

**BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Brookfield Public Schools**  
**(ZOOM) REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**MINUTES**

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**(Present via Zoom):** Rosa Fernandes, Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein, Jen Laden, Michael Murphy, Superintendent Dr. John Barile, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby, Director of Business & Operations Ken Post, Director of Special Services Gina Wygonik, Director of Instruction Deb Farias, Director of Technology Eric Conklin, Director of Human Resources Terri Kavanagh, BHS Principal Marc Balanda, WMS Principal Deane Renda, HHES Principal Melissa Labrosciano, CES Principal Mary Rose Dymond and members of the faculty, staff and administration.

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- BHS**

The Board and Superintendent received a presentation from staff and students at Brookfield High School regarding the newly formed Human Rights Club.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Tanvi Chennuru gave an update on the happenings at BHS

R. Fernandes moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to move up agenda item 12A, CT Blueprint Presentation to this part of the meeting.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

**CT BLUEPRINT PRESENTATION**

The Board received an overview from CAPPS Executive Director, Fran Rabinowitz regarding the CT Blueprint.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

Jessica Juska wrote praising her son's teacher.

Ron Jaffe shared a PBS lesson plan.

Liam Enea wrote regarding Youth Commission surveys.

Rose Oliver wrote regarding social emotional learning.

Veronica Smith wrote regarding the new school name.

Dennis Kardaris wrote regarding weather related school closings.

Janet Laforgia wrote regarding a tax rebate

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board moved 7-0 to approve the minutes listed below as recommended:

Regular Meeting 1/20/2021

Special Joint Meeting 2/3/2021

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE**

Superintendent Barile gave a COVID update. He shared that Mr. Balanda sent a survey regarding BHS coming back to school 5 days a week. Dr. Barile also reported that our student athletes were recognized for the Michaels Cup Award and gave an update on the retirement of Danbury Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Sal Pascarella and the appointment of new Superintendent for New Milford Public Schools Alisha DiCorpo.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CAPE- 1/21/21-** Mrs. Laden said the subcommittee discussed the proposed changes to the Program of Studies and Dr. Ruby discussed with the committee the work of the district Library Media Specialists.

**Facilities- 2/3/21-** Mrs. Greenstein said the committee discussed the school dude reports as well a WMS water update. They discussed the BHS locker room project from Tecton. Mr. Caldwell gave an update at the meeting regarding custodial staffing. They discussed the NEASC update as well as exhaust and ventilation at the schools.

**Finance- 2/8/21-** Mr. Belden said the subcommittee discussed the current year financial outlook as well as the budget.

**Equity & Inclusion- 2/11/21-** Mrs. Foster reported that a parent has been working with Principal Balanda on programs for Black History Month. Mrs. Kavanagh has joined the Equity and Inclusion committee as a new member. Dr. Barile spoke to the committee about Governor Lamont’s budget proposal and the possibility of Danbury becoming an open choice district. Dr. Ruby gave the committee a presentation defining the purpose of a charter and the RULER approach.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the items listed below on the consent agenda as recommended.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the proposed revisions to the Program of Studies as recommended by the CAPE subcommittee, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maureen Ruby and BHS Principal Marc Balanda.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

#### **DISSOLUTION OF THE BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE NEW SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE**

A. Foster moved, B. Belden seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 that, as an Ad Hoc Committee having met their objective to formally review the background and history of the Town of Brookfield as well as engaging staff and community regarding the process of naming the new PreK-5 school and, in alignment with Board policy #7551, and having recommended those names to the Board of Education for discussion and final approval, the New School Naming Committee be dissolved.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION’S ADOPTED BUDGET 2021-2022**

The Board continued its discussion on the Board of Education’s 2021-2022 adopted budget.

## **CANDLEWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**

The Board received an update on the Candlewood Lake Elementary School building project.

### **3 MAIN POINTS**

1. Human Rights Club at BHS
2. Program of Studies
3. Budget

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mrs. Foster listed upcoming events

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED**

A. Foster moved, J. Greenstein seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to enter into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's mid-year goals.

R. Fernandes, B. Belden, A. Foster, J. Greenstein, D. Brooks, J. Laden and M. Murphy voted aye.

Chairman Rosa Fernandes called the meeting to order at 8:55 pm.

**Present:** Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Rosa Fernandes, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein, Jen Laden and Mike Murphy.

Superintendent Dr. John Barile was invited in at 8:55 pm.

The Board entered into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's mid-year goals.

Bob Belden, Debbie Brooks, Rosa Fernandes, Amy Foster, Joy Greenstein, Mike Murphy, Jen Laden, Superintendent Dr. John Barile exited out of executive session at 9:22 pm.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Without objection, Chairman Rosa Fernandes adjourned the meeting at 9:22 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Gramling, Board Clerk

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Amy Foster, Secretary  
Brookfield Board of Education