

SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION July 18, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Education Goal:

Montville graduates will possess the skills and dispositions to navigate complex tasks. Our graduates are communicators, information consumers, problem solvers, and independent learners. They exhibit empathy, perseverance, inclusivity and self-awareness.

Item 1. Call to order / Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence – 5:00 P.M.

Board Chair Wills Pike called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Board members attending were: Bob Mitchell, Timothy Shanahan, Florence Turner, Tina Grove, Carol Burgess, James Wood, Grace Carlos and Sheelagh Lapinski.

Also participating were: Superintendent of Schools Laurie Pallin, Assistant Superintendent Dianne Vumback, Director of Special Services Paula LaChance, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux, Administrators Rob Alves, David Gollsneider, and Jill Mazzalupo, and School Security Officer Michael Collins.

Item 2. Citizens' Comments, (regarding agenda items only)

Vic Lenda, 128 Kitemaug Rd. stated that he supports hiring officers to get more SROs in all schools, that he is in favor of arming both SRO;s and security officers and that he supports additional funding for security. He also stated that he believes we should have security staff in schools after hours.

Leonard Bunnell 5 Little John Drive, spoke in favor of agenda items 6, 7, and 8. He stated that we need armed security in schools and that he fully supports SROs and the use of retired troopers as police officers may not volunteer to work at SROs.

Gary Murphy spoke as a member of the Public Safety Commission. He stated that he is absolutely in favor or arming security officers and that it is the responsibility of the town to protect everyone in schools. He believes that the elementary schools also require protection and will work on whatever it takes to get funding.

Robert Yuchnik, 478 Fire St., stated that as a Town Councilor, he is in favor of items 6, 7, and 8 and gave his word that he would agree to any cost to protect the town's children.

Item 3. Consideration and action to approve a bid waiver for installation of the sidewalk from the bus garage to Tyl which was funded out of the capital plan. Lombardi Gravel and Excavation LLC installed the portion of the sidewalk from the bus garage to the corner of Chesterfield Rd and Old Colchester Rd and would provide consistency to the project. They were used to price the project.

Motion: To approve a bid waiver for installation of the sidewalk from the bus garage to Tyl which was funded out of the capital plan.

Moved by: Robert Mitchell
Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan
Vote: Carried (9-0)

Item 4. Consideration and action to approve a bid waiver for the lease of five 77 passenger school buses. The vendor selected is Blue Bird Corporation which is an existing vendor for the Montville Board of Education. This aligns the fleet and provides efficiencies for purchasing and maintaining the vehicles.

Motion: To approve a bid waiver for the lease of five 77 passenger school buses.

Moved by: Robert Mitchell
Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan
Vote: Carried (9-0)

Item 5. Confidential discussion of school security matters pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act

Motion: To enter executive session for a confidential discussion of school security matters pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act

Moved by: Robert Mitchell
Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan
Vote: Carried (9-0)

The Board entered executive session at 5:17 and exited executive session at 6:25.

Item 6. Consideration and possible action to develop and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Montville Police Department to utilize Montville Police Officers as School Resource Officers (SROs) in addition to the district's Security Officers.

Motion: To develop and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Montville Police Department to utilize Montville Police Officers as School Resource Officers (SROs) in addition to the district's Security Officers.

Moved by: Robert Mitchell Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan

Vote: Carried (9-0)

Item 7. Consideration and possible action to authorize the Superintendent to employ armed security officers on all campuses and to develop policies and regulations pursuant to such authorization

Motion: To authorize the Superintendent to employ armed security officers on all campuses and to develop policies and regulations pursuant to such authorization

Moved by: Carol Burgess
Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan
Vote: Carried (9-0)

Item 8. Consideration and possible action to authorize the Superintendent to bring to the Town Council a request for additional funding for school security equipment not funded in the School Security Grant

Motion: To authorize the Superintendent to bring to the Town Council a request for additional funding for school security equipment not funded in the School Security Grant

Moved by: Robert Mitchell Seconded by: Tina Grove Vote: Carried (9-0)

Item 9. Citizens' Comments

Gary Murphy thanked the Board stating that this is a great first step which matters to our community. As chair of the Public Safety Commission he will back the Board's requests to the town.

Len Bunnell thanked the Board stating that it was very important that the Board's vote was unanimous and would mean a lot to the town and parents.

Vic Lenda stated that the Board had taken a courageous first step. He offered his support and thanks.

Tim May stated that the Board's hard work was obvious and that the Board had done a good job with the research completed on school security.

Item 10. Confidential hearing of student matter pursuant to CGS 10-233d

Motion: To enter executive session for a confidential discussion of school security matters pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act

Moved by: Timothy Shanahan Seconded by: Robert Mitchell Vote: Carried (9-0)

The Board entered executive session at 6:38 and exited executive session at 6:53.

Item 11. Discussion and possible action to accept the student expulsion stipulation for the student who is the subject of this hearing

Motion: To accept the student expulsion stipulation for the student who is the subject of this hearing.

Moved by: Robert Mitchell
Seconded by: Timothy Shanahan
Vote: Carried (9-0)

Item 12. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn

Moved by: Timothy Shanahan Seconded by: Carol Burgess Vote: Carried (9-0)

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.