

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Chairman Dr. Wendy Youngblood called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Present: Dr. Wendy Youngblood, Rosa Fernandes, Stephanie Sikora, Joy Greenstein, Hala Hourani, Sarah Devine, Robert Fischetto, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon, Director of Business & Operations Kasey Diotte, Director of Special Education Bill Roland, BHS Principal Marc Balanda, WMS Principal Deane Renda, CLES Principal Dr. Dave Pepsoski, Director of Technology Eric Conklin and members of the public.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT- AVA CANTONE

Ava Cantone gave an update on the happenings at BHS.

Dr. Youngblood gave a brief statement regarding public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Corea spoke about Policy #1312 and a consent agenda oversight

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- WHISCONIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Deane Renda, Kathy Roman, and two students gave a presentation on Unified Sports.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Jessica Hansen - Security Task Force Meeting & State of the District email

Matt Grimes - Complaint under Policy 1312

Deborah Cacace - Personnel

Monique Matthews - BOE recording FIOA

Andy Corea - Board retreat & BHS Administrative Update

Jill Dyer - Support for Educator Diversity

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

S. Sikora moved, S. Devine seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting- 3/20/2024

Board Retreat- 4/2/2024

W. Youngblood, R. Fernandes, S. Sikora, J. Greenstein, H. Hourani, R. Fischetto and S. Devine voted aye.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Barile gave updates on the WMS France trip, Kindergarten enrollment update given by Dr. Pepsoski, and the public budget hearing. Dr. Youngblood gave an update on the Magnet School meeting on 4/1. The Superintendent also updated the Board on the status of the legal RFP, CLES paving and the Career Fairs going on at each school. Dr. Barile reported on a newer company in Brookfield called ROMTEK and that they are looking to support the youth in Brookfield. He spoke about upcoming presentations and reports as well as communications that have, or will be going out.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy/Communications- 3/20/2024- Mrs. Hourani said the subcommittee discussed Policy #6162.51, Student Survey, Policy #5145.5, Sexual Harassment, and Policy #6563, School Library Media. They also discussed Bylaw #9324, Meeting Purpose and Parliamentary Procedures. Communications discussion included the budget flyer.

Personnel & Negotiations- 4/2/2024- Dr. Youngblood said the committee went into executive session to discuss strategy and negotiations as it relates to collective bargaining and unaffiliated salaries for the 2024-2025 school year.

Facilities- 4/3/2024- Mr. Fischetto said the subcommittee discussed School Dude reports and a custodial help desk which was recently set up by the technology department. He gave an update on the A/C project at BHS, capital projects, boiler repair and water quality at WMS, and HVAC issues at CLES.

Security Task Force- 4/4/2024- Mrs. Fernandes said the committee welcomed its newest members, Jim Mitchell and Stephanie Sikora, and then entered into executive session to discuss security at each of the schools. Dr. Barile spoke about Mr. Jim Mitchell as one of the newest members to the security task force and also addressed employees wearing their ID badges.

CONSENT AGENDA

S. Sikora moved, S. Devine seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the items on the consent agenda as recommended.

W. Youngblood, R. Fernandes, S. Sikora, J. Greenstein, H. Hourani, R. Fischetto and S. Devine voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR/POSSIBLE MOTION

The Board discussed the possibility of moving the last day of school for the 2023-2024 school year from Wednesday, June 19, 2024 to Monday, June 17, 2024 for students. After discussion, W. Youngblood moved, S. Sikora seconded, and the Board voted 3-4 to change the last day of school to Monday, June 17, 2024.

W. Youngblood, S. Sikora and R. Fischetto voted aye

R. Fernandes, J. Greenstein, S. Devine and H. Hourani voted no.

EDUCATOR DIVERSITY APPROVAL

S. Sikora moved, S. Devine seconded, to approve the Educator Diversity Plan as recommended by the Personnel & Negotiations committee, Dr. John Barile & Dr. Anna Mahon.

After recognizing there was a presentation, W. Youngblood moved, R. Fernandes seconded to withdraw the original motion, pending discussion with Dr. Barile and Dr. Mahon.

W. Youngblood, R. Fernandes, S. Sikora, J. Greenstein, H. Hourani, R. Fischetto and S. Devine voted aye.

After discussion, W. Youngblood moved, S. Devine seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the Educator Diversity Plan as recommended by the Personnel & Negotiations committee, Dr. John Barile & Dr. Anna Mahon.

W. Youngblood, R. Fernandes, S. Sikora, J. Greenstein, H. Hourani, R. Fischetto and S. Devine voted aye.

CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINT

The Board considered the complaint dated March 23, 2024 from Brookfield resident Matt Grimes, and Dr. Youngblood relinquished the Chair to Mrs. Fernandes.

Mrs. Fernandes spoke about the complaint and explained Policy #1312, Public Complaints After discussion. S. Sikora moved, R. Fernandes seconded, and the Board voted 4-03 to dismiss the complaint. R. Fernandes, S. Sikora, H. Hourani, R. Fischetto voted aye. W. Youngblood, J. Greenstein, S. Devine abstained Mrs. Fernandes relinquished that Chair back to Dr. Youngblood.

OLD BUSINESS

BOARD OF EDUCATION’S ADOPTED 2024-2025 BUDGET

The Board continued its discussion on the Board of Education’s 2024-2025 adopted budget. Dr. Barile and Mrs. Diotte presented a PowerPoint and explained the reductions to the budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Scalera spoke about the State of the District
Mrs. Rice finished Mrs. Scalera’s comments
Andy Corea spoke about the CREC report.

3 MAIN POINTS

1. WMS Unified Sports
2. Last Day of School
3. Budget Update

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mrs. Sikora listed upcoming events

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED

W. Youngblood moved, S. Devine seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to enter into executive session to discuss strategy and negotiations as it relates to collective bargaining and unaffiliated salaries for the 2024-2025 school year at 8:59pm.

W. Youngblood, R. Fernandes, S. Sikora, J. Greenstein, H. Hourani, R. Fischetto and S. Devine voted aye. Dr. Youngblood called executive session to order at 9:08pm

PRESENT: Dr. Wendy Youngblood, Rosa Fernandes, Stephanie Sikora, Joy Greenstein, Hala Hourani, Sarah Devine, Robert Fischetto, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon, Director of Business & Operations Kasey Diotte

After discussion, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Anna Mahon, Director of Business & Operations Kasey Diotte left at 9:52pm.

BOE continued discussion with no motions made and no votes.

Without objection, the Board adjourned at 9:59pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk