

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2012
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
7:00PM
MINUTES

Chairman Ray DiStephan called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Present: Ray DiStephan, Jane Miller, Susan Queenan, Victor Katz, Paul Checco, Harry Shaker and Scott McCarthy

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board and Superintendent offered a moment of silence for the families and victims affected by the tragedy in Newtown on Friday, December 14, 2012.

Chairman DiStephan began the meeting with an opening statement followed by Scott McCarthy and Superintendent Bivona. Brookfield Police Chief Robin Montgomery also gave a statement and a brief update on his communication with the Newtown Police Chief.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people signed up to speak at public comment and each shared their sympathies to the residents of Newtown as well as thoughts and ideas on school safety:

Dr. Robin Appleby, Lisa Morlock, Richard Zucchi, Brian Frame, Nikhil Wahi (peer counselor spoke about the 12/20 vigil), Dave Propper, Michael Friedman, Marya Neary, Craig Termotto, Angela Termatto, Jackie Scholten, Mary Borges and Nina Jacobs.

Written Correspondence was received from Tammy Sylvester, Joanne Petrini and John Leopold. Board of Finance member Phil Kurtz wrote a letter read by Board of Education Susan Queenan.

Bradley Leverage gave an update on how the events of Newtown have affected the students at BHS and what they are doing to help.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

The Board heard a report from the Brookfield School administration regarding various subjects to include mental health, safety precautions or other topics of discussion relevant to the tragedy in Newtown. Superintendent Bivona gave a detailed overview of security practices currently in place and explained the definition of “lockdown”. Police Chief Montgomery also talked about security in detail followed by Director of Finance and Technology Operations Art Colley who also spoke extensively about current practices and new immediate initiatives. Each building principal also gave a very detailed report on their school, students, faculty and staff beginning on Friday.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board entered into discussion regarding safety protocols and practices for all four Brookfield schools. The Board thanked the public for coming to speak. After discussion, Mr. DiStephan said changes that were discussed in the meeting should be brought to the individual subcommittees for discussion.

Chairman DiStephan opened the floor for another opportunity for public comment. The following people spoke: Chris Cook, Melissa Lianetta, Angela Termatto and Lisa Morlock.

R. DiStephan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to endorse/implement the immediate safety recommendations as presented by Director of Finance, Technology and Operations Art Colley:

- Install and provide training for tactical radios tied to the police frequency in each school building.
- Installation of multiple emergency alert buttons in all school buildings
- Enhance security at CES and HHES at main entrances by:
 1. Creating a double buzzer access control system including audio/video identification.
 2. Creating a security window/desk which will enable the checking of credentials
 3. Install security film on glass doors and windows which holds shattered glass together slowing down any attempted access.
- Enhance WMS and BHS at main entrance by:
 1. Installing video identification on interior set of doors
 2. Creating a security window/desk which will enable the checking of credentials
 3. Installing security film on all glass windows and doors and entrance
- Leverage existing video surveillance systems at BHS and determine the need for video surveillance in the other three schools
- Select independent third party security expert to perform detailed analysis of physical security at all district buildings
- Work with BOE subcommittees, police department and Town Boards to establish a town-wide safety committee and to implement long term changes recommended by the consultant.

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

ADJOURNMENT

V. Katz moved, S. McCarthy seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn its meeting at 10:24pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Morelli, Board Clerk

Susan Queenan, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education

