

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2012
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

Chairman Ray DiStephan called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Present: R. Distephan, J Miller, Susan Queenan, P. Checco, Scott McCarthy and V. Katz

Absent: Harry Shaker

Also Present: Superintendent Anthony Bivona, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Genie Slone, Director of Finance, Technology and Operations Art Colley, Director of Special Services Charlie Manos, BHS Principal Joe Palumbo, WMS Principal Deane Renda, HHES Mary Rose Dymond, CES Interim Principal Dr. Krys Salon and members of the staff and public.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF AND STUDENTS/STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

The Board and Superintendent spotlighted the students from Brookfield High School. Sue Troupe introduced students in the HOSA Program, the Medical Internship Program and students involved in the Foundations of Health and Science Program who showed a power point presentation on “Hospital Hallucinations”.

The Board and Superintendent congratulated Aggie Burns for her outstanding contribution to the reading profession and the International Reading Association. WMS Principal Deane Renda talked about her prestigious awards and Mrs. Burns spoke a few words.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

none

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

One letter was received regarding the budget vote.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Special Meeting- 5/2/12

Regular Meeting- 5/2/12

R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Teacher of the Year update- Mr. Bivona said the following teachers were named “Teacher of the Year” for their buildings: CES, Deborah Farias, HHES, Mary Giannakakos, WMS, Sue Crean and BHS, Sydnye Cohen. A district finalist will be chosen by the end of May.

WCSA awards- 5/14/12- The following four students were recognized as the Western Connecticut Superintendent’s Award recipients: WMS students Danielle Kessler and Heather Morey, and BHS students Rodrigo Restrepo and Diondra Straiton.

Mr. Bivona said the Honor an Educator ceremony, sponsored by the Brookfield Education Foundation, was held on May 8, 2012.

Budget Vote- 5/15/12_ The Superintendent stated the budget passed and thanked all who voted.

Mr. Renda spoke about the awards that Whisconier Middle School received at the Safe School Climate Conference which involves the Chain Links Club at WMS, Wordmasters and an essay contest which two students placed 2nd and third place. Mr. Renda talked about the student who was saved by another student using the Heimlich maneuver.

The Superintendent reported that Sydnye Cohen was named in the Teacher/Librarian Journal as a visionary leader of the learning commons concept.

Mr. Palumbo said the US News and World Reports says Brookfield High School is ranked 21st in the State.

COMMUNICATIONS

B & FC- 5/7/12- Mr. Checco and Mr. Colley said the subcommittee approved the financial reports for April. The Board discussed creating an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss tuition rates for employees. Discussion also included the roof at HHES, the annual audit report, the sound and lighting system at BHS and the rollout of the HAS plan through CIGNA.

V. Katz moved, S. Queenan seconded and the Board voted 6-0 to amend the agenda to add the discussion of the CAPE subcommittee meeting held on May 15th.

R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

Mr. Katz said the subcommittee discussed its recommendation to approve the addendum to the WMS Program of Studies, instituting a course in Digital Literacy (Skills 21) as a replacement of the Family and Consumer Science course. This will be brought to the full Board for approval on June 7th.

CONSENT AGENDA

J. Miller moved, S. McCarthy seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the items on the consent agenda as recommended.

R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS

POLICIES

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Regulation #6141.321, Acceptable Use of the Tablet for a first reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy #6161.3, Comparability of Services for a first reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve new Policy #6161.31, Title 1 Program for a first reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy #4112.51 Reference Checks for a first reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy/Regulation #5118, Non-Resident Attendance for a first reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve that the Board chairman sign the “Authorized Signatures Change Form” from the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Health and Nutrition, as recommended by the Director of Finance, Technology and Operations Art Colley.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

POLICIES

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy #5141.4, Child Abuse/Neglect for a final reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee. First reading was on 3/7/12.
R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

2012-2013 BUDGET/REFERENDUM

The Board had brief discussion with the Superintendent on the 2012-2013 budget and budget referendum. The budget was passed on May 15th and Chairman DiStephan thanked everyone who went to the polls to vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSSION

J. Miller moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to move to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining and the attorney/client privilege at 8:20pm.

R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

V. Katz moved, J. Miller seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to come out of executive session and return to its regular meeting at 9:10pm..

R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

V. Katz moved, J. Miller seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at 9:11pm

R. DiStephan, J. Miller, S. Queenan, S. McCarthy, P. Checco, and V. Katz voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Morelli, Board Clerk

Susan Queenan, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education