure & Revenue Reports**

C. Dickey reviewed the quarterly expenditure and revenue reports for the Board.

#### **3.Health Insurance Renewal Update**

The health insurance renewal quote has dropped from 10% to 7.1%.

#### **4.General Update**

C. Dickey provided an updated review of the current year operating budget with analysis of potential end-of-year funds.

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

### **A.2023-24 Budget Update**

M. O'Donnell provided an update on the 2023-24 operating budget to the Board. The budget referendum will be held on May 10.

### **B.School Security Grant Update**

Two school security grants have been submitted and, if awarded, would reimburse the town for \$100,132. One reimbursement grant is for approximately \$74K. The other grant is for \$26,132. M. O'Donnell discussed the school security checklist with the Board and talked about meeting a majority of the recommended security and crisis response processes. Decisions on the awarding of funds are likely to be made by the fall.

**C. Discussion and Possible Approval re: Use of 2022-23 Operating Funds for Special Expenditures**

M. O'Donnell presented a set of needs for the Board's review, discussion, and consideration which total \$88,865. Discussion followed regarding a request for money for Chromebooks and replacements. Other items on the list included fencing strips, cafeteria tables, door locks, plumbing, and windscreens for the tennis courts. Items would be included in the capital budget if not approved by the Board.

MOTION: To approve the expenditure of no more than \$90,000 from the 2022-23 operating budget Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Jack Scherban.

Jason Adler: Yea  
Erica Gelven: Yea  
Michael Hornyak: Yea  
Peter Nye: Yea  
Alan Samet: Absent  
Jack Scherban: Yea  
Catherine Staunton: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**D. General Update**

M. O'Donnell provided the Board with a list of upcoming events and shared that she had met with Town Manager Karl Kilduff regarding pickleball court locations.

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

**A. General Updates**

**10. IDEA Grant Authorization**

MOTION: To authorize the submission of the IDEA grant as presented. Carried with a motion by Jason Adler and a second by Peter Nye.

Jason Adler: Yea  
Erica Gelven: Yea  
Michael Hornyak: Yea  
Peter Nye: Yea  
Alan Samet: Absent  
Jack Scherban: Yea  
Catherine Staunton: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

**11. Personnel Information**

**12. Adjournment**

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Catherine Staunton.

Jason Adler: Yea  
Erica Gelven: Yea  
Michael Hornyak: Yea  
Peter Nye: Yea  
Alan Samet: Absent  
Jack Scherban: Yea  
Catherine Staunton: Yea  
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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Michael Hornyak, Board Secretary

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Allison Friday, Board Recorder