



Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, September 20, 2021 7:00 PM

via Zoom Teleconference

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Catherine Staunton:	Absent
Christopher Passante:	Present
Erica Gelven:	Present
Jason Adler:	Present
Kimberly Russo:	Present
Michael Hornyak:	Present
Peter Nye:	Present

1. Opening Exercises

A. Roll call

Also in attendance were Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, Business Manager Carolyn Dickey, and Student Representative Jessica Flanagan.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All participants stood and recited the Pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of September 7, 2021

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 7, 2021. Carried with a motion by Kimberly Russo and a second by Jason Adler.

Catherine Staunton:	Absent
Christopher Passante:	Yea
Erica Gelven:	Yea
Jason Adler:	Yea
Kimberly Russo:	Yea
Michael Hornyak:	Abstain
Peter Nye:	Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 1

4. Communications

5. Report of Student Representatives

J. Flanagan provided a report on the first full week of school this year. Last Friday at Morgan, everyone wore jerseys and a pep rally outdoors was held. Clubs that are being introduced to the school were discussed during advisory. A lot of recent sports success has happened with football beating Haddam-Killingworth, field hockey having several wins, and boys soccer winning over Valley. Guest speaker Kyle Willkom will be at Morgan next week. Eliot sports have started and the uniforms have been updated with the new husky logo as part of the district rebranding. After hours sign-ups are taking place now and students are very excited about participating. At Joel, teachers have been working on introducing students to each other and being comfortable in the classroom and in the school.

M. O'Donnell commented that there were a number of applicants for the vacant student representative spots. It is hopeful that interviews will be held next week to allow for those new student reps to be seated at the next regular meeting.

6. Administrative Reports

A. Administrators, Program Directors and Teachers

1. General Update

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. General Update

M. Famiglietti reported that Smarter Balanced reports for grades 3-8 and Next Generation Science Standards reports for grade 11 were mailed today. Those contained a letter from M. Famiglietti explaining the results and how the district will utilize the results in conjunction with other assessments that will be given this year.

This Thursday is early dismissal for students and teachers will be participating in professional development. Teachers will spend two hours working on their Professional Learning Plans and the other two hours will be spent working collaboratively with department/team members. Health and PE teachers will be working together this year to work on vertical articulation of the K-8 Project Adventure. Grade 4 will be the culminating experience for Joel and the concepts of leadership, trust building, and collaboration will be focused through the entirety of the program. In addition, Joel teachers will be focusing on literacy and the implementation of Foundations and Eliot teachers in grades 6-8 will be working with a consultant on the Illustrative Math program.

C. Business Manager's Report

1. Bills Payable

There were no questions on bills payable.

2.General Update

C. Dickey reported that the two recent roofing projects have been submitted for reimbursement and the next priority will be the final reimbursement of the Morgan building project. C. Dickey has been working on common accounts with the Town for the auditors, who will be on-site sometime in October. All grants, including COVID relief grants, are being scrutinized to ensure proper setup and tracking.

7.Superintendent's Report

A.Legislative Updates

M. O'Donnell explained that Shipman & Goodwin, the district's legal counsel, produces a summary each year after the legislative session which provides a concise overview of any changes that affect education. The policy subcommittee met earlier this evening to begin the review process of some of the model policy revisions as a result of recent legislative changes. M. O'Donnell highlighted a few areas that will have impacts on instruction and district processes.

B.Enrollment Update

M. O'Donnell provided an enrollment update as of September 15th contrasted against the enrollment on September 1st and the projected enrollment contained in the 2021-22 budget book. The next meeting will contain the enrollment as of October 1st, which is the date the State uses for snapshots.

M. Hornyak inquired about the special education population and the numbers of identified students. M. O'Donnell confirmed that student numbers are on par with expectations and the trend report provided by the district's enrollment projection service, NESDEC. Out-of-district placements and other special education numbers will be provided at the next meeting.

C.General Update

M. O'Donnell reported that on Friday, the Department of Public Health released some guidance related to the vaccine mandate for school employees. This afternoon, M. O'Donnell attended a webinar which explained the guidance in-depth, including additional information contained in the necessary employee forms and attestations.

J. Adler inquired about testing sites and M. O'Donnell confirmed that there are regional testing sites that will be at no cost to the employee. K. Russo asked about the collection of data and M. O'Donnell explained that proof of vaccination and any exemption forms will be stored in the employee's medical file and kept confidential.

M. O'Donnell had mentioned at a previous Board meeting that the Town Council has set a date for budget discussion. M. O'Donnell was made aware that the Town Council has a scheduled meeting on Wednesday, September 22nd at 5:30 PM in the Green Room regarding the 2022-23 budget. M. O'Donnell will be in attendance at the meeting should any questions specific to the BOE arise.

K. Russo inquired about in-person versus virtual meetings. M. O'Donnell and E. Gelven explained the conversations and thinking that occurred regarding meeting formats.

8. Reports of Board of Education Subcommittees and Special Committees

A. General Updates

J. Adler provided an update regarding the policy subcommittee meeting held earlier this evening. The subcommittee began the process of reviewing model policy revisions recommended as a result of legislative changes. There were some that the subcommittee will send for a first reading at the next meeting and some the subcommittee held back for further discussion.

M. Hornyak updated the Board regarding the Buildings & Grounds subcommittee work which will begin with one-year and ten-year capital planning.

The Instruction subcommittee will meet prior to the next regular meeting.

9. Discussion & Possible Action re: 2021-2022 Calendar and Fixed Graduation Date

E. Gelven reminded the Board that the graduation date may now be fixed no later than the 180th day of school based upon the original, approved calendar without regard to makeup days for emergency closures. M. O'Donnell has spoken with Morgan administration and is proposing the last day of school as the fixed graduation date. Additional considerations include that the Eliot promotion occurs inside the gymnasium and is also a backup for Morgan graduation if it needs to move indoors. Project Graduation benefits from a fixed graduation date as do graduating seniors who can plan around the date.

MOTION: To set the Morgan graduation date as Monday, June 13, 2022. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Christopher Passante.

Catherine Staunton:	Absent
Christopher Passante:	Yea
Erica Gelven:	Yea
Jason Adler:	Yea
Kimberly Russo:	Yea
Michael Hornyak:	Yea
Peter Nye:	Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

10. Discussion & Possible Action re: 2021-2022 District Goals

M. O'Donnell explained that the goals listed are based on previous discussion with the Board and administrators and are within the established strategic priorities. There will be additional, more specific action steps within each goal. It is important for the Board to codify these goals as various work within the district is tied to these goals.

MOTION: To adopt the Clinton Public Schools district goals for 2021-22. Carried with a motion by Kimberly Russo and a second by Peter Nye.

Catherine Staunton: Absent
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

11. Personnel Information

The Board reviewed the list of personnel updates.

12. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM. Carried with a motion by Peter Nye and a second by Kimberly Russo.

Catherine Staunton: Absent
Christopher Passante: Yea
Erica Gelven: Yea
Jason Adler: Yea
Kimberly Russo: Yea
Michael Hornyak: Yea
Peter Nye: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Michael Hornyak, Board Secretary

Cassie Cannamela, Board Recorder