

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

Chairman Scott McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:07 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, Assistant Superintendent Genie Slone, 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 several members of the public.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received correspondence from Liz Spencer

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Nick O'Connor gave an update on the happenings at BHS.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

S. Queenan moved, T. Lerner seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting- 12/17/14

Budget Roundtable- 12/18/14

Special Meeting- 12/18/14

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

CONSENT AGENDA

S. Queenan moved, T. Lerner seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve the items on the consent agenda as recommended.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Mr. Iassogna said that the planned remodeling of the BHS Fitness Center is well ahead of schedule, with a projected opening for just prior to the start of our spring sport season. He thanked the parents, community groups, students, staff, local businesses, and several fundraising activities, for the financial support and said the targeted goal of \$28,000 has been surpassed. Special thanks to Iroquois Pipeline for their awarding this initiative a Community grant of \$10,000.

There is a proposal to establish a Ct. 20th Regional Agriscience Center at Shepaug High School with a targeted opening for the Fall of 2018. Mr. Iassogna will bring the proposal to the Board on January 21st.

Mr. Iassogna reported that the Brookfield Education Foundation has awarded almost \$10,000 in grants to the following:

- HHES “Fit Club” : a before-school fitness program championed by PE teacher Matthew Cudney: \$2,200
- WMS “Confessions of a Former Bully”: a collaboration with the health and literacy departments designed around the core curriculum, working to proactively teach 5th graders about bullying. Championed by curriculum specialist Aggie Burns: \$2,160.40
- Brookfield CARES: \$5,200 for facilitator’s fees for the first year of support group meetings.

The Superintendent said one of our 9th graders was placed on the Silver Alert list. The alert was issued by the Brookfield Police Department and disseminated on local TV and media outlets. He gave her name and asked that if anyone has any information on the whereabouts of Emma, they contact their local police department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAPE- 12/16/14- The subcommittee discussed the K-4 Readers Workshop initiative.

Policy- 12/17/14- The subcommittee discussed the Concussion Policy and Regulation.

NEW BUSINESS

RBAC/BOARD REPRESENTATION

Mr. McCarthy gave an overview on the Charter change regarding Board representation on the RBAC committee. After discussion, S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to appoint Scott McCarthy as the representative of the Board of Education to the RBAC committee. S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, and T. Lerner voted aye.

POLICY #5141.7 CONCUSSIONS

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy #5141.7, Concussions, for a first reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee. S. McCarthy, P. Checco, S. Queenan, H. Shaker, V. Katz, and T. Lerner voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS

POLICY #1324- SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 6-0 to approve Policy #1324, Solicitation of Funds for a final reading as recommended by the Policy subcommittee. First reading was on November 5, 2014.

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

DISCUSSION ON THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Board discussed the revisions made to the proposed 2015-2016 school calendar. They will have further discussion at the Board meeting on January 21st.

REVIEW OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDED 2015-2016 BUDGET

The Board continued its discussion on the Superintendent’s recommended 2015-2016 budget. The current proposed budget is 4.07%. The full Board supports the proposal put forth by the Superintendent. Mr. Iassogna provided the Board with 11 budget items for consideration and provided the costs for those items. The Board decided the following:

Hire the HVAC Mechanic - \$81,590

Restore 1 World Language at BHS- \$66,801

Add 1 World Language Lab and Chrome books- \$90,000

Hire a Program Evaluation Consultant- \$10,000

Additional Custodial Staff CES- \$59,800

Establish a Contingency Fund- \$60,000

Restore 3 Positions at BHS- 1.0 Business Teacher, 1.0 Art Teacher and 1.0 Spanish Teacher for a total cost of - \$200,403

Establish a BHS College Admissions Specialist- \$30,000

Eliminate the Pay to Participate in 2 years- \$48,000

Total- \$646,594

These additional considerations would be a 1.68% increase to the proposed 4.07% budget, making the new proposal 5.75%.

The Board requested that the original format of the Board agenda be used for future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

V. Katz moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn its meeting at 10:02 pm
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