

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER, BROOKFIELD, CT
7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Chairman Scott McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Scott McCarthy, Paul Checco, Susan Queenan, Harry Shaker, Victor Katz, and Tara Lerner

Steve Harding arrived at 7:33 pm

Also Present: Acting Superintendent Ralph Iassogna, Director of Special Services Charlie Manos, Interim Director of Finance and Operations Gregg Miller, Interim BHS Principal Mark Jewett, WMS Principal Deane Renda, HHES Principal Mary Rose Dymond, CES Principal Krys Salon and members of the staff and public.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- HUCKLEBERRY HILL

Margaret Fitzgerald shared information about the 2 grants she wrote and received - the BEF grant for technology in music classrooms and the state grant connecting the Common Core Standards with music and how our HHES students will benefit from them.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

None

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Joy Greenstein wrote to the Board about concerns.

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to move up items 7D (Robotics Trip) and 7F (Naming of the BHS Fitness Center) to this portion of the agenda.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

ROBOTICS TRIP

S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the Robotics Team 1099 to travel to the District Competitions at Bryant University in RI (March 20th - March 22nd); if the team wins, permission is also requested to travel to the District Championship at Worcester Poly Tech Institute in Worcester, MA (April 8th-April 11th); and if they win that, permission is requested to travel to the World Championship in St. Louis, MO (April 21st -April 26th) as requested by School-to-Career Coordinator Sue Troupe.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

NAMING OF BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL FITNESS CENTER

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the naming of the Brookfield High School Fitness Center after Keith James who was a former student of Brookfield High School who died in 2013 from ALS.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

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

Special Meeting- 1/7/15

Regular Meeting- 1/7/15

Public Budget Hearing- 1/13/15

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Mr. Iassogna said he has unofficially heard that a petition drive is in the early stages to increase the amount of the recently approved \$150,000 Supplemental Appropriation BOF to help offset our projected 2014-2015 deficit. The new amount is \$400,000. He will keep the Board updated.

He stated we are moving forward with the process of filling our 3 Interim vacancies:

Superintendent

Director of business and Operations

Brookfield High School Principal

We should have the 3 selected candidates in place and ready to assume their official duties by July 1, 2015. The public also should know that a cross section of the Brookfield Educational and Resident community will be involved in the selection process.

Our iPad Expo has been rescheduled to just before our February 4th Board meeting from 5:45-6:45pm in the Brookfield High School Media Center.

S. McCarthy moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to add a discussion on the special appropriation.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

The Board had detailed discussion as to where the district stands with the special appropriation request of \$400,000.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

B & FC- 1/5/15- Mr. Checco said the subcommittee approved the financials for December. They also discussed All-Star Transportation, the BHS iPad initiative, financial software, the BHS stage floor and the 5-year Capital List.

CONSENT AGENDA

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded to approve the items listed on the consent agenda as recommended.

Gregg Miller gave an update on the spending freeze which was implemented on 11/6/2014.

After discussion regarding the LOA, P. Checco moved, T. Lerner seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to remove the request for a LOA requested by BHS teacher Heather Biancheri to teach abroad pending further information.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

Update on November 6, 2014 Spending Freeze

NEW BUSINESS

PRIORITIZED 5-YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS DISCUSSION/APPROVAL

The Board discussed and prioritized the 5-year Prioritized Capital Projects List.

ALL-STAR TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

S. Queenan moved, T. Lerner seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the All-Star Transportation Contract as recommended by the Business and Facilities subcommittee and Interim Director of Business and Operations Gregg Miller.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

SHEPAUG VALLEY REGIONAL AGRISCIENCE STEM ACADEMY

S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the participation in the newly proposed Shepaug Valley Regional Agriscience STEM Academy scheduled to open in the Fall of 2018.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR

S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 6-1-0 to approve the 2015-2016 school calendar as recommended by Acting Superintendent Ralph Iassogna and as amended by the Board of Education.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

POLICIES

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve Bylaw #9313, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Administrative Regulations for a final reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee. First reading was on December 3, 2014.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve Policy #1325, Advertising and Promotion Regulations for a final reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee. First reading was on December 3, 2014.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

The Board took a break at 10:19 and returned at 10:31 pm

SUPERINTENDENT’S BUDGET 2015-2016

The Board continued its discussion on the Superintendent’s 2015-2016 budget and approve submission of such to the First Selectman by January 30, 2015.

After discussion, S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted that the Board of Education adopt its 2015-2016 budget in the amount of 40,865,782 or 5.92% 5-2-0.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, V. Katz, and T. Lerner voted aye.

H. Shaker and S. Harding voted no.

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 that the Board of Education adopt its 2015-2016 Capital Budget in the amount of \$580,000.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

V. Katz moved, S. Queenan seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 that the Board of Education, in conjunction with Tom Tibolla, request to the Town, a long-term maintenance bond for exterior building restoration.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

ADJOURNMENT

S. Harding moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to move to adjourn its regular meeting.

S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, S. Harding and T. Lerner voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

Susan Queenan, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education