

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

CHAPLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHAPLIN, CONNECTICUT
MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2022
6:30 PM
CHAPLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

1. **Call to Order** – Chairperson Jaclyn Chancey called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Board Members present were Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, William Hooper and Joseph Klar. Also in attendance were Superintendent Kenneth Henrici and Principal Kevin Chavez.
2. **Audience for Citizens** - *Members of the public may address the Board regarding items on the agenda. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Board Chair. Comments may also be sent in advance to ChaplinBOE@chaplinct.org; please clearly indicate if you wish for them to be read aloud. Individual speaker—2 minutes; Public participation—15 minutes* – Michael Whitehouse addressed the Board. He stated that the Board has forced anti-scientific mask mandates upon students and staff and that masks do not work. He sighted various studies in other states that prove this. He said our kids are suffering.
3. **Approval of Minutes and Financial Statement**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes – February 9, 2022** – Chairperson Jaclyn Chancey noted that Item #7 should be changed from “Preliminary Budget” to “Final Budget”. **Eugene Boomer moved to approve the February 9, 2022 minutes as amended. Joseph Klar seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**

Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar.
 - B. **Approval of Financial Statement – February 2022** – Eugene Boomer moved to approve the General Fund, Cafeteria, Grant and Pre-K financial statement for February 2022. Victor Boomer seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar.
4. **Administrative Reports**
 - A. **Monthly Report** – Mrs. Rossi reported on the Pre-K students studying scientific thinking, focusing on living and non-living things, the NAEYC Accreditation, Kindergarten’s study of team numbers, Youth Art Month, the Art Class painting units, the 5th grade study of water and making their own water filtration systems, the greenhouse and the 6th grade study of potential and kinetic energy.
 - B. **Principal’s Report** – Principal Kevin Chavez updated the Board on enrollment, visits to the school nurse, COVID-19 in-school cases, staffing, SEL aperture ratings, progress monitoring in Pre-K, Exemplars and Wit & Wisdom and the plan for our teachers to team up this Summer with teachers in other Districts to discuss how they use this program.
 - C. **Superintendent’s Report** – Superintendent Ken Henrici spoke to the Board about COVID test kits distribution, staffing, the new Maintainer, the 2022-2023 Budget, Excess Cost Grant and Special Ed costs and the parent group formed at Parish Hill which plans to address these issues with legislators, the Empty Bowl event and what an incredible resource Andrew Barillari has been to Chaplin Elementary School in addressing the maintenance needs of the building.

5. Old Business/New Business

- A. Approval of Healthy Food Certification for School Year 2022-2023 – Victor Boomer moved for the District to participate in the Healthy Food Option as read aloud:** *“Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.”* **Joseph Klar seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**

Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar.

William Hooper moved for the District to allow food and beverage exemptions as read aloud: *“The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.”* **Joseph Klar seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**

Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar.

- B. Update on Food Service Department –** Food Service Director Jessica Texera reported that everything is going well. Participation is up with 85% of students participating in lunch and 70% participating in breakfast. The 2 Food Service staff members are adjusting well to their extra tasks. Deliveries are somewhat back on schedule; some items are not in stock and she has had to select other items that cost a bit more. Prices are up in general. She has had some issues with produce and has had to substitute with other items. She is buying extra dry storage items when available and has applied for a grant that would allow for the purchase of an additional freezer to store extra items as well.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action: Board Policy on Face Masks/Coverings (1250.1 / 4118.237 / 4218.237 / 5141.8) –** The policy committee met 2 weeks ago and revised these policies to allow optional mask wearing. Staff will not police whether students wear masks or not and Administration will have the authority to put mask wearing back in place should the need arise. **William Hooper moved for immediate final approval of revised Board policies 1250.1 / 4118.237 / 4218.237 / 5141.8 on Face Masks/Coverings. Victor Boomer seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**

Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar

- D. Approval of School Year 2022-2023 School Calendar – Victor Boomer moved to approve the School Calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. Eugene Boomer seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**

Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper

and Joseph Klar.

- E. Updated Budget Forecast FY21-22** – Superintendent Henrici said that the budget is on track with 68% expended to date.
- F. Presentation and Approval of Final FY22-23 Budget** – Superintendent Henrici presented the Final FY2022-2023 Budget to the Board and provided an overview of the line items within. With a 2.75% increase over the FY21-22 Budget, he said this is a very reasonable and responsible budget for our students’ needs while recognizing the constraints of the tax payers. A 15% increase in health insurance due to high claims was a factor in the increase as well as special education costs. Non-certified staff increased due to a grant ending. **William Hooper moved for approval of the Final FY2022-2023 Budget. Eugene Boomer seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**
Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar.

6. Committee Reports

- A. Policy Committee** – Chairperson Jaclyn Chancey said the committee recently met.
 - B. Negotiations Committee** – No negotiations are scheduled at this time.
 - C. Central Office Committee** – The committee will meet soon.
- 7. Agenda items for Next Meeting** – COVID Status
 - 8. Second Audience for Citizens** – no one addressed the Board.
 - 9. Adjournment** – **Victor Boomer moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Eugene Boomer seconded and the motion passed with the following vote:**
Yes: Laura Anderson, Eugene Boomer, Victor Boomer, Jaclyn Chancey, William Hooper and Joseph Klar.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Ritchotte
Recording Secretary