

The Board of Education

Town of Vernon

30 Park Street – PO Box 600
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Anne Fischer, Chairperson
Mason Thrall, Vice Chairperson
Patricia Buxton, Secretary
Paul Grabowski
Karen Colt
Mark Kalina
Stephen Linton
Deborah Rodriguez
Kristiana Wintress

June 12, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

A meeting of the Vernon Board of Education was held in-person and via Zoom Webinar at the Administration Building on Monday, June 12, 2023.

1.0 Establish Quorum

Roll call was taken at 7:00 p.m.

There was a quorum. Board members present: Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Thrall, Dr. Buxton, Mr. Grabowski, Ms. Colt, Mr. Kalina, Mrs. Rodriguez and Ms. Wintress. Mr. Linton was absent.

Student Representatives present: Anaya Tolton and Aedan Ruddock.

Administration present: Superintendent Dr. Joseph Macary, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Robert Testa and Director of Business and Finance Mr. William Meier III.

2.0 Call to Order

Chairperson Fischer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

3.0 Pledge of Allegiance

4.0 Recognitions and Presentations

4.1 Recognition of Board of Education Student Representative Anaya Tolton (BOE Goal #1)

Mrs. Fischer announced that Senior BOE Student Representative, Anaya Tolton, is graduating and will be leaving us. She thanked Anaya for her two years of service and presented her with a token of appreciation. Anaya thanked everyone for the opportunity and said she enjoyed serving as student representative. Dr. Macary also thanked Anaya for her professionalism and for holding the position with pride, dignity and integrity. She will be sorely missed.

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4.2 Spring Sports Update (BOE Goal #1, #2)

Athletic Director Jeffrey Farrell gave an update to the Board on the Spring Sports season. 20 athletes took part in Baseball, 70 in Track and 15 in Softball at Vernon Center Middle School. They qualified for the conference tournament in Baseball and Softball. In Track, they were undefeated in conference and 28 athletes competed in the State Meet. At Rockville High School, a total of 338 athletes took part in Spring Sports, including Baseball, Softball, E-sports, Lacrosse, Tennis, Golf, Volleyball, Unified Sports and Track. Student athletes held an average GPA of 90.36. Mr. Farrell went through a PowerPoint presentation, reviewing each sport and the outcome of each team. He also spoke about “Signing Day”, where seniors signed letters of intent to play a sport in college. A total of 18 seniors signed letters of intent. Mr. Farrell ended by speaking about his post-season plans, which include coach evaluations, goals and improvement plans for next season and meeting with student athletes upon request.

5.0 Secretary’s Report

5.1 Opportunity for Board of Education to add/delete urgent agenda items

No agenda items were added or deleted.

5.2 Rockville High School Student Representative Report

Aedan Ruddock reported the following:

- Final exams began June 9th and will continue through June 14th
- Make-up exams will take place on June 15th
- Fall Sports registration is now open
- The Girls’ vs. Boys’ Volleyball game on June 8th raised \$200.00 for St. Jude’s

Anaya Tolton reported on the following:

- Graduation and Project Graduation will take place this Wednesday and Thursday
- Project Graduation will take place at “Sonny’s Place”

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6.0 Community Forum

Opportunity for comments on agenda items, potential future agenda items, or general information provided to the Board from citizens and community organizations (Individual speakers shall be limited to five minutes and the total time for public forum shall be limited to 15 minutes.)

No one addressed the Board.

7.0 Consent Agenda

7.1 Consent Agenda

- (a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held on May 22, 2023
- (b) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5131.81 – Students – Electronic Devices
- (c) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5141.3 – Students – Health Assessments and Immunizations
- (d) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5141.7 – Students – Concussion Policy
- (e) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5145 – Students – Student Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities
- (f) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5145.12 – Students – Search and Seizure
- (g) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5145.122 – Students – Search and Seizure - Use of Trained Dogs or Other Animals for Search on School Property
- (h) Approval of Reviewed Board of Education Policy #5145.124 – Students – Breathalyzer Testing
- (i) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #6141.1 – Instruction – Challenged

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Instructional Materials

- (j) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #6141.3 – Instruction – Acceptable
Use of Technology

MOTION: Mrs. Rodriguez moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1(a), (b), (c),
(d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j)
SECOND: Ms. Wintress
VOTE: Unanimous

8.0 Personnel

8.1 Certified Staff and Non-Certified Staff Retirements (BOE Goal #1, #2)

Mr. Testa announced the following Certified and Non-Certified Staff Retirements:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date of Hire</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Chiara Ferraro	Grade 5 Teacher - CRS	8/25/2003	19
Pamela Hoyt	Grade 6 Science Teacher - VCMS	8/27/1998	24
Lori Suzik	Physical Therapist - NES	10/1/2012	10
Evelyn Simler	Guidance Secretary - VCMS	5/1/2016	7
Kathy Haines	Secretary – RHS	10/2/1995	27
Ellen Burke	Paraprofessional – NES	8/30/1990	32
Susan Thompson	Paraprofessional – VCMS	11/13/2001	21
Cheryl Pedemonti	Secretary - Pupil Services	1/1997 to 4/2004 <i>and</i> 10/4/2010 to 6/30/2023	20

He thanked them for their contribution and their impact on the school community.

