



**COLCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Colchester, CT

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, July 6, 2022**

**2:00 PM**

**Pupil Services and Special Education  
Conference Room**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alexander Oliphant, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Rosemary Gignac, Christopher Rivers

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:** Dr. Thomas Y. McDowell, Superintendent, Dr. Charles E. Hewes, Assistant Superintendent, Glenn McGrath, Interim Director of Pupil Services and Special Education

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Attorney Anne Littlefield, Amy Emory

1. **MEETING OPENING**

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Oliphant called the Special Meeting to order at 2:08 PM

1.2 Roll Call

Chair Oliphant conducted a roll call of Board of Education members

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Oliphant led the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

2. **\*ACTION ITEMS**

2.1 **\*Discussion and Possible Action on the Appointment of a Director of Pupil Services and Special Education (discussion proposed for executive session)**

Dr. McDowell spoke about the process of the interview rounds and interviewers who included special education parents, teachers, and administrators.

Glenn McGrath stated that the Pupil Services and Special Education (PPS) department conducted a survey of the primary characteristics and attributes people were looking for in a director. A high response rate was received from the survey and showed that families were looking for someone strong in communication, building relationships, and also strategic planning and the ability to move the district forward. Mr. McGrath shared references received in regard to the recommended candidate, Amy Emory.

**Motion by:** Margo Gignac

To enter into executive session at 2:19 PM and invite Dr. Charles Hewes, Dr. Thomas Y. McDowell, Glenn McGrath, and Amy Emory

**Second by:** Christopher Rivers

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Roll Call:** Rosemary Gignac, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Christopher Rivers, Alexander Oliphant

Public session entered back into at 2:42 PM

**Motion by:** Margo Gignac

To appoint Amy Emory as the Director of Pupil Services and Special Education with the Colchester Public Schools

**Second by:** Rosemary Gignac

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Roll Call:** Rosemary Gignac, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Christopher Rivers, Alexander Oliphant

2.2 \*Discussion and Possible Action on a Proposed Separation Agreement (discussion proposed for executive session)

**Motion by:** Rosemary Gignac

To enter into executive session at 2:45 PM and invite Dr. Thomas Y. McDowell, Dr. Charles E. Hewes, and Attorney Anne Littlefield

**Second by:** Christopher Rivers

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Roll Call:** Rosemary Gignac, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Christopher Rivers, Alexander Oliphant

Public session entered back into at 3:16 PM

**Motion by:** Margo Gignac

The Board of Education authorizes the Interim Superintendent Dr. Thomas Y. McDowell to enter into a severance agreement with the Bacon Academy Principal Matthew Peel, executing such agreement on behalf of the Colchester Board of Education.

**Second by:** Donna Antonacci

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Roll Call:** Rosemary Gignac, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Alexander Oliphant, (Christopher Rivers had to leave the meeting prior to the vote)

### 3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Heather R. Petit

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent