

Board of Education

Ellington, Connecticut

December 9, 2021

A special meeting of the Ellington Board of Education was held on Thursday, December 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m at the Ellington High School Cafeteria, 37 Maple Street, Ellington, CT.

Present were: Mr. Blanchette and Viens; Ms. Dzen, Moser, Mullin, Socha and Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools.

Also in attendance: Mr. Brian Greenleaf, Director of Finance and Operations, Mr. Oliver Barton, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Jennifer Brown, Coordinator of Human Resources.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Ms. Dzen, Chair.

1. Citizen and Staff Forum

Mr. Mike Thibert spoke in regards to winter sports, his hope is to see a change from last year. He would like to see an improvement in masks and attendance and thanked the Board for their work.

2. Discussion of and Possible Action Regarding CIAC Winter 2021-2022 Sports Guidelines

Chair Dzen read a letter that was drafted by the Board of Education addressed to the Department of Public Health urging them to reconsider their policy regarding masking for sports. The Board would like to see a policy that is more inclusive and does not stigmatize students from differing vaccination status.

Board members each took a moment to express their concern for student well being and echoed the sentiments of the letter.

A motion was made to move that the Board of Education, in recognition of the Board's concerns regarding creation of state policies, guidelines or legislation that visibly distinguish between those who are vaccinated and those who are not; specifically that such policies may violate the district's obligations under the

Family Education Records Protection Act to keep student information private that they potentially publicly stigmatize students and present them for targets of harassment and that such decisions to vaccinate fall along demographic religious, cultural and socio-economic lines; approve the letter as stated with permission for the Superintendent to distribute accordingly.

1st. J. Mullin

2nd. K. Socha

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

1st. J. Mullin

2nd. A. Moser

VOTE: Unanimous. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mullin
Secretary