8.2 Approval of the Agreement Between the Vernon Board of Education and the Vernon Federation Union of Paraeducators (BOE Goal #2) (Executive Session Anticipated)

This item was moved to the end of the meeting.

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8.3 Non-Affiliated Staff Salaries (BOE Goal #1, #2, #3) (Executive Session Anticipated)

This item was moved to the end of the meeting.

9.0 Teaching and Learning

9.1 Summer Curriculum Writing (BOE Goal #2)

Mr. Testa reviewed a PowerPoint presentation with the Board about Summer Curriculum Writing, which will take place the week of June 19 – 23. The goal is to improve teaching and learning across all grade levels. Teachers, Instructional Coaches and the Directors of Teaching and Learning will take part in this collaborative effort. They will assess the data collected throughout the year and will review and revise curricular units as needed. Dr. Macary spoke of a new Grade 6 Unified Arts course called “VCMS 101”. This course will help to prepare incoming students for the middle school experience.

10.0 General Business

10.1 Board of Education Finance Committee Report (BOE Goal #1, #2, #3))

Director of Business and Finance William Meier III noted that the Finance Committee met this evening to review the Year-to-Date Budget. He presented three action items that he would like to ask the Board to consider for approval:

- (a) Class of 1972 Donation to the Rockville High School ASTE Program
- (b) Donation from CREC of a Fire Truck and Instructional Supplies for the Fire Technology Course at Rockville High School (*PLEASE NOTE*: The last item on the list, the “Bauer Air Bottle Filling Station”, will be removed from the list of items being donated)
- (c) Asset Disposal Requests

MOTION: Mr. Kalina moved to approve action items (a), (b as amended) and (c) as presented
SECOND: Dr. Buxton
VOTE: Unanimous

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Dr. Macary thanked Mr. Thrall and CREC for the generous donation of the Fire Truck and Instructional Supplies to the Fire Technology Program at Rockville High School.

10.2 FY2023 Ending Year-to-Date Summary - Resolution (BOE Goal #1, #2, #3)

Director of Business and Finance William Meier III asked the Board to consider for approval a Resolution indicating that the Superintendent is authorized to request from the Town of Vernon that the remaining Fiscal Year 2023 Board of Education fund balance be transferred to the Capital Non-Recurring Education Fund Account.

MOTION: Mr. Thrall moved that the Vernon Board of Education approve a Resolution indicating that the Superintendent is authorized to request from the Town of Vernon that the remaining Fiscal Year 2023 Board of Education fund balance be transferred to the Capital and Non-Recurring Education Fund Account.

SECOND: Mr. Kalina

VOTE: Unanimous

11.0 Review and Update Board of Education Calendar

<https://www.vernonpublicschools.org/district-information/district-calendar>

No updates were made.

12.0 Opportunity for Questions from the Press Regarding Agenda Items

No one from the Press was in attendance.

MOTION: Mrs. Rodriguez made a motion at 7:41 PM that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss item 8.2, Approval of the Agreement Between the Vernon Board of Education and the Vernon Federation Union of Paraeducators and item 8.3, Non-Affiliated Staff Salaries, inviting Superintendent Dr. Macary.

SECOND: Mr. Grabowski

VOTE: Unanimous

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The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:13 PM.

8.2 Approval of the Agreement Between the Vernon Board of Education and the Vernon Federation Union of Paraeducators (BOE Goal #2) (Executive Session Anticipated)

MOTION: Mr. Kalina made a motion to approve the Agreement Between the Vernon Board of Education and the Vernon Federation Union of Paraeducators as presented in Executive Session.

SECOND: Dr. Buxton

VOTE: Unanimous

8.3 Non-Affiliated Staff Salaries (BOE Goal #1, #2, #3) (Executive Session Anticipated)

MOTION: Mr. Thrall made a motion to approve the Non-Affiliated Staff Salaries as discussed in Executive Session.

SECOND: Mr. Grabowski

VOTE: Unanimous

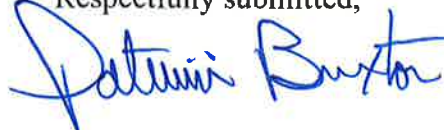
13.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Mrs. Rodriguez made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM

SECOND: Ms. Wintress

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Buxton, Ed.D., Board Secretary