

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 26, 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 26, 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 and Ms. Wintress. Mr. Linton and Mrs. Rodriguez were absent.

Student Representatives present: Students were not present as school is on Summer break.

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 Secretary's Report

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

MOTION: Mr. Thrall moved to add agenda item 7.4, Leave of Absence Request
(Executive Session Anticipated)
SECOND: Mr. Kalina
VOTE: Unanimous

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5.0 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.

6.0 Consent Agenda

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- (a) Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2023
- (b) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held on June 12, 2023
- (c) Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Education Curriculum Committee Meeting held on June 19, 2023
- (d) Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy #5144.1 – Students – Use of Physical Force

Mrs. Fischer asked that item 6.1(d) be pulled.

MOTION: Dr. Buxton moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1(a), (b) and (c)
SECOND: Mr. Grabowski
VOTE: Unanimous

For pulled item 7.1(d), Mrs. Fischer noted that, on page 12, second paragraph, 5th line down, “his/her” should be changed to “their”. On page 14, first paragraph, 2nd line down, “him/herself” should be changed to “themselves”.

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MOTION: Dr. Buxton moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7.1(d) as amended
SECOND: Ms. Wintress
VOTE: Unanimous

The Board of Education went into Executive Session at 6:00 PM, prior to the start of this meeting, inviting Dr. Joseph Macary, to discuss agenda items 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4. They came out of Executive Session at 6:40 PM. The results of the Executive Session are noted below.

7.0 Personnel

7.1 Approval of the Agreement between the Vernon Board of Education and Local 1303-35 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Custodians, Maintenance Staff, Secretaries and Clericals (BOE Goal #1, #2) (Executive Session Anticipated)

MOTION: Mr. Thrall moved that the Board approve the Agreement between the Vernon Board of Education and Local 1303-35 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Custodians, Maintenance Staff, Secretaries and Clericals as proposed and discussed in Executive Session

SECOND: Mr. Kalina

VOTE: Unanimous

7.2 Approval of the Agreement Between the Vernon Board of Education and Local 1303-279 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Library/Media Managers and Library Assistants (BOE Goal #1) (Executive Session Anticipated)

MOTION: Mr. Thrall moved that the Board table, until August 2023, the Agreement Between the Vernon Board of Education and Local 1303-279 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Library/Media Managers and Library Assistants as proposed and discussed in Executive Session

SECOND: Dr. Buxton

VOTE: Unanimous

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7.3 Leave of Absence Request (BOE Goal #2) (Executive Session Anticipated)

MOTION: Mr. Thrall moved that the Board approve the request for extension of maternity leave submitted by Elizabeth Gallagher for the reasons discussed in executive session and authorize the Superintendent to inform the employee of the Board's decision and the reasons therefore.

SECOND: Mr. Grabowski

VOTE: Unanimous

7.4 Leave of Absence Request (BOE Goal #2) (Executive Session Anticipated)

MOTION: Mr. Grabowski moved that the Board approve the request for extension of maternity leave submitted by Maxine Cunningham for the reasons discussed in executive session and authorize the Superintendent to inform the employee of the Board's decision and the reasons therefore.

SECOND: Mr. Kalina

VOTE: Unanimous

8.0 Teaching and Learning

8.1 Approval of Curricula (BOE Goal #2)

- (a) Personal Finance
- (b) Spanish II
- (c) English 10
- (d) World History II
- (e) US History I
- (f) Art – Grade 5
- (g) Music – Grade 1

Mr. Testa spoke of the Curriculum Committee Meeting held on June 19, 2023 in which these seven curricula were presented and reviewed by Committee members. They also previewed additional courses that will come to the Committee at their next meeting in the Fall. He asked that the Board consider approval of the seven curricula included in tonight's Board packet. A question was asked about "what is the driver for writing curricula"? Dr. Macary noted that the Vernon Public Schools "Vision of the Graduate" is

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key in driving our curricula. Personal Finance is a core course and will benefit every student in real life experiences. He also mentioned that we have a NEASC Accreditation coming up in 2 years and we need to ensure we provide the best course offerings to our students.

MOTION: Ms. Colt moved that the Board approve the Personal Finance, Spanish II, English 10, World History II, US History I, Art – Grade 5 and Music – Grade 1 Curricula as presented

SECOND: Ms. Wintress

VOTE: Unanimous

9.0 General Business

9.1 Asset Disposal Requests (BOE Goal #2)

- (a) Rockville High School Kiln
- (b) Center Road School Books
- (c) Central Office Basement Books
- (d) Science Dept. Books & Equipment

Director of Business and Finance William Meier III presented these four asset disposal requests that he would like to ask the Board to consider for approval.

MOTION: Dr. Buxton moved that the Board approve asset disposal requests (a), (b), (c) and (d) as presented

SECOND: Mr. Grabowski

VOTE: Unanimous

Mr. Kalina requested that, in the future, books of the same title, subject matter, ISBN, etc. are grouped together rather than be listed individually on the asset disposal form. Mr. Meier said he will note that for future asset disposal requests.

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9.2 Board of Education Assignment of Mayor's \$400,000.00 Reduction to the FY24 Budget (BOE Goal #1, #2, #3)

Dr. Macary noted that we need to upload the budget into MUNIS, however, the Mayor's Reduction of \$400,000.00 has not yet been assigned to the FY24 Education Budget. He is asking the Board to consider assignment of the Mayor's Reduction of \$400,000.00 to the FY24 Education Budget to Fund 900, Object 51113. This will not affect salaries in any way as it will be offset by anticipated Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Grant funds. We will explain the assignments to the Board at the September 25, 2023 Board of Education meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Thrall moved that the Vernon Board of Education approve the assignment of the Mayor's Reduction of \$400,000.00 to the FY24 Education Budget to Fund 900, Object 51113.

SECOND: Dr. Buxton

VOTE: Unanimous

9.3 Reports from Board of Education Liaisons Regarding Attendance at Organization / Committee Meetings (BOE Goal #1)

Mrs. Fischer reported that the Adult Ed Graduation Ceremony, the Top 10 Luncheon and the RHS Graduation Ceremony were very nice! Dr. Macary added that, despite the rainy weather, the RHS Graduation ceremony being held indoors went very well.

10.0 Review and Update Board of Education Calendar

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

No updates were made.

Dr. Macary noted that BOE offices will be closed for the 4th of July Holiday. BOE employees will also be working 4-day weeks; offices will be closed on Fridays through the summer. We will resume normal working hours the week of August 21, 2023. He next Board of Education meeting will take place on August 28, 2023. He wished everyone an enjoyable summer.

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11.0 Opportunity for Questions from the Press Regarding Agenda Items

No one from the Press was in attendance.

12.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Dr. Buxton made a motion to adjourn at 7:28 PM
SECOND: Mr. Kalina
VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Buxton, Ed.D., Board Secretary