

BROOKFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Brookfield Public Schools
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014
BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

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

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

PROGRAM/STUDENT SPOTLIGHT- CENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Board and Superintendent spotlighted the Pre-school program at Center Elementary School. Kim Hammer and Kerry Bell gave a power point presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Zinser spoke about the infrastructure and administration and combining school and finance directors.

Laura Orban spoke about the budget.

Rich Saluga thanked the BOE for the interview process and spoke about the budget deficit and FOI.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Mackenzie Parascondola gave an update on the happenings at BHS.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Marie Williams wrote about the strings program

Rich Saluga wrote about the Board interview

Jen Falci wrote about the 2014-2015 budget

Glenn Rooney wrote about the CIGNA rebate and the News times article on 2/16

Laura Orban wrote about the education budget proposal

Pat Kurkky wrote about the 2014-2015 budget proposal

Robert Zinser wrote about financial responsibility

Laurie Villanueva wrote about the budget

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to amend the agenda to move up items 12A and 12C to this section of the agenda.

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

APPROVAL OF BOSTON FIELD TRIP

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve a trip to Boston from Wednesday, May 21st to Thursday, May 22nd, 2014 as recommended By WMS Principal Deane Renda.

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

SPECIAL CHORUS TRIP

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve a trip for the BHS Special Chorus to travel to Hershey Park, PA from Friday, May 16th to Sunday, May 18, 2014 to participate in a graded or rated performance as requested by BHS Music Teacher John Lamendola.

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

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

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

Special Meeting- 2/5/14 6pm

Regular Meeting- 2/5/14

Special Meeting- 2/11/14

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Flexibility Options to the Guidelines for Educator Evaluation: an update-

Dr Slone went over the flexibility options being offered by the Connecticut State Department of Education. A more detailed update will be given at a future Board meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications- 1/13/14- Mrs. Queenan said the subcommittee discussed their vision and the website. Their mission is to provide information to the public.

Policy- 1/15/14- Mr. Harding said they are waiting for bullying information from the State.

CAPE- 1/28/14- Mr. Katz said the subcommittee elected Victor Katz as chair. They spoke about a new textbook and a new language survey.

B & FC- 2/10/14- Mr. Checco said the subcommittee received a report from Mr. Saluga. Financials for January were discussed. They looked at the substitute line item. They discussed the insurance bid.

Communications- 2/10/14- Mrs. Queenan said the subcommittee met briefly- no business discussed.

CONSENT AGENDA

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as recommended

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

TEXTBOOK APPROVAL

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the following textbook for 7th and 8th Grade Social Studies as recommended by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Genie Slone and the CAPE subcommittee: Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States, McGraw Hill, 2014.

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

The Board took a brief recess at 8:29 pm and returned at 8:34 pm

SECRETARIES CONTRACT

After discussion, S. Queenan moved, S. Harding seconded, and the Board voted 6-1 to approve the secretaries contract as discussed.

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

P. Checco voted no.

OLD BUSINESS

2014-2015 BUDGET

The Board continued its discussion on the 2014-2015 budget. Mr. McCarthy said the Board of Education's proposed 4.66% budget was reduced by the First Selectman to 0.75%.

2012-2013 AUDIT

The Board discussed the 2012-2013 audit. Mr. McCarthy gave an update as to where we are right now. Mr. Bivona gave an overview and a power point presentation.

ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION

S. Queenan moved, P. Checco seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn its regular meeting and enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment of a Board employee, and matters which would result in the disclosure of public records or information contained therein which are exempt from disclosure pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 1-210 at 10:06 pm.

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

ADJOURNMENT

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to enter into executive session at 10:17 pm and invited Superintendent Bivona to join them.

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

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to come out of executive session and enter into regular session at 11:27 pm.

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

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board 5-2 to finalize a personnel matter of a Board employee.

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

V. Katz and H. Shaker voted no.

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board 5-2 to further a personnel matter of a Board employee.

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

H. Shaker and S. Harding voted no.

S. Queenan moved, V. Katz seconded, and the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn its meeting at 11:30pm

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Morelli, Board Clerk

Susan Queenan, Secretary
Brookfield Board of Education