



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, August 21, 2023 7:00 PM

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

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Jason Adler:	Absent
Erica Gelven:	Present
Michael Hornyak:	Present
Peter Nye:	Present
Alan Samet:	Present
Jack Scherban:	Present
Catherine Staunton:	Present

1. Opening Exercises

A. Roll call

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, and Business Manager Carolyn Dickey.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the pledge. E. Gelven welcomed everyone and reminded attendees that the meeting was being recorded.

2. Public participation/recognition

There was no public participation.

3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of July 17, 2023

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 17, 2023. Carried with a motion by Michael Hornyak and a second by Alan Samet.

Jason Adler:	Absent
Erica Gelven:	Yea
Michael Hornyak:	Yea
Peter Nye:	Abstain
Alan Samet:	Yea
Jack Scherban:	Yea
Catherine Staunton:	Abstain

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 2

Communications

M. Hornyak read a thank you note from the family of Stephen Sullivan.

4. Administrative Reports

A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

1. Summer Food Service Report

J. Siciliano, Director of Food Services, provided an overview to the Board regarding summer work, student meals, and staffing. He detailed the types of meal services, and noted that all USDA waivers have expired so lunches will no longer be free, but that free breakfasts will be provided to all students this year. Free/Reduced lunch students will be given free lunches. Otherwise, lunches at Joel will cost \$3.25 and lunches at Eliot and Morgan will cost \$3.50. Because of all the changes, his department will be sending free/reduced lunch application packages home to families in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Mandarin. Letters and flyers to parents will be sent with the updated information and the weekly blasts will have it as well. J. Siciliano also provided figures for the work his department did over the summer feeding Clinton students attending the YMCA program. Joel has an updated HVAC system in the cafeteria, as well as a walk-in refrigerator, and a new freezer bank. Eliot has a new 3-bay sink, walk-in freezer, serving lane and sandwich station. Finally, efforts to staff his department are going well, with only one position unfilled to date.

2. Summer Technology Report

Director of Technology Frank Rossi highlighted summer work in his department including security implementation and upgrades at Eliot, Joel, and districtwide, and discussed hardware replacement in Central Office, food services, and with regard to printers. Relating to long-range planning, he is working with M. Famiglietti to form a committee to cover staff needs and implementation of smart boards at Morgan.

3. Summer Maintenance Report

Director of Buildings & Grounds Gonzalo Carrion updated the Board on the major projects completed this summer. These included grant-funded water fountain upgrades at Joel and Eliot, the installation of the Joel logo in the gym, new carpeting in Central Office, and bathroom refurbishing at Joel. He praised his staff and the contractor at Joel for their cooperation this summer in getting the HVAC system and coolers installed. In addition to the usual summer cleaning, Eliot work included hallway abatement and tile replacement, refinishing the gym floor, painting the front pillars, and replacing thermostats. Morgan projects included refinishing the gym floor, painting the D wing, and regular repair and maintenance.

4. Extended School Year Report

Special Services Supervisor Melissa Noyes gave an overview of the Extended School year (ESY) program. The ESY program provides services for special education, related services, and multilingual students. She described the factors and considerations made to determine the programming needs. The makeup of staff included 12 teachers, 21 paraeducators, nurses, behavior technicians, counselors, and related services professionals. She provided a breakdown of the programs provided including the number of students served and the emphasis of the programs. She gave special thanks to ESY Coordinator Emily Kelsey, the nurses, staff, Joel administration, maintenance, and the Joel office and custodial staff.

5. General Update

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. School Climate Survey Results

M. Famiglietti provided an overview of the school climate survey responses gathered this spring from parents and students. Staff responses will be analyzed in a subcommittee meeting. The Safe School Climate Survey is sent out annually and is in response to state statutes. Questions are kept consistent year after year in order to make accurate comparisons between findings. Programs and systems are in place to create a safe school climate and mechanisms are in place for issues if they arise. The survey questions revolve around the areas of safety and a welcoming environment, and provide space for open-ended responses. The results were consistent with last year's numbers, with a high number of students feeling safe and fewer of them being the target of hurtful social media. Physical areas of concern continue to be bathrooms, corridors and playgrounds. Parent numbers indicated they felt more welcome and felt communication had improved.

Administration will use the survey results for new and continuing initiatives, including a Morgan leadership group and revised weekly blasts. Questions followed regarding anonymous reports and physical areas of concern.

2. General Update

M. Famiglietti's general update included information about the upcoming events to open the school year, including the annual breakfast held for substitutes, new teacher orientation, and convocation scheduled for Wednesday, August 23rd. He also noted that the state has released results for the Next Generation Science test, the Smarter Balanced assessments, the SATs, and LAS Links, an English language proficiency assessment. He also touched on the state's new teacher evaluation system which allows districts more control over evaluations.

C. Business Manager's Report

1. Bills Payable

There were no questions regarding bills payable.

2. Quarterly Expenditure & Revenue Reports

C. Dickey reviewed the final expenditure and revenue numbers for Q4. To date, it looks like approximately \$163,630 will be returned to the town as end-of-year funds. The final figure is due on September 1.

3. General Update

The business office is performing its general duties of closing out old purchase orders, opening the new year, and working with the auditors. Her office was also notified that the recent storm may have impacted the security cameras at Morgan. The technology department is assessing the damage to determine next steps.

5. Superintendent's Report

A. Legislative Update

M. O'Donnell reviewed a myriad of legislative updates that will impact the district, some of which will go into effect as of September 1. They include changes to professional development and evaluation, training requirements for special services staff, exit surveys for teachers, substitute

teacher requirements, and HVAC/air quality mandates. The Board will address the items in various subcommittees.

B. Transportation Routes Update

M. O'Donnell shared details regarding the transportation routes which will be posted on the website on August 22. The routes were developed after a June meeting with M & J Bus and included modifications requested by parents. There was a question regarding the percentage of students using the buses. An analysis will be performed.

C. Review and Possible Action re: Additional Teacher Stipends

In Fall 2022, the BOE Stipend special subcommittee worked with EAC representatives to examine extra pay positions and identified several positions as ones that should have a stipend. M. O'Donnell recommended these stipends be added through a Memorandum of Agreement. All funding would come from the student activity budgets, unfilled positions, and grant funding, and would total approximately \$15K. There were questions regarding the Chemical Hygiene Officer who would help create the Chemical Hygiene Plan and enforce it.

MOTION: To authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the addition of stipends to the agreement with the Education Association of Clinton as presented. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Jack Scherban.

Jason Adler: Absent
Erica Gelven: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Alan Samet: Yea
Jack Scherban: Yea
Catherine Staunton: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

D. General Update

M. O'Donnell provided the Board with the three-day back-to-school schedule for teachers and paraeducators, information regarding the New Teacher Orientation, and convocation. Board members were invited to attend. She also informed the Board that the Joel HVAC had passed inspection and noted the efforts of the contractor and Joel's head custodian, Nelson Garriga.

6. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

A. Policy Subcommittee Update re: Non-Morgan Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities

The Board discussed next steps for a policy regarding non-Morgan participation in interscholastic athletics and extra-curricular activities. The Board concluded that advice delivered by the district's attorneys in executive session was necessary.

B. General Updates

7. Personnel Information

The Superintendent provided an update on staffing.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Catherine Staunton.

Jason Adler:	Absent
Erica Gelven:	Yea
Michael Hornyak:	Yea
Peter Nye:	Yea
Alan Samet:	Yea
Jack Scherban:	Yea
Catherine Staunton:	Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Michael Hornyak, Board Secretary

Allison Friday, Board Recorder